

WHC Nomination Documentation

File name: 225.pdf UNESCO Region EUROPE

SITE NAME ("TITLE") Pirin National Park

DATE OF INSCRIPTION ("SUBJECT") 9/12/1983

STATE PARTY ("AUTHOR") BULGARIA

CRITERIA ("KEY WORDS") N (i)(ii)(iii)

DECISION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE:

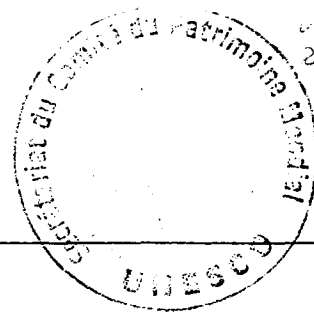
The Committee mad no statement.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

The park has a limestone Balkan landscape, with its lakes, waterfalls, caves and pine forests, and a rich flora containing many endemic plant species. The rugged mountains, with around seventy glacial lakes scattered throughout them, are a relic of the ancient glacial days of Europe.

1.b. State, province or region: County of Blagoevgrad

1.d Exact location: South West Bulgaria, Pirin Mountain



1. Specific location

a) *Country*

People's Republic of Bulgaria

b) *State, Province or Region*

County of Blagoevgrad

c) *Name of property*

"Pirin"

d) *Exact location on map and indication of geographical co-ordinates*

South-West Bulgaria; Pirin mountain

2. Juridical data

a) *Owner*

state property

b) *Legal status*

national park; declared by the Law for the Protection of Nature

c) *Responsible administration*

Administration of the National Park "Pirin"
at the town of Bansko

3. Identification

a) *Description and inventory*

National Park "Pirin" covers an area of 27 400 ha of which 2900 ha were set apart as a strict nature reserve "Bayuvi Dupki-Dzindziritza" as early as in 1934. This park is on the first "UN List of National Parks and equivalent Reserves" under the name of "Vikhren". The nature reserve "Bayuvi Dupki-Dzindziritza" was acknowledged by UNESCO as a Biosphere Reserve. National Park "Pirin" lies between 1000 and 2915 m above the sea level. Forests occupy 60% of its area. Mixed coniferous forests with high participation of relic Balkan endemics dominate. In subalpine and orophytic zone more than 30 endemic plant species and subspecies have been found. Pirin mountain itself and the park as well is a centre of vigorous floristic speciation. Glacial flora is rich. Invertebrate fauna also numbers scores of endemic species and glacial relics. The higher fauna is rich, too including many rare and endangered Birds and Mammals, unique landscapes and 70 glacial lakes.

b) *Maps and/or plans*

Enclosed are:

1. Map of Bulgaria
2. Sketch of the national park "Pirin"

3. Identification (cont'd)

c) *Photographic and/or cinematographic documentation*

Several photo-albums (authora A. & K.Kostov). A number of photos in the State Archiv for Photography, Sofia, and also in the phototheque of the Research and co-ordination Centre for the Protection and Restoration of the Environment at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia. Several popular science films. Here enclosed are black and white photos (18x24)

d) *History*

The high mountain peaks and crags of Pirin are remains of the old-miocene denudational levelling. The mountain ridges are of neopliocene age and only some localities between 1600-1200 m a.s.l. are of old-pliocene origin. These denudational levellings occurred more widely during the Quaternary when the snow cover had descended down to 2200-2300 m a.s.l. Through the valleys mighty glaciers run down leaving after them a lot of cirques, thres holds, morrains etc. After the ice withdrawal a number of glacial lakes were formed.

Within the limits of the park grow some pliocenic plants as *Picea excelsa*, *Taxus baccata*, *Lonicera nigra*, *Vaccinium uliginosum*, *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*. The favourable climatic conditions during the deluvium made the surviving of *Pinus peuce*, *Pinus heldfeichii*, *Rhynchocoris elephas* possible till our time.

e) *Bibliography*

1. Urumov, Iv., 1912. Floristic materials from Macedonia, Periodical of Bulgarian Academy of Sci., No.5 (in bulgarian)
2. Stoyanov, N., B. Stefanov, 1922. Phytogeographic characterization of the Pirin mountain. In "Annual of Sofia University, School of Physics and Mathematic. vol. XVIII (in bulg.)
3. Urumov, Iv., 1923. Materials about the flora of the Pirin mountain. Periodical of Bulg. Ac. of Sci., No.28 (in bulg.)
4. Jordanov, D. & B. Kitanov, Kitanov, 1951. New materials for the Flora of Bulgaria from the Pirin mountain, the Valley of Struma and Ali-botush mountain. Proceedings of the Institute of Botany, No.9. (in bulg.)
5. B. Steffanov (red.) 1963. Tipologische Untersuchungen in den Nadelwäldern des Pirin-Gebirges. Sofia, 1963, 1-211 (in bulg.)

4. State of preservation/
conservation

a) *Diagnosis*

Very good state of conservation. Administration with 32 persons permanent staff - 1 director, 1 deputy-director, 3 heads of sectors, 15 guards, book-keeping officer administrative and research personnel. Guards are distributed in different parts of the park according to the number of people visiting them. During the months of intensive tourism young men are involved as parttime guards together with 10 seasonal firewatchers. Besides, about 20 workers are also seasonally engaged in afforestation activities and 6 persons in construction works.

b) *Agent responsible
for preservation/
conservation*

1. Administrative: Administration of the national park "Pirin"
2. Scientific: Research and Coordination Centre for Preservation and Restoration of the Environment at the BAN

c) *History of
preservation/
conservation*

In 1962 National Park "Vikhern" has been declared with an area of 6736 ha. It covered only the alpine and partly subalpine parts of the mountain with its highest peak - Vikhren.

In 1976 its area was enlarged to 27 400 ha and renamed as N.P. "Pirin"

First decree No.3074 of November 6, 1962 of the Head Office of Forestry; second decree No.594 of March 3, 1976 of the Committee for the Environmental Protection at the C. of M.

d) *Means for
preservation/
conservation*

A general account for financing the Project for the organizing the Park has been sanctioned, the sum amounting to 3 000 000 leva. For different small-scale projects additional funds are raised.

e) *Management plans*

Growth of the staff has been expected up to 50 persons. There exists a plan for construction of a new administration building together with information centre and natural history exposition, financed and helped by the Ministry of Forest and Bulgarian Academy of Sci. There is also a plan to establish 5 research stations within the limits of the Park. In 1982 blazing of the permitted routes for hikers will be finished as well as the permanent marking of the historical sites and natural monuments within the Park. In 1982 a scientific council of the park will be instituted as well as a park's own periodical. Also, an increase in information exchange with similar institutions abroad has been planned.

5. Justification for
inclusion in the World
Heritage List (cont'd)

b) *Natural property*

N.P. "Pirin" is a standard of the biome "mixed mountain systems with intricate zoning" of the Balkan biogeographic province and its characteristic ecosystems; reliable refuge for hundreds of endemic and rare species; centre of speciation; various landscapes with great aesthetic value.

Signed (on behalf of State Party) 

Full name Prof. Dr. Simeon NEDYALKOV
Director of Research and Coordination Centre for
Preservation and Restoration of the Environment,
Title ~~Chairman of the National MAB Committee~~

Date Sofia, December 7, 1982

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR L'EDUCATION, LA SCIENCE
ET LA CULTURE

Date de réception : 15.6.82
N° d'identification : 225
Original : Anglais

CONVENTION CONCERNANT LA PROTECTION DU PATRIMOINE
MONDIAL, CULTUREL ET NATUREL

LISTE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

Proposition d'inscription présentée par
la République populaire de Bulgarie

Pirin

1. LOCALISATION PRECISE

a) Pays

République populaire de Bulgarie

b) Etat, province ou région

Comté de Blagoevgrad

c) Nom du bien

Pirin

d) Localisation exacte sur les cartes avec indication des coordonnées géographiques

Sud-est de la Bulgarie ; montagne de Pirin.

2. DONNEES JURIDIQUES

a) Propriétaire

Propriété de l'Etat

b) Statut juridique

Instauré en parc national en vertu de la Loi pour la Protection de la Nature.

c) Administration responsable

L'administration du Parc national de Pirin est effectuée par le Service des Forêts dans les villes de Bansko, Gotze Delchev, Sandanski, Kresna, et Razlog et dans les villages de Dobrinishte, Katuntzi et Simitli.

3. IDENTIFICATION

a) Description et inventaire

Le Parc national de Pirin couvre une superficie de 27.400 ha desquels 2900 ha ont été mis à part en tant que réserve naturelle intégrale connue sous le nom de "Bayuvi Dupki - Dzindziritza" dès 1934. Cette dernière figure sur la première "Liste des Parcs nationaux et réserves équivalentes" des Nations-Unies, sous le nom de "Vikhren". La réserve naturelle intégrale "Bayuvi Dupki - Dzindziritza" a été désignée comme réserve de la biosphère par l'Unesco en 1977.

Le Parc national de Pirin se situe entre 1.000 et 2.915 m d'altitude. Les forêts occupent 60 % de sa surface. Ce sont principalement des forêts de conifères mixtes avec une grande proportion d'espèces endémiques relictuelles des Balkans.

Dans la zone subalpine de haute altitude, plus de 30 espèces et sous-espèces végétales endémiques ont été répertoriées. La montagne de Pirin elle-même et le parc constituent un centre de spéciation floristique très important. Il existe une riche flore glaciaire. Les invertébrés comprennent de nombreuses espèces endémiques et des espèces glaciaires relictuelles. La faune des vertébrés est également diverse et comporte des oiseaux et mammifères rares et menacés. Les paysages sont uniques : il y a 70 lacs glaciaires, de nombreuses chutes d'eau et beaucoup de formations karstiques.

b) Cartes et/ou plans

Voir annexe

c) Documentation photographique et/ou cinématographique

De nombreuses photos ont été rassemblées par A. et K. Kostov. Il existe des photographies aux Archives d'Etat de la Photographie à Sofia, et également à la photothèque du Centre de Recherche et de Coordination pour la protection et la restauration de l'environnement à l'Académie des Sciences bulgare, Sofia. Plusieurs films scientifiques destinés au grand public ont été faits sur le parc.

d) Historique

Le relief de haute montagne de Pirin est ce qui reste du nivellement provoqué par l'érosion de l'époque du Miocène. Les crêtes montagneuses datent de la fin du Pliocène et seuls quelques endroits situés entre 1600 et 1200 m d'altitude datent du début du Pliocène. Ces nivellements par l'érosion se sont produits de façon plus générale pendant le Quaternaire, quand la limite des neiges est descendue à 2200-2300 m. Des glaciers puissants ont progressé dans les vallées, laissant derrière eux un grand nombre de cirques, verrous, moraines, etc. Un certain nombre de lacs glaciaires se sont formés quand les glaces se sont retirées.

Quelques espèces de plantes dont l'origine remonte au Pliocène, tels Picea excelsa, Taxus baccata, Lonicera nigra, Vaccinium uliginosum, Vaccinium vitis-idaea poussent à l'intérieur du parc.

Les conditions climatiques favorables qui ont existé au moment de la fonte des glaces ont permis à des plantes telles Pinus peuce, Pinus heldreichii, Rhynchocoris elephas de subsister jusqu'à notre époque.

e) Bibliographie

1. Stoyanov, N. ; B. Stefanov, 1922. (Caractérisation phytogéographique de la montagne de Pirin). Dans Publications annuelles de l'Univ. de Sofia, Ecole de physique et de mathématiques vol. XVIII. (en Bulgare).
2. Urumov, I., 1912. (Eléments floristiques de Macédoine). Périodique de l'Académie des Sciences bulgare, 5 (en Bulgare).
3. Urumov, I., 1923. (Eléments sur la flore de la montagne de Pirin). Périodique de l'Académie des Sciences bulgare, 28 (en Bulgare).
4. Yordanov, D. et B. Kitanov, 1951. (Eléments nouveaux sur la flore de Bulgarie de la montagne de Pirin, la vallée de Struma et la montagne d'Ali-botush). Actes de l'Institut de Botanique, 9. (en Bulgare).

4. ETAT DE PRESERVATION/DE CONSERVATION

a) Diagnostic

Le Parc national est dans un très bon état de conservation. 32 personnes y travaillent de façon permanente - un directeur, un directeur adjoint, 3 chefs de secteurs, 15 gardiens, plus le personnel s'occupant de la comptabilité, de l'administration et de la recherche. Les gardiens du parc sont répartis dans différentes zones en fonction du nombre de visiteurs.

Pendant les mois de tourisme intensif, de nombreuses personnes sont engagées comme gardiens à temps-partiel en plus des 10 saisonniers chargés de la surveillance contre les incendies. De plus, environ 20 ouvriers saisonniers sont embauchés pour effectuer les plantations et 6 autres pour les travaux de construction.

b) Agent responsable de la préservation ou de la conservation

Administration du Parc national de Pirin : Inspection régionale pour la protection de l'environnement - Comté de Blagoevgrad ; Comité pour la protection de l'environnement au Conseil des Ministres de la République populaire de Bulgarie.

c) Historique de la préservation ou de la conservation

En 1962, le Parc national de Vikhren a été établi, sur une superficie de 6.736 ha. Il comprenait seulement les parties alpine et subalpine de la montagne ainsi que son sommet le plus élevé : Vikhren.

En 1976, cette superficie est passée à 26.479 ha et un nouveau nom a été donné au parc : Parc national de Pirin.

Les décrets instituant ces zones portent le N° 3074, du 6 novembre 1962, de la Direction des Forêts ; N° 594, du 3 mars 1976, du Comité pour la protection de l'environnement au Conseil des Ministres.

d) Moyens de préservation ou de conservation

Un projet de financement de l'aménagement du parc a été établi, pour une somme de 3.000.000 de leva. Des fonds supplémentaires sont rassemblés pour différents petits projets.

e) Plans de gestion

Il est probable que l'effectif du personnel passera à 50 personnes. Il est prévu de construire un nouveau bâtiment administratif ainsi qu'un centre d'information et une exposition d'histoire naturelle, financée et soutenue par le Ministère des Forêts et l'Académie des Sciences bulgare. Il est également prévu d'installer 5 stations de recherche dans l'enceinte du parc. Le balisage de sentiers pour les randonneurs sera terminé en 1982 ainsi que la signalisation des sites historiques et des monuments naturels du parc. Un conseil scientifique du parc sera également institué en 1982, ainsi qu'un périodique spécial consacré au parc. Il est de plus envisagé d'échanger des informations avec des institutions similaires à l'étranger.

5. JUSTIFICATION DE L'INSCRIPTION SUR LA LISTE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

b) Bien naturel

Le Parc national de Pirin, avec ses paysages caractéristiques, est représentatif du biome connu sous le nom de "systèmes montagneux mixtes à zonation complexe" de la province biogéographique des Balkans. Il constitue un refuge sûr pour des centaines d'espèces rares et endémiques ; c'est une zone de spéciation qui renferme divers paysages ayant une grande valeur esthétique.

Signature (au nom de l'Etat partie) _____

Nom et prénom : Prof. Dr. Simeon Nedyalkov

Titre : Directeur du Centre de Recherche et de Coordination pour la
préservation et la restauration de l'environnement, Président
du Comité MAB national

Date : 7 janvier 1982

Annexe

Documentation soumise à l'appui de la proposition d'inscription de Pirin sur la Liste du Patrimoine mondial

Le Secrétariat a reçu de la République populaire de Bulgarie, à l'appui de la présente proposition d'inscription, les documents dont la liste figure ci-dessous. Ces documents peuvent être consultés à la Division des Sciences écologiques de l'Unesco. Ils seront mis à la disposition des participants lors des réunions du Bureau du Comité du Patrimoine mondial et du Comité lui-même.

- Carte du Parc national de Pirin (sans échelle) (en Bulgare)
- Carte "Les aires protégées de Bulgarie", Comité pour la Protection de l'Environnement au Conseil des Ministres de la République populaire de Bulgarie, 1979. (sans échelle)

SCHEME OF THE NATIONAL PARK "PIRIN"







**Pirin National Park
Republic of Bulgaria**

*Nomination for changes in the boundaries of Pirin
National Park as Natural World Heritage Property*

**2009
Ministry of Environment and Water
Pirin National Park Directorate**

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Acronyms

CC	Consultative Council
EEA	Environmental Executive Agency
GIS	Geographic Information System
IBA	Important Bird Area
IPA	Important Plant Area
MAB	UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme
MoEW	Ministry of Environment and Water
MAF	Ministry Of Agriculture And Food
MP	Management Plan
NNPS	National Nature Protection Service
NP	National Park
NPD	National Park Directorate
RIEW	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water
SC	Scientific Council
WHP	World Heritage Property

Executive Summary

State Party

Republic of Bulgaria

State, Province or Region

Blagoevgrad District

Name of Property

Pirin National Park as World Heritage Property

Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

	Latitude	Longitude
North East	41° 53' 127"	23° 34,1' 17,2"
Central	41° 44' 33,8"	23° 25' 49,7"
South West	41° 36' 24"	23° 17' 43,6"

Textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property

The Pirin Mountain is located in Southeastern Bulgaria; the chain, some 35 km long, stretches northeast - southeast. The geographic boundary of Pirin Mountain to the north is the Rila Mountain and follows the banks of the rivers of Gradevska, Elovitsa and Kulina, the Predela Saddle (1,142 meters of elevation), and the valley of Rablevska River. To the east the boundary follows the Razlog Valley, the Momina Klisura Pass and the Gotse Delchev Plain - the Valley of Mesta River separates Pirin from the Rhodopes. To the south, the boundary of the Pirin Mountain initially follows the banks of the rivers of Matnitsa and Burovitsa, which separate it from the Stargach and Slavyanka mountains, while the Paril Pass (1,170 meters of elevation) – through the valleys of Goleshevska and Kalimanska Rivers – separates the mountain from Slavyanka. To the west, Pirin shares boundary with the Petrich Plain, the Kresna Pass and the Simitli Plain - the bank of Struma River separates it from Bulgarian western national border marked by the Mountains of Ograzhden, Malashevska and Vlahina.

The current nomination proposes extension of the Pirin National park as a World Heritage Property, designated in 1983, by means of inclusion of the central alpine zone, as well as other territories in the World Heritage Property, as a contribution to the preservation of the Park's integrity and better management.

Besides the extension, the present nomination proposes the two ski zones, located above the town of Bansko and above the village of Dobrinishte, which fall within the present boundaries of the World Heritage Property and are determined as part of the "tourist zone" in the Management plan of Pirin National park, to be excluded from the WH property and transferred into its buffer zone.

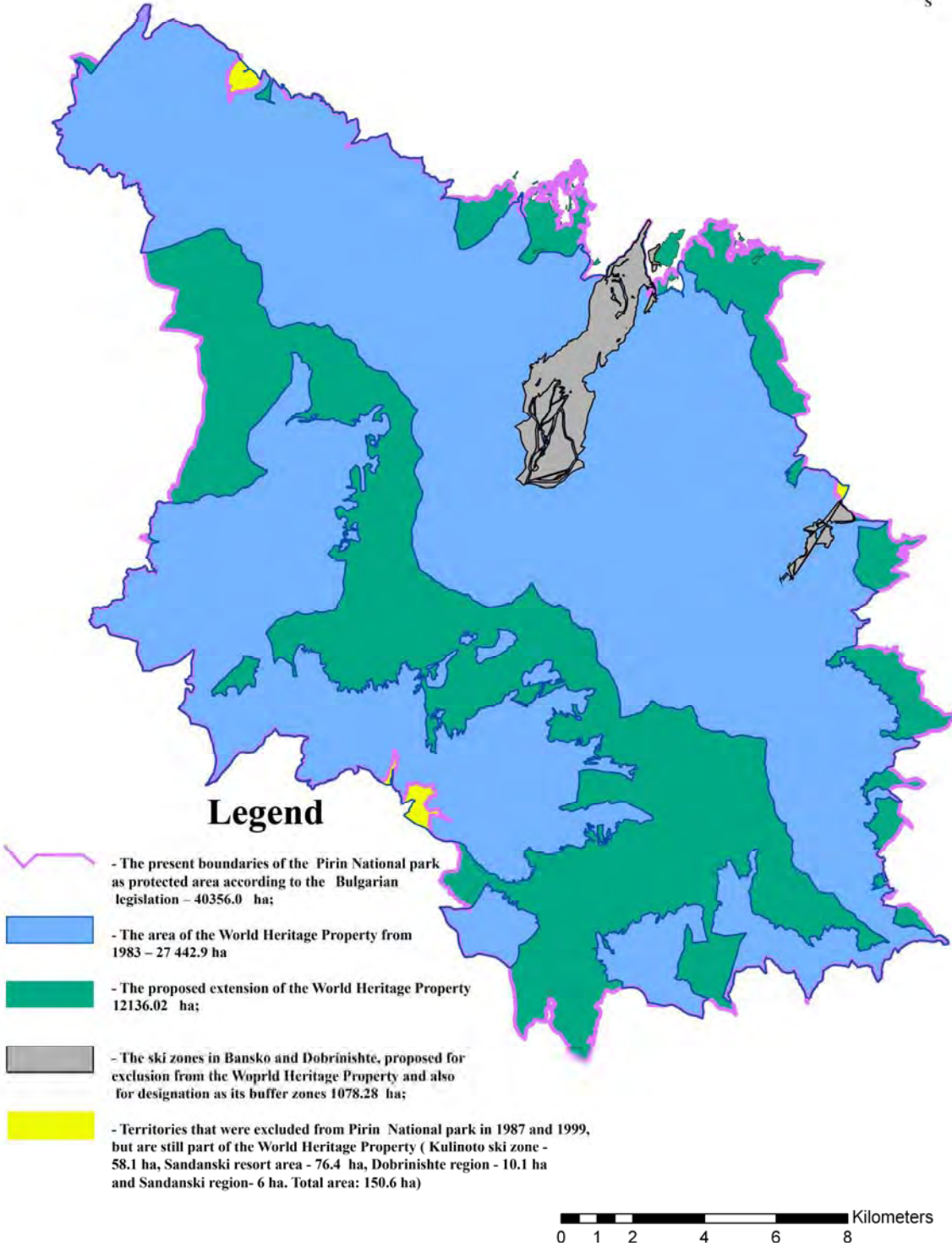
The nomination proposes also the exclusion of comparatively small territories, which were excluded in the past from the boundaries of the National Park as protected area according to the Bulgarian legislation but are still part of the World Heritage Property since no official steps and procedures for their exclusion were undertaken so far.

These are the Kulinoto ski zone in the territory of Razlog municipality (58.1 ha), a resort area (ex camping area) in the region of Sandanski municipality (76.4 ha), Dobrinishte forestry area (10.1) ha and Sandanski forestry area (6 ha).

Below is shown an A4 map, showing the proposed changes in the boundaries of Pirin National park as World Heritage Property, designated in 1983.

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK

PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)



Justification Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Pirin offers unique high-mountain scenic landscape at the cross-road between the central European, Mediterranean and Ponic biogeographical regions.

The uniqueness of Pirin ensues from its relative isolation from the other mountain chains. Compared with them the Mediterranean influence, penetrating along the river valleys of Struma and Mesta Rivers, here is stronger. This results in the unique combination of the widespread Mediterranean species (12%) and the much less represented Arctic-Alpine species (less than 1%), although the relief of the mountain is a typical Alpine one.

In the time of the last glaciations during the Tertiary, overall ice cover had not been formed in Pirin and the highest parts of the mountain remained refuges for glacial relict species, which are still present today, thus additionally increasing the conservation value of the mountain.

In terms of flora, Pirin is among the most unique Bulgarian and Balkan mountain ranges. The shaping of the contemporary composition of the flora and the formation of the vegetation cover has continued after the last glaciating, when the species preserved so far in the refuges have re-colonized their former habitats.

Exceptional biological diversity and high percent of the endemic component characterize Pirin. Pirin endemic species are fourteen higher plants, which is more than half of all the Bulgarian endemic plants; 17 higher plants and two animals are Bulgarian endemic species; 86 higher plants and 6 representatives of the vertebrate fauna are Balkan endemic species. Despite the fact that only two groups of invertebrates have been studied in Pirin – Arthropods and Mollusks, the richness of the invertebrate fauna is indisputable: 216 endemics and 176 relicts.

One of the greatest riches of Pirin is its forest. Forest of natural character, aging over 140 years, and covers more than half of the territory of the protected area. More than 90% of the forests are coniferous, and the occurrence of the two endemic species – Macedonian pine (*Pinus peuce*) and Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldreichii*) – diversifies this clearly differentiated coniferous belt.

Of all the habitats described on the territory of Pirin, the rock habitat is the most representative for the unique character of the mountain. Refuges of the unique rock flora and fauna are the 35 cirque valleys, the 180 glacial lakes, the pyramidal and conic summits and the picturesque rock phenomena.

The identification of Pirin NP as a CORINE Site in 1998 confirmed its value as a key territory of a high conservation importance. Because of the priority habitats and species occurring in Pirin, the site has also been proposed to become a Natura 2000 site. Pirin has been designated an Important Bird Area that will allow the long-term preservation of threatened bird species in their natural habitats.

The Pirin NP has been inscribed as one of the 114 Important Plant Areas of Bulgaria under the criteria of occurrence of threatened species, threatened habitats and floral richness.

The Biosphere Reserve Bayuvi Dupki–Dzindziritsa designated in 1977 is also located in the Park. The opportunity for designation of the whole territory of the National Park with its adjacent settlements as a Biosphere Reserve will be considered in future.

The core zone of the Pirin Mountain has been largely preserved of the human impact. Some of the most accessible highland zones have been used for several centuries for agro-pastoral activities. These activities have contributed to increase the species and habitat diversity below and above the treeline; their continuation contribute to the achievement of the conservation goals.

Criteria under which property is nominated

Criteria VII, IX and X of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Name and contact information of official local institution

Organization: Pirin National Park DIRECTORATE

Address: Bansko, 4 Bulgaria str.

Tel: 00359 749 88203

Fax: 00359 749 88204

E-mail: pirin_np@mail.bg

Web address: www.pirin-np.com

Introduction

In 1983, Pirin National Park was designated as World Heritage Property with area of approximately 27,400 ha.

Further, the territory of the Park changed several times to reach its current size of 40,356 ha. In 1999, after the enforcement of the Protected Areas Act, which introduced new categories for protection according to the international norms, the legal status of the Park was changed and eventually it became a National Park, meeting the criteria of IUCN category II protected area.

Following the provisions of the Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage (World Heritage Convention) and the requirements of the World Heritage Center, in cases of significant changes in the territories of properties, which have already been inscribed on the World Heritage List, the state parties should fill in, and submit for consideration a new nomination form. Since its inscription in 1983, the area of Pirin National Park was significantly enlarged – more than 12,000 ha have been adjoined. According to the Operational Guidelines, the State Party in agreement with the World Heritage Center has decided to initiate a new nomination procedure.

Following the recommendations of the 2004 joint mission of UNESCO and IUCN, the Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Water requested Preparatory assistance from the World Heritage Center. Consequently, the World Heritage Center provided consultant services to prepare the nomination for the extension of Pirin National Park World Heritage Property.

In January 2007 a nomination was submitted to the WHC. The same proposed extension of the WHP which will make its boundaries to coincide with those of the National Park.

With letter from 16th of March 2007 the World Heritage Center informed the Ministry of environment and water that the nomination submitted had been found to be complete and fulfill all the technical requirements, outlined in the "Operational guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention" and thus was entering into the correspondent year and a half cycle for consideration of new nominations, considered from 1st of February 2007.

In September 2007 a mission with the participation of an IUCN expert was held on the site. In July 2008, before the 32d session held in Quebec city, Canada in 2008, the Ministry of environment and water of Bulgaria withdrew the nomination. The withdrawal of the nomination was adopted with Decision 32 COM 8B.15 of the World Heritage Committee. Later on the State Party took a decision for preparation of a new nomination.

The current nomination proposes changes in Pirin National park as a World Heritage Property, designated in 1983, including extension of the territory of the World Heritage Property with 12 136.02 ha, exclusion of territories with total coverage of 1228.88 ha and also proposes a buffer zone of the WHP.

The changes, proposed in the boundaries of the World Heritage Property are in compliance with the recommendations, given in the IUCN technical evaluation report about Pirin National park, elaborated within a previous nomination cycle for extension of Pirin National Park as WHP and also the recommendations proposed in the draft decision for the 32d session in Quebec city, Kanada.

The State Party is convinced that the territory to be additionally included will significantly enhance the integrity of the site and contribute highly significant natural values to the originally designated property.

On the other hand, the exclusion of the proposed territories will contribute to a coherent management corresponding to the reality on the ground. The designation of a buffer zone will result in better preservation of the WHP.

1. Identification of the Property

1.a Country

Republic of Bulgaria

1.b State, Province or Region

Blagoevgrad District

1.c Name of Property

Pirin National Park as World Heritage Property

1.d Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

	Latitude	Longitude
North East	41° 53' 127"	23° 34,1' 17,2"
Central	41° 44' 33,8"	23° 25' 49,7"
South West	41° 36' 24"	23° 17' 43,6"

1.e Maps and plans, showing the boundaries of the nominated property

The Pirin Mountain is located in Southeastern Bulgaria; the chain, some 35 km long, stretches northeast - southeast. The geographic boundary of Pirin Mountain to the north is the Rila Mountain and follows the banks of the rivers of Gradevska, Elovitsa and Kulina, the Predela Saddle (1,142 meters of elevation), and the valley of Rablevska River. To the east the boundary follows the Razlog Valley, the Momina Klisura Pass and the Gotse Delchev Plain - the Valley of Mesta River separates Pirin from the Rhodopes. To the south, the boundary of the Pirin Mountain initially follows the banks of the rivers of Matnitsa and Burovitsa, which separate it from the Stargach and Slavyanka mountains, while the Paril Pass (1,170 meters of elevation) - through the valleys of Goleshevska and Kalimanska Rivers - separates the mountain from Slavyanka. To the west, Pirin shares boundary with the Petrich Plain, the Kresna Pass and the Simitli Plain - the bank of Struma River separates it from Bulgarian western national border marked by the Mountains of Ograzhden, Malashevska and Vlahina.

Below is a map showing location of the Pirin National Park in Bulgaria:



The present nomination proposes the following changes in the boundaries of Pirin National Park as World Heritage Property, designated in 1983:

- Extension of the World Heritage Property, by including of highland meadows alpine peaks and screes and other territories which are presently within the boundaries of the Pirin National park, in order to strengthen the integrity and management of the WHP.
- Exclusion from the World Heritage Property of the two ski zones, above the town of Bansko and the village of Dobrinishte, with total area of 1078.28 ha and their designation as buffer zone of the WHP, in order to give an added layer of protection of the property;
- Exclusion of other territories with total area of 150.6 ha from the World Heritage Property - Kulinoto ski zone in the territory of Razlog municipality, a resort area in the region of Sandanski municipality, Dobrinishte and Sandanski forestry areas, as their values and integrity are no longer compatible with World Heritage status. The same were excluded from the National park as protected area, according to the Bulgarian legislation in 1987 and 1999 but are still part of the World Heritage Property because were not officially excluded from its boundaries.

Detailed description of the nominated property and proposed changes in the boundaries of Pirin National park as World Heritage Property is given in point 2.a – “Description of property”, as required by the Nomination format, Annex 5 of the Operational guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Below are given two A4 maps.

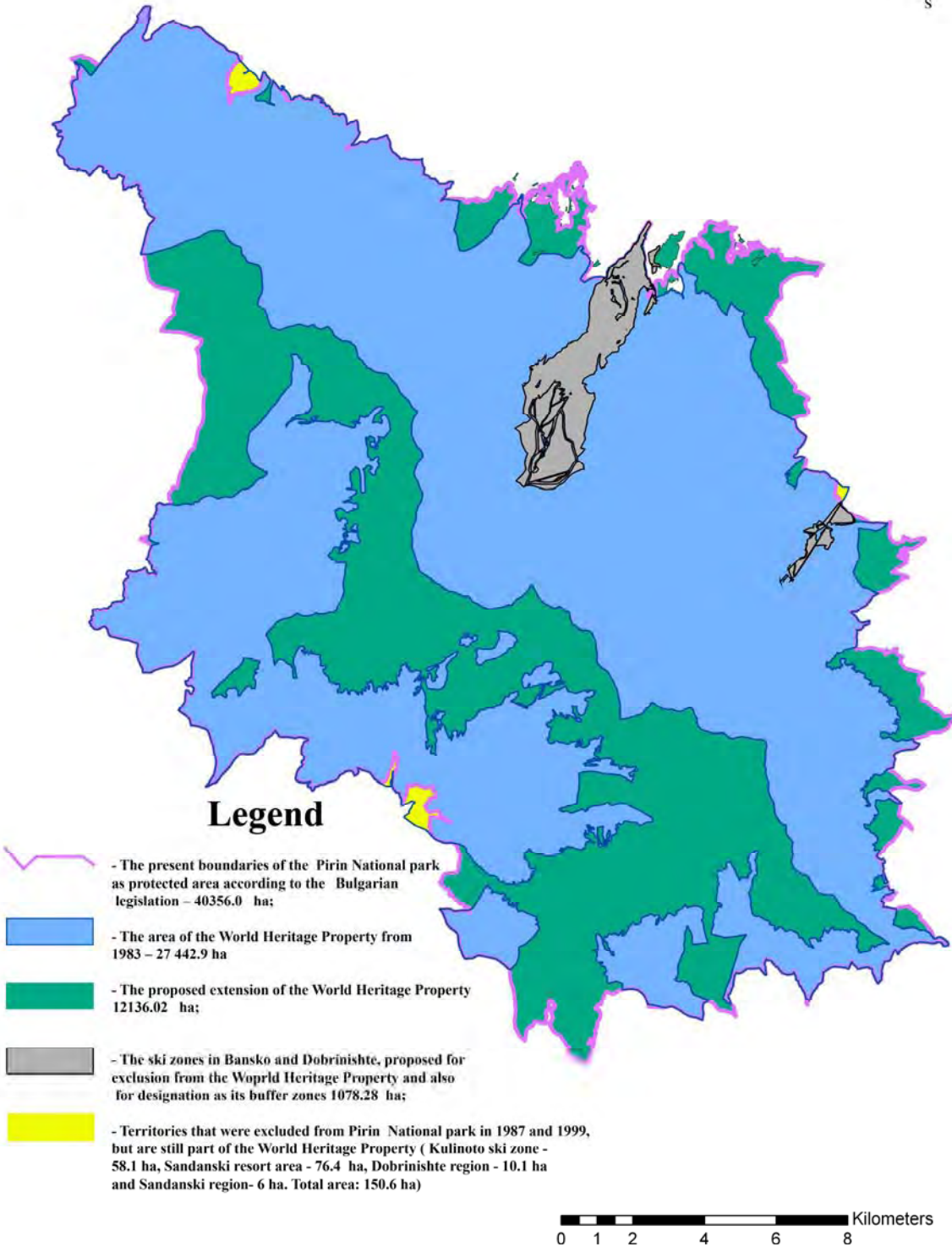
The first map is showing the proposed changes in the World Heritage Property, as stated below:

- the present boundaries of the National park as protected area according to the Bulgarian legislation;
- the proposed extension of the World Heritage property;
- the ski zones in Bansko and Dobrinishte, proposed for exclusion and also for designation as buffer zone of the World Heritage property;
- the territories that were excluded from the National park in 1987 and 1999 (including Kulinoto ski zone - 58.1 ha , Sandanski resort area - 76.4 ha, Dobrinishte region - 10.1 ha and Sandanski region - 6 ha).

The second A4 map is showing the boundaries of the National park, the proposed World Heritage Property and buffer zone.

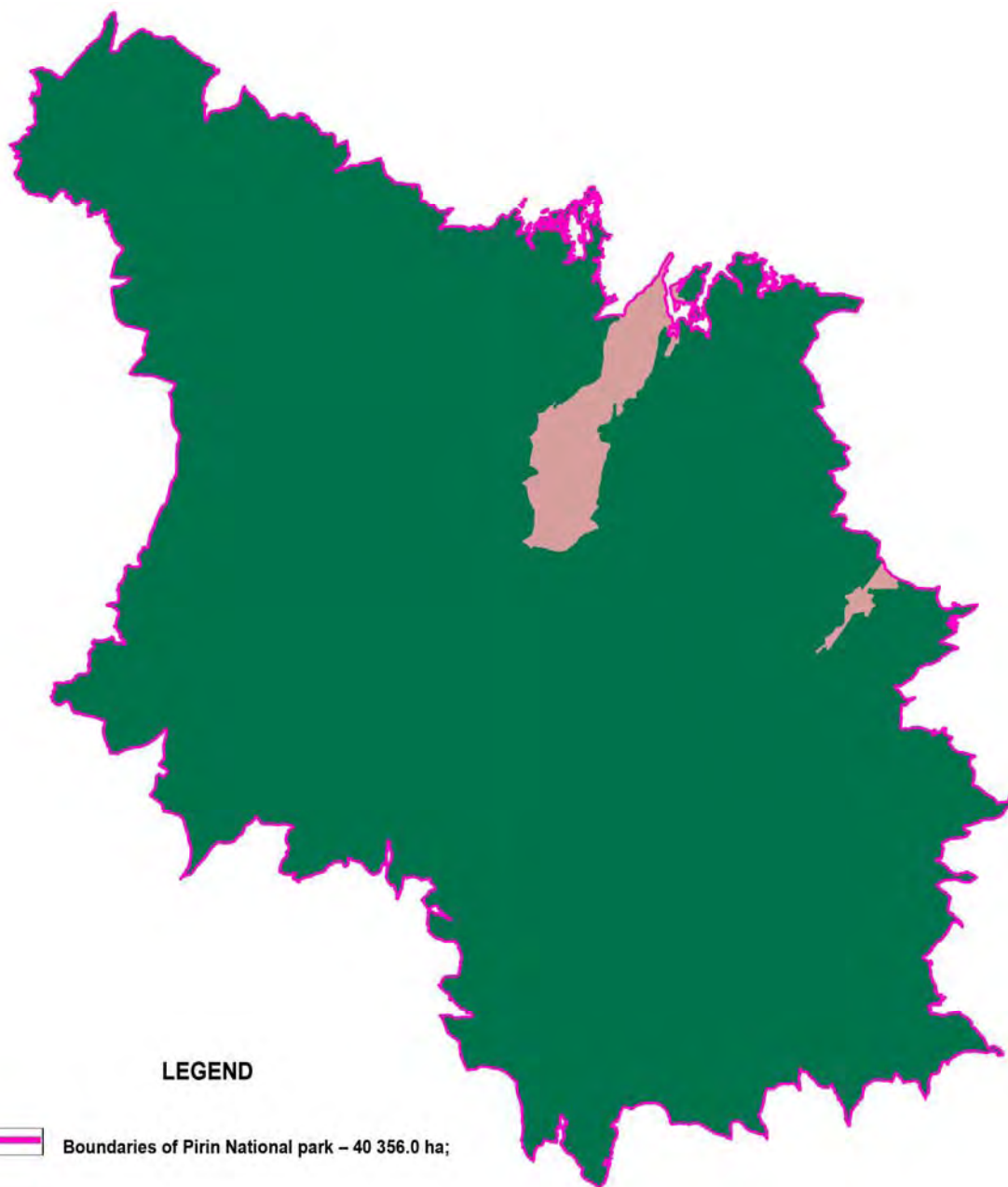
PIRIN NATIONAL PARK

PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)






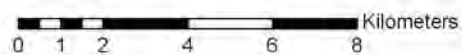
PIRIN NATIONAL PARK

PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)



LEGEND

-  Boundaries of Pirin National park – 40 356.0 ha;
-  Proposed World Heritage Property (2009) – 39 277.72 ha
-  Proposed buffer zone - 1078.28ha



As Annex 1 of the nomination is given a sufficiently scaled map of Pirin National Park World Heritage Property (1:25 000), bearing topographic features, showing the boundaries of the already inscribed World Heritage Property, the proposed extension of the WHP, the territories, proposed for exclusion and proposed buffer zone;

As Annex 2 of the nomination, are given thematic A3 Maps:

- 2.1 Soils
- 2.2 Plant communities
- 2.3 Forest vegetation
- 2.4 Habitats
- 2.5 Zoning
- 2.6 Map of Pirin National Park and Pirin as Corine site
- 2.7 Pirin National Park as Important Bird Area;
- 2.8 Map of Pirin National Park as Natura 2000 site and surrounding territories, as Natura 2000 sites.

1.f Area of nominated property (ha.) and proposed buffer zone (ha.)

	Area / ha /
WH property from 1983	27 442.9
Proposed extension	12 136.02
Ski zones, above the town of Bansko and above the village of Dobrinishte, proposed for exclusion (proposed buffer zone)*	1078.28
Territories, proposed for exclusion from the WH property - Kulinoto ski zone - 58.1 ha, Sandanski resort area - 76.4 ha, Dobrinishte region - 10.1 ha and Sandanski region - 6 ha. (the same were excluded from the National Park in 1987 and 1999 but are still part of the WH property)	150.6
Proposed Area of the WH property in 2009**	39 277.72

*Propozed buffer zone consists of the two ski zones located above the town of Bansko and above the village of Dobrinishte, which are part of the "tourist zone", determined by the management plan of the National park. The total area of the proposed buffer zone (1078.28 ha) was included in the boundaries of the World Heritage Property, designated in 1983.

** Proposed area of the WH Property in 2009 is calculated as follow: the total area of the Pirin National Park, as determined in the management plan (40356 ha) minus the proposed buffer zone (1078.28 ha).

The proposed buffer zone of the WHP, containing of the two ski zones, above the town of Bansko and the village of Dobrinishte will ensure better preservation of the property, though it is not surrounding it but rather is engraved into it (cut into it).

As far as a buffer zone, surrounding the proposed World Heritage Property, it should be mentioned that according to the specific Bulgarian legislation, buffer zones can not be designated around protected areas which are "national parks". It should be mentioned that the territories surrounding Pirin National Park are being managed by other institutions. So,

they fall out of the scope of Pirin National Park Directorate and are also not subject of the Management plan, approved for the whole territory of the National Park.

As a new member state to the European Union, Bulgaria has established its Natura 2000 network according to the Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitat Directive) and Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds (Bird Directive).

The whole territory of Pirin National Park (and proposed World Heritage Property) is proposed as Natura 2000 site according to the two directives, mentioned above.

A big part of the territories surrounding the National Park, have been also proposed as Natura 2000 sites under the Habitat directive of the EU.

According to the requirements of the EU Directives transposed into the Bulgarian legislation and particularly the Biodiversity conservation Act, all Natura 2000 sites, are designated with orders of the minister of environment and water, defining specific regimes for use and utilization for each of them, according to their conservation value and potential threats. Besides, these orders for designation, according to Article 6 of the EU Habitat Directive, all plans, programs, and investment projects are subject of a special assessment on their possible negative impact on the Natura 2000 sites. There is also a special Regulation which determines the terms and order for carrying out of this assessment.

As seen, the national legislation, harmonized with the European one, provides several mechanisms for ensuring the protection of the Natura 2000 sites. These mechanisms will also ensure the protection of the National Park and its surrounding territories. Thus, the Natura 2000 site, surrounding the National park will play the role of a buffer zone of the World Heritage property.

In Annex 2 is given map, showing the boundaries of Pirin as Natura 2000 site according to the Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitat Directive) and Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds, as well as the surrounding territories of the National Park, also proposed as Natura 2000 sites, according to the Habitat Directive.

See map 2.8 in Annex 2

2. Description

2.a Description of Property

Pirin National Park is located in Pirin Mountain, in the Southwestern part of Bulgaria. Geographically it belongs to the Rila-Rhodopean mountain massif and according to the administrative division of Bulgaria falls within the Blagoevgrad District.

In 1983, Pirin National Park was designated as World Heritage Property with area of approximately 27 400 ha.

Further, the territory of Pirin National Park as protected area according to the Bulgarian legislation was changed several times to reach its current size of 40 356 ha. No steps were provided during the years to follow in order to extent the area of the World Heritage Property as well and it remained the same, as designated in 1983, namely 27 400 ha.

According to the provisions of the World Heritage Convention, in cases of significant changes in the territories of properties, which have already been inscribed on the World Heritage List, the state parties should fill in and submit for consideration a new nomination form.

In relation to the above and following the recommendations of the 2004 joint mission of UNESCO and IUCN, the Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Water, on behalf of the State party prepared a new nomination, proposing changes in the boundaries of the World Heritage Property as designated in 1983.

Before stating out the changes proposed by the current nomination, it has to be mentioned that the initial nomination of Pirin as UNESCO WHP included only 2/3 of the present territory of the Park, namely its forests. At that time, priority was given to forest protection. Forests were considered to be of major conservation value, particularly because of their wildlife reservoir role. On the other hand, alpine meadows, rocky summits and scree were not considered worth protecting. In addition, the highland pastures were not part of the nomination because they were not within the jurisdiction of the Nature Protection Committee, which was the authority, responsible at that time for the management of protected areas. State policy towards highland pastures was aiming at using them mainly for highlands stockbreeding rather than for conservation purposes.

The present nomination proposes to include the highland pastures, alpine peaks and scree, which form the central part of the Park, for several reasons:

- The property, as declared in 1993, was divided in two main zones and several small islands, which do not correspond to the biological or functional units.
- The pastures and the alpine zone play a significant role for the plant diversity and offer favorable habitat to number of endemic organisms.
- Alpine pasture and alpine rocky summits are located in the center of the Park and provide the link between the lower elevations forested areas on both sides. In addition, the different habitats are interconnected and many animal species migrate daily or seasonally from forests to alpine meadows and vice-versa.
- For better management it is necessary to extend the WH property boundaries so that it covers almost the whole territory of the National Park (without the two ski zones above the town of Bansko and the village of Dobrinishte, proposed for buffer zone). That will guarantee the integrity of the Park and allow for efficient integrated management.

As already mentioned, within the boundaries of Pirin National Park and World Heritage Property are located two ski zones, above the town of Bansko and above the village of Dobrinishte. Both of them fall within the "tourist zone", determined by the Management plan of the National Park.

The current nomination proposes the two ski zones to be excluded from the World Heritage Property and to be designated as a "buffer zone" of the Property in order to ensure its better protection.

In case of exclusion of the ski zones and their transformation into a buffer zone, the same will stay within the boundaries of Pirin National Park as protected area, will proceed being part of the "tourist zone" and correspondingly will keep their regimes for use, determined by the Management plan and national legislation.

(see map 2.5 in Annex 2).

Besides the inscription of the highland pastures, alpine peaks and scree, which form the central Part of the Park and also the exclusion of the two ski zones and their transformation into a buffer zones, the current nomination proposes also few other territories to be excluded from the World Heritage Property.

These territories are as follows:
Dobrinishte region – 10.1 ha

Sandanski region – 6 ha
Razlog Park region – Kulinoto – 58.1 ha
Sandanski Park region – 76.4 ha

The same were excluded from the National Park as protected area according to the national legislation in the past, particularly 1987 and 1999 but are still part of the World Heritage Property since no official steps were undertaken for their exclusion.

As mentioned above the Protected areas Act, which is in force since 1998, a new a modern protected areas classification in compliance with the international norms was introduced.

In relation to the above, in 1999, with order RD - 395 from 15.10.1999 of the minister of environment and water the category of the existing at the time Pirin People's Park was changed and it turned to be a National Park. The territory of the National park was also changed with the same order and turned to be 40332.4 ha, later on recalculated to 40356.0 ha by the Management Plan of the National Park, as a result of better measurement. With the same order from the territory of the National park were excluded the Kulinoto ski zone - 58.1 ha in the territory of Razlog municipality and the resort area (ex camping area) in the region of Sandanski municipality – 76.4 ha.

These territories were excluded from the national park, following a procedure, determined by the specialized Bulgarian legislation – Protected areas Act.

The main argument for the exclusion of those territories was the lack of conservation value, because at the time the same were already occupied by different facilities and buildings.

On the other hand, the Protected areas Act requires the lands, the forests and the waters within the National Parks to be exclusively state property.

This requirement of the legislation, as well as the presence of many private owners in the above mentioned territories also became a reason for their exclusion from the boundaries of the National Park in 1999.

The necessity to undertake official steps in order to exclude those areas from the World heritage property as well, was pointed by the IUCN expert who visited the site in 2007 as part of a previous nomination procedure mission.

Beside, those territories, there are two other - in the region of Dobrinishte - 10.1 ha and also in Sandanski - 6 ha, which were excluded with Order 1036/ 17.11.1987 of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers from the boundaries of Pirin National park with the aim to adapt the boundaries of the park to specific features of the terrain (existing road).

Parallel to the exclusions of these areas from the boundaries of the National Park, with the same order the territory of the park was also sufficiently extended. The territory which was added constituted about 12 639.9 ha (later on recalculated to 12 913.5 ha) and was composed of high mountain treeless zone, unique rock formations and huge forests stands, all characteristic with their high conservation value and worthy to be officially protected.

The territories, excluded from the boundaries of the National park, mentioned above do not merit to be part not only from the protected area but also from the World Heritage Property.

The main argument for this is the lack of conservation value but also the fact that being once excluded from the National Park, they stay apart from the scope of the Pirin National Park Administration and the Management plan, and therefore can not be efficiently managed and controlled as the other parts of the Protected area.

Abiotic factors

Pirin Mountain belongs to the continental-Mediterranean climatic zone where frequent and abundant rainfall is characteristic. The annual rainfall ranges from 600 mm at low elevation sections to some 1,200 mm in the upper zones. The Mediterranean draughts define the character of the climate. The summers are hot and dry, and relatively moderate temperatures are characteristic to the winters – these are generally higher than that in the other mountain regions in Bulgaria.

The Pirin Mountain represents a complex high mountain structure rising between the rift valleys of the Struma and Mesta Rivers. The Park covers the high elevation part of Pirin Mountain characterized by well-expressed alpine relief.

In terms of geology, it belongs to the Rhodopean supergroup, composed of different bedrocks. Pirin geology is characterized by the almost the equal presence of marble (covering some 45% of the park's territory) and granite (covering some 55% of the park's territory). This has strongly influenced the vegetation formation. Given its geomorphologic structure, the Park could be roughly divided in two distinctive parts:

- The unique northern part, characterized by sharp marble ridges, with deep dry rock cirques where the highest Pirin peaks are located, and
- The southern part, a granite ridge comprising slightly lower peaks

The karst relief of the northern part (the so-called Marble Pirin) had favored the formation of numerous caves.

The contemporary relief of Pirin Mountain had shaped during the Pleistocene when Alpine glaciers (cirque glaciers) formed in the mountain. Therefore, the Pirin relief is distinguishable for its alpine character, represented by significant segmentation, steep slopes, high ridges and deep river valleys, occurrence of glacial cirques and lakes. Its highest point is the third highest peak on the Balkan Peninsula – Vihren Peak (2,914 m). The lowest point of the Park is located at the Park entrance near Bansko (950 m). All glacial relief forms, including 35 cirques, 113 caves, screes, moraines, and rock faces, fall within the boundaries of Pirin National Park. In addition, the permanent lakes situated in Pirin NP are 118. They form six main habitat groups. Under a normal precipitation regime, the total lake water surface is 2,085 ha or 0.51% of the Park territory. Popovo Lake with an area of 124 ha is the largest lake and at the same time, it is the deepest one. The Banderishko Lake is the second largest in the mountain.

The rivers of Pirin are characterized by clean water and exceptional diversity of macrozoobentos taxa – with 37 taxa being registered in Zelezina River alone. These rivers supply some 70,000 people inhabiting the municipalities adjacent to the Park with drinking water, water for irrigation of the arable lands, and for hydropower generation.

Almost the equal presence of marble (45% of the park's territory) and granite (55% of the park's territory) dominate Pirin geology. This strongly influences the repartition of soils and vegetation (*see maps 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 in Annex 2*)

Biotic factors

Numerous studies and inventories have been carried out in Pirin National Park. They provide solid evidence of its exceptional biodiversity. The table below illustrates the diversity and conservation value of the Park, by taxonomic groups:

	Species in NP Pirin	Species in Bulgaria	Local endemic in NP Pirin	Bulgarian endemic	Balkan endemic
Algae	165	3000	2	-	-
Fungi	375	4900	-	-	-
Mosses	329	668	-	-	-
Lichens	367	709	-	-	-
Vascular plants	1315	3850	18	17	86
Mollusca	89	447	5	3	5
Fishes	6	207	-	-	-
Amphibian	8	16	-	-	1
Reptiles	11	11	-	-	-
Birds	159	485	-	-	5
Mammals	45	89	-	-	2

Flora

In terms of its flora and vegetation, Pirin is one of the unique Bulgarian and Balkan mountains. The geographic isolation of the mountain, the large altitudinal range, the various types of rocks and the complex geomorphologic structure have contributed to the formation of exceptional combination of plant species. Despite the centuries of use of the mountain natural resources, the flora is well preserved.

The lower plants comprise:

- 165 species of algae that form 30% of all Bulgarian algal species; and
- 329 moss species and 367 species of lichens – more than 52% of the Bulgarian lichen flora.

The fungi species identified so far are 375. Of them, six are included in the European Red List of the threatened macromycetae and six – in Appendix I of the Bern Convention.

Of the vascular plants, 1,315 species have been discovered on the territory of Pirin NP. Of them 114 are endangered and are listed in the Bulgarian Red Data Book. The flora of Pirin represents about one-third of the total Bulgarian flora.

One of the most important Bulgarian plant speciation centers is situated in Pirin. The endemic component here is widely represented: 18 local endemic taxa, 17 Bulgarian endemics (more than 50% of the Bulgarian endemic plants) and 86 Balkan endemics occur.

The analysis of the floral element shows that the Park's flora has largely preserved its autochthonous character. The sub-Mediterranean and Euro-Asiatic floral elements participate almost equally. Also Euro-Mediterranean and Boreal floral elements are widely represented. The Arctic-Alpine floral communities that are typical to the highest part of the mountain, characterized by cold climate, are not so numerous. The ruderal species and weeds are relatively few in number. No invasive alien species have been recorded to date.

Plant species protected under different international conventions include four species listed in the Bern Convention appendixes, 21 – in CITES (all species of *Orchidaceae* and *Amaryllidaceae*) and in the 21 are in the IUCN Red List.

In addition, analyses have shown that the Pirin NP flora is characterized by the presence of a significant number of endemic taxa.

The table below shows of the conservation significance of the vascular plants in Pirin NP:

Conservation status of vascular plants of Pirin NP	# of species
Bulgarian Red Data Book	114
Total number of endemics	121
Local (Pirin) endemics	18
Bulgarian endemics	17
Balkan endemics	86
Bern Convention	4
IUCN Red List	1
Council Directive 92/43	4
CITES	21

Vegetation

The inventory of the Pirin plant communities which took place in the 2001-2002 period identified 24 plant communities occurring in six categories of habitats.

Main groups of plant communities in Pirin NP	# of communities	Surface (ha)	Area (% of park territory)
Communities around lakes and rivers	3	177.50	0.40
Subalpine shrub communities	4	17,812.30	44.10
Grassland (meadows, subalpine and alpine pastures)	7	7,490.40	18.56
Forests communities	8	17,325.50	42.93
Rock habitats communities	1	4,866.60	12.05
Anthropogenic vegetation	1	174.10	0.40
Total	24	47,846.40	118.00¹

More than half of Pirin forests are natural aged forests with an average age of 140 years. The coniferous species making more than 90% of all forests, largely dominate. Particularly significant are the spacious stands of the two Balkan endemic pine species: Macedonian pine (*Pinus peuce*) and Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldreichii*). Other forests include stands dominated by Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*), Scotch pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), silver fir (*Abies alba*), Norway spruce (*Picea abies*) and European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). The endangered in Bulgaria yew (*Taxus baccata*) occurs rather rarely in the Park.

The rock habitats, as well as the meadow communities of the sub-alpine and alpine zones of the Park, which constitute the main part of the proposed extension of the World Heritage Property contain the majority of the endemic plants. Although these areas were the last to be included in the Park, the communities there are very well preserved and their long-term sustenance is crucial for many of the endemic taxa.

¹ Due to some overlapping between plant communities the area exceeds by 18% the total park surface.

Fauna

The invertebrates are the most diverse animal group in Pirin National Park. Thousand of species have been identified, but a comprehensive inventory is far from being accomplished. Currently only *Arthropoda* and *Mollusca* are investigated in detail; these two groups comprise 2,091 species, of which 216 endemics, 176 relicts and 15 included in the World and European lists of threatened species.

Because the rivers in the park are high mountain rivers only six fish species occur within the Park's territory. This is 5% of the freshwater ichthyofauna in Bulgaria. Two of them – vairone (*Leuciscus souffia*) and Balkan trout (*Salmo trutta*) are relicts included in the appendixes of the Bern Convention and EU Directive 92/43.

Pirin provides shelter to eight species of amphibians and 11 reptiles. Three are glacial relicts: the common frog, the viviparous lizard and the adder. The Balkan wall lizard is Balkan endemics.

Because of the diversity of landscape, habitat and natural plant communities, Pirin protects 177 bird species or 44% of the total Bulgarian ornithofauna. Of these, 143 species are under protection according to the national legislation, two are included in the IUCN Red List, 148 – in the Bern Convention and in CITES – 29. The most important representatives of the ornithofauna are the three glacial relicts: Tengmalm's owl, white-backed woodpecker and three-toed woodpecker. There are five Balkan endemic species: the subspecies of white-backed woodpecker, shore lark, alpine accentor, crested tit and rock nuthatch.

Conservation status of birds in Pirin NP	# of species
Relicts	3
Endemics	9
Protected by the national legislation	143
Listed in the Bulgarian Red Data Book	31
Endangered species	22
Listed in the IUCN Red List	2
Listed in the BONN Convention	54
Listed in the BERN Convention	148
Listed in the CITES	29
Listed in the DIR 79/409	40
Listed in EMERALD	37

More than half of the Bulgarian mammals - 45 species, inhabit Pirin. Of them 19 are under protection of the national legislation, 2 are included in the IUCN Red List, 37 – in the Bern Convention, 24 – in the EU Directive 92/43 and 3 – in CITES. One species of the vertebrate fauna is a glacial relict – snow vole (*Chionomys nivalis*), and two other - Gunter's vole (*Microtus guentheri*) and chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra ssp. balcanica*), are Balkan endemics.

Conservation status of mammals in Pirin NP	# of species
Relicts	1
Endemics	2
Protected by the national legislation	19
Listed in the Bulgarian Red Data Book	5
Endangered species	3
Listed in the IUCN Red List	2
Listed in the BONN Convention	14
Listed in the BERN Convention	37
Listed in the CITES	3
Listed in the DIR 79/409	24

Conservation value of Pirin flora and fauna

Significant numbers of species of each systematic group are endangered, protected by national regulations or under international legislation.

	BG Red Data Book	IUCN Red List	Bonn Conv. Ann. II	Bern Conv. Ann. II	CITES	EU Directives	Threatened
Algae							
Mosses						2	
Lichens							
Vascular plants	114	1		4	21	4	
Invertebrates	277	3		2			3
Amphibians				2		1	
Reptiles				1	1	1	
Birds	31	2	54	148	29	40	25
Mammals	5	12	14	37	3	24	3

2.b History and Development

Thracians, Romans, Byzantines and Slavs inhabited Pirin Mountain and its adjacent territories in succession. The remains of ancient fortresses, Thracian tumuli, medieval colonies, consecrated grounds, churches and chapels testify to several historical epochs. Remains of a fortress dating back to the pre-Roman times have been discovered in the Yulen Reserve. In the past Pirin was also a part of an important trade road connecting Melnik and Bansko. The so-called Wine Gate found in the lowest saddle of Northern Pirin was the main entrance for caravans carrying cotton, tools, wine, etc.

The Age of the Bulgarian Revival (XVIII-XIX centuries) is an important period of an industrial and cultural prosperity of the region. The crafts and the commerce, the timbering and the tobacco industry were developed. Monastery schools and later secular ones were built. Important national construction and painting schools originated in this region. Melnik and Bansko Arts School developed during the Middle Ages existed until the beginning of the XX c. The most outstanding examples of the Bansko Arts School are preserved in the Rila Monastery (World Heritage Property) and in the town of Bansko.

Bulgarian considers Pirin region a cradle of the national liberation movement against the Ottomans. Famous Bulgarian revolutionaries and educators were born and worked for the prosperity of the region – Paissy Hilendarski, Neophit Rilski, Yane Sandanski, Gotze Delchev, etc. Among all regions in Bulgaria, Pirin gained its independence from Ottoman Empire the latest – in October 1912, when the Balkan war was declared.

The stormy and changing history of this region often with tragic consequences for the local people could not break their spirit nor their patriotism and pride. Even today they jealously keep the messages of their past – their alive memory and heritage. Very often the Pirin songs are described as 'heavy' and full of tragedy. They were quite common at the table or work, at meetings, celebrations and customs. The so-called family songs include the wedding (engagement, taking the bride, giving gifts to guests, etc.) and mourning ones. The current landscape and vegetation of Pirin are a direct consequence of the last ice age and the subsequent retreat of the glaciers, completed by traditional human activities. For many centuries, local population has used the natural resources in a very sustainable way; even the centralized agriculture system of the communist period had little influence on the quality of the natural ecosystems. Moderate and well-controlled sheep and cattle grazing have probably contributed to the high biodiversity by maintaining open grassland areas within the forests and the *Pinus mugo* belt.

Before the establishment of the Park, there was limited use of the forests in some areas. The most important factor of changes has been the construction of a roads and development of tourism facilities.

While the most valuable forest stands were included in the 1983 boundaries of the WHP, the alpine zone was excluded to a large extend. The inclusion of this zone is a major contribution to the current nomination under the natural criteria mentioned below.

History of conservation (*See also Annex 3*):

During the last 50 years, conservation state of the area has been gradually growing to reach its current state. The establishment of the protected area followed the below steps:

- In 1934 Bayuvi dupki reserve was declared.
- On November 8th, 1962 with an order of the Forestry Board of the Council of Ministers declares Vihren People's Park. The park's area is 6736 ha and includes the highest parts of Banderitza and Damjanitza parts of Pirin Mountain.
- In 1974 with an order of the Ministry of Forests and Nature Protection the park was enlarged to 26 413,8 ha and the name was changed to Pirin People's Park. The added territory is 19 677,8 ha.
- In 1976 another small enlargement was made and an area of 34 ha was added to the park. Thus the park territory become 26 479,8 ha. Later re-calculation concluded that the actual area is 27442,9 ha (without changes of the boundaries!).
- In 1977 the reserve Bayuvi dupki-Dzindziritza was declared as a Biosphere reserve under the UNESCO "Man and Biosphere" Programme.
- In 1979 an independent management structure – Park Directorate within the Ministry of Forest and Forest Economy, was established in Bansko. The territories of the reserves Bauvi dupki and Malka Dzindziritza were merged in one reserve "Bayuvi dupki – Dzindziritza" with and area of 2 873 ha.
- In 1983 Pirin was designated as a World Heritage Site with an area of 27442,9 ha. Subsequent changes of the area and legal status of Pirin NP as World Heritage Site were not communicated to the World Heritage Centre.
- In 1987 with Order 1036/ 17.11.1987 of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers two small territories in the region of Dobrinishte - 10.1 ha and also in

Sandanski - 6 ha were excluded from the boundaries of Pirin National park with the aim to adapt the boundaries of the park to specific features of the terrain (existing road). With the same order new 12 639 ha were added to the park.

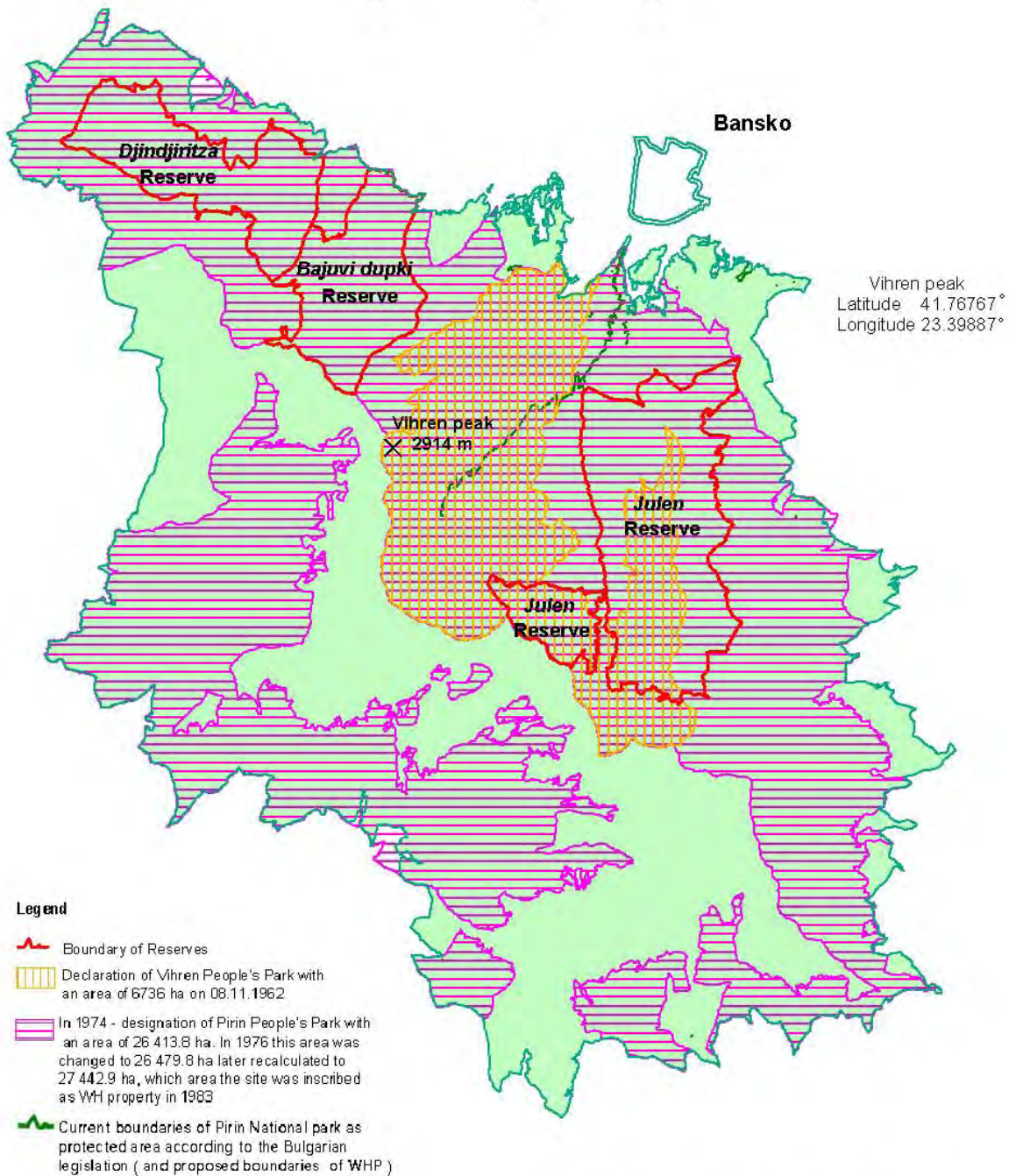
- In 1994, with an order of the Minister of Environment and Water was designated Yulen nature reserve with an area of 3156,2 ha on the territory of Bansko municipality. It is the most recent reserve declared in Pirin.
- In 1998, after the enforcement of the Protected Areas Act, a modern protected area's classification in compliance with the international norms was introduced. The category of the site changed and it became a National Park. In 1999, by an order of the Minister of Environment and Water, Pirin National Park was finally declared with an area of 40 332,4 ha. As a result of recalculations of the area of the Park, carried out later and without border changes, the area was concluded to be as pointed in the Management plan, namely 40 356,0 ha. With the same order the Kulinoto ski zone – 58.1 ha and the Sandanski Resort area – 76.4 ha were excluded from the National park. According to the Protected Areas Act, protected areas, which fall in the National Park category, are exclusively state property. Therefore, this area of 40 356,0 ha is exclusive state property and falls within the administrative boundaries of seven municipalities: Gotse Delchev, Bansko, Razlog, Simitli, Kresna, Strumyani and Sandanski.

Below is given a A4 map showing the evolution of the boundaries of Pirin NP as protected area and WHP

NATIONAL PARK PIRIN



Evolution of the boundaries of NP, boundary of the WHP from 1983 and current boundaries of Pirin National park as protected area according to the Bulgarian legislation



3. Justification for Inscription

3.a Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The nomination of the Pirin National Park is proposed under to criteria VII, IX and X in compliance with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Criterion VII

The nominated property is a compact mountain range characterized by a great diversity of forests, meadows and rock landscapes with sharp summits and narrow valleys.

The contemporary landscape diversity of the Pirin Mountain reflects its geological diversity. It has been strongly influenced by the Pleistocene glaciations. There are 35 glacial rock cirques in the highest parts of Pirin. The largest are the Popovoezeren, Vasilashki, Valyavishki and Banderishki Cirques. However, the most spectacular one is the cirque surrounding the Georgiiski Lakes. Most of the 113 caves in the Park are vertical and situated mainly in the cirques: Kazanite, Banderishki, Kamenitsa, Banski Suhodol and Bayuvi Dupki.

Numerous high mountain lakes (180) occupy the bottoms and the terraced slopes of the cirques: the biggest one is the Popovo Lake with an area of 124,000 sq. m and a depth of 30 m. Snow patches of perennial firn occur on shadowed places on the slopes of northern exposition cirques – Golyam Kazan, Kutelo, Banski Suhodol.

Because of the glacier lateral erosion, the interconnecting ridges became narrow and sharp – Koncheto, Strazhite, etc. Pyramidal and conic summits formed above the highest parts of neighboring cirques – Vihren, Kutelo, Kamenitsa, etc. Relatively short alpine glaciers descended below the snowline during the Pleistocene. They transformed the upper parts of previously existing river valleys into U-shaped glacier valleys. At lower elevation, rivers still flow in narrow gorges, which have contributed to preserve the central part of the Park from adverse human influence.

The natural appearance of the Pirin Mountain, with its compact forest belt dominated by a complex network of alpine summits and ridges offers favorable conditions to many living organisms but also to humans to experience and enjoy the well-preserved natural landscape.

The most important and visible geo-morphological features form the following categories:

- the marble rocks – natural habitats unique at the European and global scale
- the granite rocks – covering considerable areas in the whole park and shaping the specific alpine landscape
- the typically glacial forms of relief - cirques, glacier beds, terraces
- the pyramidal, needle or cone shaped remote mountain summits

The unique combination of these elements within one mountain makes the Pirin National Park a geological phenomenon of a national and international importance. In addition, the rock formations and the other alpine parts of Pirin are difficult to access and therefore are very well preserved.

A few hundred meters below the treeline small populations or single trees of very old Macedonian pines occurs on carbonated soils. Exemplary are the Baykuchevata Macedonian pine – a 1,350 year old tree (the oldest in Bulgaria), and the small forests of aged

Macedonian pines in the site of Sveshtnitsite (the Candels) and Orlite (the Eagles). The strange shapes of these aged trees add specific value to the spectacular landscape.

Criterion IX

The Pirin National Park hosts an exceptional biological diversity with a high percentage of endemic, rare and relict species. It is a remarkable example of a territory that stimulated the evolution of significant number of taxa, and which nowadays provides a refuge for significant populations of numerous endemic plant and animal species. This is due to the particular geographic location of Pirin within the Balkan Peninsula, its geological and geomorphologic diversity, the large altitudinal range, and the ancient and continuous isolation of Pirin from the neighboring mountain ranges.

The Pirin NP flora comprises numerous phytogeographic elements belonging to 60 floral regions, as well as their combinations. The endemic species are largely concentrated in the northern part of the mountain. However, some of them, especially the Balkan endemics, are widely distributed throughout the Park. The marble massifs of the Vihrenski and Sinanishki section of Northern Pirin are of high importance for the speciation process; they constitute the core area of the proposed additional territory of the property.

Eighteen Pirin (local) flora endemic species have evolved on the territory of the Park; 17 Bulgarian endemics and 86 Balkan endemic species can be found here as well. The local endemics include: the Urumov's and Kozuharov's oxytropis (*Oxytropis urumovii*, *Oxytropis kozuharovii*), Pirin poppy (*Papaver degenii*), Pirin poa (*Poa pirinica*), Jordanoff's turnip (*Brassica nivalis jordanoffii*), Banderitsa lady's mantle (*Alchemilla bandericensis*), Pirin lady's mantle (*Alchemilla pirinica*), Kellerer's asyneuma (*Asyneuma kellererianum*), Pirin sand-wort (*Arenaria pirinica*), Pirin sedge (*Carex pirinensis*), Vihren fleabane (*Erigeron vichrensis*), Davidof's mullein (*Verbascum davidofii*), Lesser Pirin fescue (*Festuca pirinica*), Stojanov's yellow gallium (*Galium demissum stojanovii*), Pirin cow parsnip (*Heracleum angustisectum*), Javork's yellow-rattle (*Rhinanthus javorkae*), Pirin wild thyme (*Thymus perinicus*), and Kosanin's daphne (*Daphne kosaninii*).

The occurrence of a large number of relict species is also specific to Pirin. The pre-glacial relicts include predominantly tree species, such as the silver fir (*Abies alba*), Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), Macedonian pine (*Pinus peuce*), yew (*Taxus baccata*), European hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), etc.

Today in Pirin, some of the speciation processes are still active and this makes the mountain particularly important as a global biodiversity center. Its conservation is of special international significance.

The 3,400 known species of invertebrate dominate the Pirin fauna. This represents more than 26.7% of the families in Bulgaria. Of these 294 or 14.1% are rare species, belonging mostly to the families Araneae - 41.1% and Lepidoptera - 27.8 %. Within nine of groups 217 endemics are determined that is 10.4%. The highest endemism level is registered within the classes Myriapoda - 50%, Plecoptera - 40.0% and Mollusca - 37.5%. The local endemics amounting to 39 species represent the highest conservation value.

In terms of the relict species, Pirin ranks the second in Bulgaria after Rila. However, it has to be mentioned that the biodiversity of Rila was better investigated than the one in Pirin. Of 176 relict species (8.4% of the invertebrate fauna), 149 are glacial relicts (84.6%); of the invertebrate relicts the heteropterans are 17.6% and the araneans - 14.6%.

The importance of Pirin as a vertebrate fauna sanctuary is recognized nationally and internationally. The presence of a number of umbrella and cornerstone species evidences the conservation value of Pirin:

- Among the amphibians, such are the common frog (*Rana temporaria*) and viviparous lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*). These are glacial relicts that inhabit the highest part of Pirin are with a limited distribution not only in Bulgaria but also all over Southern Europe. The populations occurring in Pirin are among the most considerable in Bulgaria.
- Among the reptiles, one of the flagship species inhabiting the lowest parts of the park is the Aesculapian snake (*Elaphe longissima*). It is included in the Bulgarian Red Data Book, as well as in several international conventions.
- The highest number of species of conservation importance characterizes the birds of Pirin. In Pirin are one of the most important nesting habitats of species included in the Bulgarian Red Data Book like the capercaillie, the Tengmalm's owl, the black woodpecker, the white-backed Woodpecker, the three-toad woodpecker, the hazel grouse, the golden eagle, the woodcock, the goshawk and the sparrow hawk. Occasionally in the park could be observed other species also included in the Bulgarian Red Data Book such as short-toed eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*), lesser spotted eagle (*Aquila pomarina*), Levant sparrow hawk (*Accipiter brevipes*), and long-legged buzzard (*Buteo rufinus*). In the park very rarely nests the world threaten corncrake (*Crex crex*). Pirin is one of the most important nesting sites for the Balkan endemic sub-species like crested tit (*Parus cristatus borisi-regis*), horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris balcanica*), Alpine accentor (*Prunella collaris subalpina*) – a sub-endemic that also occurs in Western Turkey, nutcracker (*Nucifraga caryocatactes wolfi*), garden warbler (*Sylvia borin pateffi*), long-tailed tit (*Aegithalos caudatus macedonicus*). Pirin NP is one of the few areas where can be observed Bulgarian rare bird species like the wallcreeper (*Tichodroma muraria*) and the Alpine chough (*Pyrrhocorax graculus*).
- The mammal world of Pirin is also remarkable because of the occurrence of some Bulgarian Red Data Book mammals like the Balkan chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra ssp. balcanica*), the bear (*Ursus arctos*), the wolf (*Canis lupus*), the pine marten (*Martes martes*) and the otter (*Lutra lutra*), the latest occurring very rarely.

	Rare	Endemics	Relicts
Plants	98 species In particular <i>Artemisia eriantha</i> , <i>Draba korabensis</i> , <i>Gentianella precox</i> , <i>Orchis militaris</i> , etc.	18 species in particular: Kozuharov's oxytropis (<i>Oxytropis kozuharovii</i>) Vihren fleabane (<i>Erigeron vichrensis</i>) Lesser Pirin fescue (<i>Festuca pirinicus</i>) Pirin wild thyme (<i>Thymus perinicus</i>)	in particular: <i>Anemone narcissiflora</i> , <i>Arenaria pirinica</i> , <i>Bartsia alpina</i> , <i>Diphasiastrum alpinum</i> , <i>Galanthus nivalis</i>
Invertebrates	294 species of Araneae and Lepidoptera	39 species of Coleoptera and Mollusca	176 species of Heteroptera and Araneae

Vertebrates	Wallcreeper (<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>) and Alpine chough (<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>)	Crested tit (<i>Parus cristatus borisi-regi</i>) horned lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris balcanica</i>), Alpine accentor (<i>Prunella collaris subalpina</i>), nutcracker (<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes wolfi</i>)	Tengmalm's owl (<i>Aegolius funereus</i>), three-toed Woodpecker (<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>)
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Criterion X

The territory of Pirin NP ensures the survival of 24 plant communities providing favorable habitat for many rare and endangered species.

The vast forest belts of the Balkan endemic Macedonian pine (*Pinus peuce*) constitute the most original and valuable habitat. The Macedonian pine is a relict included in the IUCN Red List that evidences its importance at the global level. Within the boundaries of the National park especially well developed are the mixed Macedonian pine forests occurring at elevations between 1600 and 2200 m, mainly on stony acid soils over silicate bedrock. These forests are recognized for the diversity of plant species in the undergrowth. The dominant undergrowth species are whortleberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), Siberian juniper (*Juniperus sibirica*) and dwarf pine (*Pinus mugo*). Rare Bulgarian species like the yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea*), the dotted-flower gentian (*Gentiana punctata*), the Banderitsa lady's mantle (*Alchemilla bandericensi*), and others also occur there. Many animals, from invertebrate to birds and large mammals find shelter in the vast Macedonian pine forests. Worth mentioning are:

Common name	Scientific name	Bern Conv Annex II/III	Bonn Conv. Annex II	DIR 92/43
Greater shrew	<i>Sorex araneus</i>	•		
Pygmy shrew	<i>Sorex minutus</i>	•		
Forest dormouse	<i>Dryomys nitedula</i>	•		•
Wild cat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>	•		•
Brown bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	•		•
Wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	•		•
Snow vole	<i>Chionomys nivalis</i>	•		
Hazel grouse	<i>Bonasa bonasia</i>	•		
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	•		
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus rusticus</i>	•	•	•
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	•		
Common treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	•		
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	•		
Common crosbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	•		

In the Bosnian pine habitats could be observed other rare and endemic species like *Polygala acarnanica*, *Centaurea achtarowii*, *Verbascum davidoffii*, *Hieracium stefanoffii*, *Rhinanthus javorkae*, *Kernera saxatilis*, *Festuca penzesii*, *Laserpitium siler*, and many others.

More than 36 types of Macedonian pine forests and 14 types of Bosnian pine forests have been described within the Park. Of special interest is the community formed by Macedonian and Bosnian pine with herbaceous undergrowth comprising relatively drought resistant species, like *Festuca dalmatica*. The uniqueness of this community lies within the combined

presence of the two endemic tree species occurring on relatively limited area in the northern part of the Park.

Another unique habitat type in Pirin NP is the complex of rocks, scree and alpine meadow formations. They are distributed mainly in the alpine zone and to a lesser extent below the treeline. The bedrock type, the relief exposition, the water regime determines the ecological conditions. Therefore, they form a mosaic of plant and animal communities that tolerate dry, cold and windy habitats. Widely represented is, for example, the genus *Saxifraga* with some endemic species; several local and Balkan endemic species are found here, like *Thymus perinicus*, *Papaver degenii*, *Arabis ferdinandi-coburgii*, *Potentilla appenina ssp. Stojanovii*, *Dianthus microlepis*, as well as some typical alpine species, like *Androsace villosa*, *Rhodax alpestris (Rhodeola rosea)*, *Silene acaulis*, etc.

The alpine meadows and rock habitats offer food and refuge for important populations of the Balkan endemic subspecies of chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra ssp. balcanica*), as well as to several important birds like:

Common name	Scientific name	Bern Conv Annex II	Bonn Conv. Annex II	DIR 79/40
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	•	•	•
Eurasian crag-martin	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>	•		
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	•		
Haselhuhn	<i>Bonasia bonasia</i>	•		
Rock partridge	<i>Alectoris graeca</i>	•		•
Rock thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	•	•	•
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	•	•	
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ingicapillus</i>	•	•	
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	•	•	

3.b Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Pirin offers unique high-mountain scenic landscape at the cross-road between the central European, Mediterranean and Pontic biogeographical regions.

The uniqueness of Pirin ensues from its relative isolation from the other mountain chains. Compared with them the Mediterranean influence, penetrating along the river valleys of Struma and Mesta Rivers, here is stronger. This results in the unique combination of the widespread Mediterranean species (12%) and the much less represented Arctic-Alpine species (less than 1%), although the relief of the mountain is a typical Alpine one.

In the time of the last glaciations during the Tertiary, overall ice cover had not been formed in Pirin and the highest parts of the mountain remained refuges for glacial relict species, which are still present today, thus additionally increasing the conservation value of the mountain.

In terms of flora, Pirin is among the most unique Bulgarian and Balkan mountain ranges. The shaping of the contemporary composition of the flora and the formation of the vegetation cover has continued after the last glaciation, when the species preserved so far in the refuges have re-colonized their former habitats.

Exceptional biological diversity and high percent of the endemic component characterize Pirin. Pirin endemic species are fourteen higher plants, which is more than half of all the

Bulgarian endemic plants; 17 higher plants and two animals are Bulgarian endemic species; 86 higher plants and 6 representatives of the vertebrate fauna are Balkan endemic species. Despite the fact that only two groups of invertebrates have been studied in Pirin – Arthropods and Mollusks, the richness of the invertebrate fauna is indisputable: 216 endemics and 176 relicts.

One of the greatest riches of Pirin is its forest. Forest of natural character, aging over 140 years, and covers more than half of the territory of the protected area. More than 90% of the forests are coniferous, and the occurrence of the two endemic species – Macedonian pine (*Pinus peuce*) and Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldreichii*) – diversifies this clearly differentiated coniferous belt.

Of all the habitats described on the territory of Pirin, the rock habitat is the most representative for the unique character of the mountain. Refuges of the unique rock flora and fauna are the 35 cirque valleys, the 180 glacial lakes, the pyramidal and conic summits and the picturesque rock phenomena.

The identification of Pirin NP as a CORINE Site in 1998 confirmed its value as a key territory of a high conservation importance. Because of the priority habitats and species occurring in Pirin, the site has also been proposed to become a Natura 2000 site. Pirin has been designated an Important Bird Area that will allow the long-term preservation of threatened bird species in their natural habitats.

The Pirin NP has been inscribed as one of the 114 Important Plant Areas of Bulgaria under the criteria of occurrence of threatened species, threatened habitats and floral richness.

The Biosphere Reserve Bayuvi Dupki–Dzindziritsa designated in 1977 is also located in the Park. The opportunity for designation of the whole territory of the National Park with its adjacent settlements as a Biosphere Reserve will be considered in future.

The core zone of the Pirin Mountain has been largely preserved of the human impact. Some of the most accessible highland zones have been used for several centuries for agro-pastoral activities. These activities have contributed to increase the species and habitat diversity below and above the treeline; their continuation contribute to the achievement of the conservation goals.

3.c Comparative analysis

In the Balkan Peninsula, the numbers of well-preserved protected areas with a great variety of habitats, a large altitudinal range and with a significant alpine zone clearly above treeline are not numerous. Pirin National Park is one of the few such territories that have succeeded to preserve their landscape, unique plant and animal species and their habitats.

It can be compared with Durmitor (Montenegro), Prokletje Mountain (Albania, Montenegro, Kossovo), Shar Planina (Serbia, Macedonia), Pelister Mountain (Macedonia), Rila Mountain (Bulgaria) and Olympus (Greece). All of them have been declared National Parks, at least partially. However only Durmitor National Park in Montenegro has been registered since 1980 as World Heritage Property, while Olympus is included in the Greek tentative list, but essentially under cultural criteria. In Rila the Rila Monastery, included in a Natural Park, was declared as World Heritage property but exclusively under cultural criteria.

It is difficult to make a detailed comparative study; most of the documentation regarding these sites exists only in local language and very few experts have been visiting the other

sites. Moreover, several of them have been inaccessible during in the last decade due to the regional political instability. However, from the available information it appears clearly that all those mountains are quite isolated, separated from each other by lowland or mountain ranges of lower altitude. This explains the level of local endemism, which is particularly high in Pirin. Pirin displays also a variety of bedrock with clearly separated limestone and silicate parts, which is not the case in Rila, Pelister or Durmitor.

Probably the most comparable site morphologically would be the Prokletje Mountains, but the distance between the two sites and the historical factors have lead to the development of a significantly different flora.

Comparison Pirin Mountain – Prokletje Mountain (SCG)

- Prokletje NP is a group of mountains with a total area of 95,999.60 ha. Its large territory – almost double the size of the Pirin NP area – contributes to the great variety of the main bedrock and landscape.
- The relief of both parks was re-shaped during the Pleistocene when the mountains were subjected to Alpine-like glaciations.
- Regarding hydrology, both parks are a main source for drinking water for the population of the adjacent municipalities, as well as for the hydro-energy.
- The lower plants in Pirin are more diverse than in Prokletje. For comparison, the lichens in Pirin are 367 of which 25 are rare, while in Prokletje there are only 99 of which 25 are rare species.
- The much larger territory of Prokletje NP provides shelter to 1,609 vascular plants, while in Pirin they are 1,315. Regarding the endemic plants, the number is almost equal: 20 local endemic plants in Prokletje and 18 in Pirin.
- The vegetation of the both park is consisted of deciduous and coniferous. The endemic species of Macedonian (*Pinus peuce*) and Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldreichii*) form well visible belts but in Pirin, in particular the stands are quite larger. In Pirin, the oak trees are not present, while in Prokletje they form a large belt.
- Regarding the ornithofauna in Pirin are observed 159 bird species and in Prokletje 180. Most of the birds are similar and are included in the national and European nature protection legislation.
- There are 45 species of mammals in Pirin, which is more than in Prokletje – 38 species.

Comparison Pirin Mountain – Rila Mountain (BG)

- The territory of Rila NP is twice larger than that of Pirin NP.
- The geological fundament belongs to the Rhodopean supergroup but the bedrock of Rila Mountain consists mainly of metamorphic and granite rocks, while the limestone dominates in Pirin.
- Both parks include zones for strict protection – reserves that are also subject of the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme.
- In both parks, the Alpine glaciation has contributed to the formation of a large number of glacial lakes: in Pirin they are 180 and in Rila – 140.
- The vegetation is quite similar but in Rila the Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldreichii*) is not present.
- The total number of vascular plants in Rila is 1,400 against 1,315 in Pirin but for a twice-smaller territory.
- The local and Balkan plant endemic species in Pirin are 18 and in Rila only 3.

- The invertebrates are well represented in the both parks: in Rila these are 2,934 and in Pirin – 2,091 species.
- The number of bird species in Pirin is 159 while in Rila only 99.
- The mammals in Pirin are also more numerous than in Rila: 45 species in Pirin and 38 in Rila.

Comparison Pirin Mountain - Durmitor Mountain

- Both mountains include IUCN category II protected areas. They offer a great variety of climate, landscape habitats and biocenoses.
- Geologically rock massifs of different age have formed both sites. Limestone formations and so-called Durmitorean flysch are characteristics of Durmitor, while in Pirin the marble dominates in the north, while granite rocks cover significant territory. This explains the development of significantly different and to some extent unique flora and vegetation.
- Post-glacial landscape features dominate at higher elevation in both cases; however, due to the different geology, there are 186 glacial lakes in Pirin, while there are only 16 in Durmitor. At lower elevation, Durmitor most typical feature is the 61 km long Tara Canyon, carved in the sedimentary rock layers.
- The large and well-preserved forests are typical to both parks, but are dominated to a large extent by different species. Typical for Pirin are the Macedonian and Bosnian Pine forests, while Durmitor is famous for its virgin Austrian pine forests.
- Both mountains display a significant number of regional and local endemic plant species; however the distance and the difference in physical features implies that the flora, while showing a typical Balkan mountain composition, differ significantly.
- The vertebrate faunas are quite similar in both sites with the same flag species like chamois, bear, wildcat, etc. A higher specificity can be expected in the invertebrate fauna, due to the much more limited mobility of the organisms; however it was difficult to obtain precise information for this group.

While criteria are sufficient to justify the inscription of Pirin National Park as a whole intact territory as natural World Heritage Property, the possibility of declaring a serial site, which will include key, mountain sites of the Balkan Peninsula deserves some future exploratory work.

3.d Integrity

So far only 2/3 of the Park's territory falls within UNESCO WHP. The proposed extension of the property's territory aims at including most of the park's territory in the UNESCO site. The inclusion of the rich and diverse alpine area is extremely important to ensure coherent structure with improved protection and management. Moreover, the extension will allow including the main habitats of most of the endemic and protected species and will also guarantee their conservation and protection. The habitats of the Balkan chamois, the brown bear, the wolf, as well as the sub-alpine pastures are vast territories that fall to a great extent within the proposed extension of the property.

Regarding its plant species the nominated property has preserved completely its original features. No exotic or invasive species occur in the Park. The diversity of endemic, rare and protected plants species is well preserved. They are mainly located at the highest parts of the mountain known to be the core speciation center. This is a strong argument for including these territories within the boundaries of the World Heritage Property.

No permanent human settlements exist in the National Park. The territory is mainly used for tourism and some traditional activities such as grazing, mushrooms and wild berries gathering, fuel wood, etc. Grazing in the highlands pastures is traditional and does not threaten the territory, but has a rather positive influence – prevents the forest expansion and contributes to the biodiversity and landscape conservation. Mushrooms and berries gathering is allowed only in specific zones and for species that are not under restrictive regimes. The quotas allowed do not threaten the respective species populations.

The impact of winter and summer tourism is limited to defined zones: the winter tourism is around the ski runs, the summer tourism - around the tourist trails and huts.

The protection of a bigger as possible territory of the National park (without the two ski zones) as a World Heritage property is extremely important for the conservation of the unique features of the landscape and biodiversity. Therefore, the proposed extension and inclusion of the central alpine zone in the property will contribute to the preservation of the Park integrity and better management.

As far as the two ski zones, above the town of Bansko and the village of Dobrinishte are concerned, the same do not meet the criteria for Outstanding Universal value and therefore are proposed for exclusion from the World Heritage Property. Still, their incorporation into a buffer zone of the WHP will ensure its better preservation.

As for the rest small territories, proposed for exclusion from the World Heritage Property (in Sandanski, Razlog and Dobrinishte), besides the fact that they have no conservation value, the same are already out of the scope of the national park, its management plan and National park Directorate.

4. State of Conservation and Factors Affecting the Property

4.a Present state of conservation

The proposed property is a National Park (IUCN category II) according to the Bulgarian legislation, which ensures its actual protection and management. One of the two reserves Bayuvi Dupki – Dzindziritsa (IUCN category I) falling within the property of the World Natural Heritage of UNESCO has been under a strict protection regime for more than 70 years that has contributed to its preservation as in-situ conservation laboratory.

As almost all European mountains, Pirin has been used by many generations of local farmers in a very sustainable manner. The human activities have contributed to the formation of current biologically rich mosaic of forests and pastures below the treeline.

Initially the territory of the Park as a protected area consisted mainly of forests. Possible explanation for this is that at the time the understanding of protected areas gave priority to protection of forests as wildlife reservoirs. The long-lasting traditional use of the sub-alpine and alpine parts of the mountain had a much lower impact, which resulted in their better preservation.

The sub-alpine pastures, which dominate the territory proposed for enlargement, preserve rich biological diversity. The traditional use of pastures by domestic animals prevents their overgrowing by shrubs, as well as the penetration of invasive plants.

Most forests, especially in the higher altitude zones of the Park, are quite well preserved. Some logging has taken place mainly in the lower part, and most of the areas have regenerated naturally. Non-native species were never introduced in the Park.

Regarding the flora, most populations of plant species, are quite stable. Many rare, protected and threatened species occur on the territory of Pirin NP and their numbers do not show signs of decline. Mainly the species of decorative value like the lion's paw (*Leontopodium alpinum*), the Pirin poppy (*Papaver degenii*), etc., as well as those that occur in proximity to the tourist centers and trails are vulnerable to human collection. Collection of medicinal plants in the Park is permitted for private use and does not seriously threaten any species.

Over the last 100 years, the fauna in Pirin NP has not significantly changed.

- Of the large mammals registered on the territory of Pirin, only the lynx (*Lynx lynx*) has disappeared. The species has been extinct from the territory of the whole country during the last century. Its disappearance is not due to worsening of the ecological conditions in the Park and its surrounding areas.
- Similar is the case with the vultures – Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) and black vulture (*Aegypius monachus*). They used to occur in Pirin in the past and became extinct in 1968, probably due to the decline of the transhumance livestock breeding and respectively the reduction of the feeding grounds. Such is the doom of the other vulture species in the territory of the country – their populations have reduced significantly. However, during the last years vultures are observed in the last years, but not nesting couples are registered. Probably they use the Park territory only for feeding.
- The populations of other raptors have also declined to a certain extent. It should be mentioned that this decline is not due to worsening of the ecological conditions in the Park, but rather to the drastic decrease of some human activities like transhumance livestock breeding and respectively the decrease of the feeding basis. Possible reason for this decline in the population numbers could also be the practice for poisoning some carnivores, such as the wolf in the territories adjacent to the park, which existed in the past.
- The populations of the songbirds are very good and their numbers increase over the whole territory of the NP.

The water quality of the rivers and lakes is very good and most rivers flow in natural conditions. In the past, there was occasional stocking with alien species of trout – rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*). This activity stopped long time ago.

Sometimes, natural hazards such as fires, avalanches, wind throws and landslides affect the property. However, they are mostly local phenomena and sometimes even contribute to natural processes and ecological dynamics. They also make the access more difficult, especially in winter, thus reducing the human impact.

The contemporary understanding of protected areas management includes all the active measures necessary to ensure the global conservation of the area for the future generations.

The addition of large new territories will significantly contribute to the integrity of the property.

The proposed extension of Pirin National Park as a World Heritage Property is a serious step towards achieving this objective.

On the other hand, the proposed buffer zone to the World Heritage Property will ensure additional layer of protection.

4.b Factors affecting the property

(i) Development Pressures

Agriculture – There are no agricultural practices, be it farming or animal breeding, which could be a real threat to the achievement of management goals in the closest vicinity of the Park. There is a trend for decreasing the traditional grazing within the National Park.

Forestry – One of the traditional forest uses is the fuel wood harvesting with a permit issued by the Park Directorate. This practice has no negative effect on the ecosystems as only fallen or dry timber is extracted. These are limited quantities, only meeting the local population needs of fuel wood. This type of activity does not bring significant damages to the forest ecosystems within the Park.

The National Park Directorate issues annual permits for use of timber by local population. The implementation of these activities and their scope is based on an annual plan of the park administration, preceded by inventory of the forest areas.

Those annual plans are approved by the minister after consultation with the National Nature Protection Service Directorate within the Ministry of environment and water.

Illegal logging is occasionally registered, but it is not widespread practice within the National Park. It is mainly concentrated in isolated small areas (near the towns of Bansko and Razlog).

The National Park Directorate concluded agreements with representatives of other local authorities, structures of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food supply, State Forestry Agency which aimed at establishing of a system for control on and combating poaching and other illegal activities in the forests.

There is a stable trend towards diminishing the number of violations within the Park's territory related to illegal logging and respectively the sanctions imposed because of that on the territory of the national park.

<i>Year</i>	Number of statements, drawn up against violators
<i>2006</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>2007</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>2008</i>	<i>3</i>

Use of non-timber forest products

The collection of wild fruits, mushrooms and medicinal plants is a traditional activity for the National Park. The gathering and the use of medicinal plants, wild fruits and mushrooms is allowed in regions designated by the National Park Management Plan. According to the Management plan the collecting of medicinal plants is allowed for personal usage. A plan for gathering of these natural resources is prepared after a comprehensive inventory on the state of the existing resources. The preparation of this plan is foreseen in a special Regulation for the activities in protected areas, that are exclusively state property.

In this plan are determined the places where the collection could be provided and also the quantities in compliance with the Management plan zoning and regimes. Annually this plan is updated on the basis of the state of conservation of the habitats of those species.

The allowed quantities of the herbs are determined on the basis of what part of the plants will be gathered.

For gathering of mushrooms and wild fruits for economic purposes the National Park Directorate issues a special permissions where are pointed the admissible qualities and areas, where those not timber products could be collected.

There is no negative trend observed in the National park in result of these activities.

Annually on the territory of the park, a monitoring over the medicinal plants and mushrooms is carried out. The purpose is to determine the quantities, the suitable places and technologies for gathering.

The methodology for monitoring of these resources includes establishment of the coverage (in percentages), the biological and also exploitation reserve of the plants and their distribution.

The results from the monitoring over the mushrooms and medicinal plants provided in 2006 and 2007 show that with the biggest distribution on the territory of the park is the *Vaccinium myrtillus* L. which is mostly used by the local population.

Amongst the mushrooms, the highly appreciated for gathering was the *Boletus edulis*.

In 2007 with a special order of the Director of the National park, the gathering of mushrooms was forbidden because of the lack of the quantities required.

Hunting and angling – Hunting in the Park is prohibited. Nevertheless, the Management Plan allows measures for regulating the population of certain species but only in specific cases and following the prescriptions of the Hunting and Game Protection Act.

The site Management Plan also designates lakes and parts of rivers, within the National Park, in which angling could be practiced observing special requirements and restrictions (concerning time, sites, angling techniques and quantities). The National Park Directorate updates the regulations regularly. Annually the Director of the park issues order in which the lakes which are allowed for fishing and also those that are forbidden are pointed. The restrictions are related with restocking which was carried out recently in the particular lake or restricted quantities of fish.

Nowadays, the restocking of lakes and rivers is well controlled by the National Park Directorate and is made only with native fish species.

A restocking with Balkan throat was provided during the past three years in several lakes on the territory of the park – “Dolno vasilashko lake”, “Goljamo valjavishko lake”, “Tevno lake”. The restocking material was with known origin and supplemented with all the necessary documents. Protokols was elaborated for the work conducted.

The violations related to fishing during the last three years are as shown in the table.

Year	Violations
2006	2
2007	2
2008	-

Soil erosion - Soil erosion occurs on isolated spots in the treeless zone, but it is not of anthropogenic origin. Soil erosion also occurs in the regions where skiing runs and facilities were constructed, particularly the ski zone above the town of Bansko. For those cases, special measures for re-cultivation of the terrain are foreseen and currently implemented.

According to the contract, the concessionaire is obliged to apply anti erosion and recultivation measures in order to restore the affected areas. The investment program of the concessionaire, which was approved by the MOEW, envisages considerable investments for implementing re-cultivation activities. In that relation, specific projects were developed for each of the ski runs.

During the last years the restoration and recultivation activities of the terrains where the ski runs are located have been also provided. All the activities were approved by the park administration.

The MOEW provides control over the implementation of these measures. The experts from Pirin National park Directorate established during their field visits that recultivation measures are applied on the ground and the results are sufficiently good.

The following activities were provided - grassing of the terrains, construction of wooded thresholds, strengthening of the steep terrains and construction of other facilities which are used in case of erosion.

Feral cats and dogs – In line with the countrywide trend, the numbers of feral cats and dogs in the Park is growing. This threat concerns mainly the possibility of crossbreeding between dogs and wolves, and domestic and wild cats and the disturbance during the reproduction period of game and ground-nesting bird species. The Management Plan and the public hearings have stressed the problem of the feral dogs. Special measures were not undertaken so far but the problem will be addressed in the future.

Existence of buildings, facilities and construction:

Skiing facilities

In the past years, within the park a number of infrastructure elements have been built to answer its present requirements. The skiing zone above the town of Bansko, including skiing runs and lifts partly located on the territory of the National Park, was built in 1986. Later on, considering the shortcomings of this zone such as the number of tourists exceeding the capacity of existing facilities, a Territorial Management plan was developed. It envisaged a significant enlargement of the skiing and visitor facilities, as well as the restoration of forests on the spot of abandoned skiing runs. According to the national legislation, the project for development of the skiing zone was subject to an EIA. After certain amendments, it was approved and is presently implemented almost entirely. Old and new facilities are located on an area of 99.55 ha.

In 2001, this zone was leased on concession with the purpose of constructing and exploiting the envisaged lifts, drags and other facilities. So far, the abandoned ski run has not been restored.

The MoEW exercises the direct control over the concessionaire following the concession contract. Construction activities are implemented in line with annual investment programmes approved by the MoEW and after approved final and technical designs for each site.

There is a similar situation with the skiing zone in the area of Dobrinishte village, where facilities have been constructed, though of much smaller scale.

As a result of the construction activities, carried out in the ski zone above the town of Bansko, the territories used to be disturbed. Therefore, the State party considers that these territories do not fit to the requirements for outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Convention. Though the ski zone in the region of Dobrinishte is not that well developed, to some extent its territory is also damaged. Therefore, with the current

nomination, the State Party proposes the two ski zones to be excluded from the World Heritage site and to be designated as a buffer zone of the property.

Though the two ski zones are proposed for exclusion from boundaries of the World Heritage property, the same will be kept within the boundaries of the Pirin National park and will proceed being part of the protected area, according to the Bulgarian legislation.

According to the Management Plan of Pirin National Park, both skiing zones fall within the Tourist zone of the protected area. Being part of the Tourist zone the corresponding regimes determined for it are applied for them as well.

The Management Plan does not stipulate any enlargement of the existing skiing zones or construction of new ones.

Summer tourism facilities

Mainly the existing huts within the park offer accommodation for tourists. The Management Plan does not foresee increase of the existing tourist accommodation facilities and construction of new huts. Most huts are located in the existing Tourist Zone and Construction Zone determined by the Management Plan.

As far as the camping is concerned, it is allowed in a few areas determined with the Management plan.

Summer tourism is concentrated mainly on marked trails and the tourist flow does not have a negative impact on wildlife and vegetation. In some areas and periods or for certain events, there might be exceptional concentration of visitors, which could have an impact like trampling the vegetation, dumping of garbage, etc.

The winter tourism is concentrated only in the two already mentioned skiing zones, determined as Tourist Zone in the Park Management Plan.

Roads and communication

The road network is limited and not very well maintained. It is used by both tourists and for maintenance and supply of the huts within the National Park with food and fuel. There is also a network of forest roads, which is currently used for monitoring, guarding and fire control activities. The Park rangers mainly use this network.

The temporary use of heavy machines during the construction period - was limited to the skiing zone above Bansko, causing some disturbance to the vegetation and a few animal species.

The use of helicopters and heliskiing is prohibited by the Management Plan and by the respective legislation.

Grazing

The grazing is a traditional means of livelihood for the communities surrounding the Park.

During the last two decades a significant decrease in the number of the grazing animals (sheep and cattle) within the National Park has been registered in comparison to the past.

Grazing is allowed in the Zone for sustainable use of open territories and in the Tourism zone. Goats are not allowed to graze within the Park and grazing in forests outside the meadows and pastures is prohibited.

Annually a full inventory of the grazing areas is provided. On the basis of the information received annual grazing plans are developed in compliance with the zoning of the territory provided with the Management plan. The National Park Directorate issues annual permits for grazing on the basis of these annual plans.

In the recent few years a return of the shepherds to the territory of the Park and particularly the highland meadows is registered.

In order to maintain or restore the traditional grazing and breeding of domestic animals in the Park territory and to improve the livelihood of the local population, the National Park Management Plan encourages the reconstruction of some previously existing grazing facilities as shepherd shelters.

The National Park directorate in cooperation with the Bulgarian Swiss biodiversity conservation project restored 8 shepherd shelters. They were restored in order to make possible the removal of the huts built by the shepherds. The shelters were allowed to be used for free in order to improve the living and working conditions of the shepherds. They also provide shelter for the tourists in case of bad weather.

There is quite high increase of the applications for grazing submitted in 2008 in the Park Administration. There is also an increase in the number of the grazed animals.

This interest is due to the announced programs on behalf of the Ministry of agriculture and food in partnership with the park Directorate. Those programs aim at supporting and recovering the local traditional practices. They are also directed to maintaining of the highmountain meadows and their biodiversity and to stop the expansion of the bushes and the trees.

(ii) Environmental pressure

Wastes

In the last years, there has been an increase of the quantities of solid waste disposed by visitors in the park, e.g. plastic bottles, boxes, packages and others.

This problem is concentrated mainly in the tourist zone (e.g., around picnic areas and resting places, tourist trails, huts). Some activities, directed to periodical collection of the waste are carried out, but this is still a problem, which has to be further addressed.

Wastewaters from huts and other buildings on the territory of the park are collected in septic holes (cesspits), some of which are not maintained and exploited in the best possible way. Therefore, some measures should be undertaken, which require the construction of the necessary wastewaters collection and treatment facilities.

The main source of wastewater within the National Park is the skiing zone above the town of Bansko. In relation to the above, the concession contract obliges the concessionaire to construct wastewater treatment facilities.

Climate change

So far, there are no negative changes in the populations of different species, resulting from the climate change. However, there is a probability of future increase of forest fires, similar to the ones already observed along the Mediterranean coast.

On the other hand, the Pirin Mountain, with its large altitudinal range, could play a significant role in response to global warming, allowing plant and animal species to migrate and to choose suitable habitats.

(iii) Natural disasters and risk preparedness

The large territory and diverse relief of Pirin NP are prerequisites for occurrence of some natural hazards such as fires and avalanches. These are considered predictable and it is possible to undertake preventive measures.

Fires

The natural fires are a comparatively rare phenomenon in the National Park. On the other hand, there are registered cases of fires ignited by people, intentionally or not. Having in mind the increasing number of visitors, fires should be considered potential threat. Annually are developed Fire Prevention Plans for Pirin NP. They are based on preliminary information about the local conditions provided by the NP staff (rangers) for each Park sub-region. All Park regions have the necessary equipment for fire control. Yearly training and instructions of staff and volunteers are organized by the Pirin NP Directorate together with the respective departments of the Ministry of Interior – National Fire and Emergency Service, National Police Service, the State Agency for Civil Protection, etc. From May until October, the NP staff is on duty also on weekends and during the national holidays. The Park users are also involved in implementing the envisaged fire precaution measures. Campaigns for public awareness regarding forest fires are regularly organized.

Avalanches

Since centuries, avalanches have been part of the natural processes in the Park and in some cases they lead to changes in the existing communities. The largest avalanche on the Balkans is located within the NP boundaries, on the northern slope of the mountain. It presents serious hazard to the tourists practicing winter sports in the newly developed skiing area. Therefore, an analysis of the avalanche hazard was provided, as well as an assessment of the possibilities and prevention measures including announcing and marking of potential avalanche areas, developing of methods for monitoring of avalanches, training of the staff for cases of natural hazards. When necessary, the NP Management Plan allows for installation of avalanches prevention facilities, but only after their approval by the MoEW and in coordination with the NP Directorate.

(iv) Visitors/tourism pressures

Tourists frequently visit Pirin National Park during both summer and winter season. Summer tourism develops mainly close to the road accesses and is mostly focused on marked trails, thus limiting the impact on the ecosystems, as the pressure is not too high. The trails are also in good condition. Their usage doesn't possess a threat to the species and their habitats.

Sometimes along the trails, gathering of decorative plants occurs but this does not affect considerably their populations.

Mountaineering, rock climbing and caving are also very popular; they do not threaten the property and its natural values.

Winter tourism is largely limited to the defined skiing zones around the skiing facilities. The character of the practiced ski sport by itself does not result in a negative impact on the ecosystem. However, the construction work, including deforestation and soil leveling, has led to advanced local soil erosion and had influenced the sensible plant and animal species. National Park Directorate annually provides monitoring over the tourist flow in order to ensure its better management and determine its influence over the biological diversity. The park administration is trying to ensure additional funding for the preparation of a Strategy for management of the tourism, which is also settled as a priority in the

Management plan. The aim is to optimize the tourist flow by more even distribution over the Parks territory in order to avoid adverse pressure over particular areas.

(v) Number of inhabitants within the property

There are no permanent inhabitants within the boundaries of the Park. The table below provides information on the population number in the adjacent municipalities:

Municipality	# of inhabitants	Year of last census
Gotse Delchev	32,748	2001
Bansko	13,471	2000
Razlog	22,197	2001
Simitli	16,353	2000
Kresna	6,432	2000
Strumjani	7,340	2001
Sandanski	42,442	2000
Total	140,983	

5. Protection and Management of the Property

The mentioned conventions and European directives are the starting points for determining of the main purposes and measures of the effective National Park Management Plan:

- United Nations Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- European Landscape Convention
- United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
- Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention)
- Council Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora
- Council Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds
- Seville Strategy for Biosphere Reserves, March 1995 – UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme

The management of the property is closely related to the implementation of the following Bulgarian nature conservation acts (See Annex 4):

- Protected Areas Act (1998)
- Biodiversity Act (2002)
- Medicinal Plants Act (2000)
- Hunting and Game Protection Act (2000)
- Act on waste management (2003)
- Fishing and Aquatic Cultures Act (2001)
- Concessions Act (1995)
- Water Act (1999)
- Forestry Act (1997)

The main management framework for the Pirin National Park is the approved 2004-2014 Management Plan. It considers the existing national and international legislation and guarantees the integral management of the territory. Expanding the World Heritage

Property boundaries in a way almost to overlap that of the National Park (without the two ski zones) will simplify the Management Plan implementation.

The management of the Pirin National Park is under the responsibilities of the MoEW and especially of its National Nature Protection Service that is responsible of the coordination and control of the protected areas. The Pirin National Park Directorate is responsible for the direct management and applies the government policy concerning the National Park.

5.a Ownership

According to the Protected Areas Act, the territory of the National Parks is an exclusive state property.

According to the Constitution of the Republic of Bulgaria (art. 18, p. 1-2) the territory of the protected areas of international importance is exclusive state property, including the terrain where sites and facilities have been constructed regardless of their ownership, i.e. it cannot be disowned or transformed into another kind of property. The National Parks being defined such by the Protected Areas Act.

5.b Protective designation

See Annex 3

The statute and the area of the Pirin NP was a subject of several changes:

- **Governmental Decree #1388/29.01.1934** of the Ministry of Agriculture declares the state property Bayuvi Dupki as a reserve. In 1977, the Bayuvi Dupki reserve was included in the list of the Biosphere Reserves of the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme.
- **Order # 3074/ 08.11.1962** of the Forestry Board of the Council of Ministers declares Vihren People's Park with an area of 6,736 ha, including *"...the watersheds of the rivers of Banderitsa and Damjanitsa, sections 18-54 of the Bansko forestry station with an area of 2,908 ha and 3,828 ha of the alpine zone of Pirin..."*
- **Order # 3011/ 30.09.1974** of the Ministry of Forests and Nature Protection declares Pirin People's Park with an area of 26,413.8 ha. Its purpose is as follows: *"...For the conservation of the specific character of the central parts of Pirin mountain, where the alpine character, the existing habitats and the endemic and relict plant and animal species are of scientific and cultural value, and because of the possibilities for development of national and international tourism, outlined by the approved general principles of the territorial planning of "Ski Region Pirin"... The reserves of Bayuvi Dupki, Seimen Tepe and Malka Dzindziritza must be included within Pirin People's Park, preserving their already defined reserve regime according to the Law on Nature Protection..."*
- **Order # 594/ 03.03.1976** of the Ministry of Forests and Nature Protection excludes an area of 34 ha. *"... Because of the exploitation of recently discovered resources of marble and under Article 22 of the Law on Nature Protection, the following subsections are excluded from the territory of Pirin People's Park: 306-a, b, c, 1, c, g, s - Pirin railway station with a total area of 34.0 ha ..." (the order is not available).*
- **Order # 976/26.12.1979** of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers, enlarged the territories of the Bayuvi Dupki and Malka Dzindziritza reserves so that they formed one reserve - Bayuvi Dupki-Dzindziritza with a total area of 2,873 ha.

- **Since 1983** Pirin People's park was designated a World Heritage Property with an area of 27,400 ha (27,442.9 ha).
- **Order # 1036/ 17.11.1987** of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers declares that new 12,639 ha are included into the territory of People's Park Pirin: "... of which: 1) Forested lands with a total area of 4,369.,9 ha. 2) Agricultural lands – highland pastures located between the forested lands, included in People's Park with a total area of 8,276 ha. Excludes from the borders of People's Park Pirin 16.,1 ha from: 1) Dobriniste Forestry station – sections: 36- g (part), 39- b (part), 3 with total area 10,1 ha. 2) Sandansky Forestry board - sections 177- a with area of 6.0 ha. The grazing of domestic animals except goats is allowed within the high mountain pastures" (the order is not available).
- **Order # RD- 223/ 26.08.1994** of the Ministry of Environment and Water designates the reserve Yulen with an area of 3156,2 ha on the territory of Bansko municipality.
- **Order # 395/ 15.10.1999** of the Minister of Environment and Water Pirin People's Park is categorized a National Park according to Paragraph 2 of the Transitory and Concluding Regulations of the Protected areas Act (This area was later recalculated to 40 356,0 ha, without border changes). The Kulinoto ski zone and Sandanski resort area were excluded from the national park. The reserves and managed reserves within the National Parks retain their regimes defined with the declaration orders.

Pirin in other international projects and agreements:

- **Pirin as a CORINE site**

The CORINE project implemented in the 1994-1998 period had the following goals:

- Elaboration of a detailed database for biodiversity and habitats of European biodiversity importance;
- Identification of sites to be included in the European Natura 2000 network;
- Re-assessment of the priorities for conservation of biodiversity set by the National Biodiversity Strategies;
- Elaboration of monitoring framework for key habitats and species of high conservation importance.

The identification of Pirin NP value as a CORINE Site (F 00002700) has also confirmed it is a key territory of a high conservation importance. Pirin as CORINE site includes not only the present Park's territory but also the adjacent areas, and its total size is 77,909 ha. The information is available in Arc GIS database (.shp file and geodatabase) and in coordinate system WGS_84UTM_35 N. The information is kept by the NNPS of MoEW.

See map 2.6 in Annex 2.

- **Pirin as an Important Bird Area (IBA)**

The IBA Programme has been implementing by the Bulgarian Society for Protection of Birds (BSPB). The programme's goal is to establish and protect a network of sites called Important Bird Areas. Resulting from the implementation of this programme about 114 IBA were declared. Pirin was included in the IBA List in 2005. The boundaries of Pirin as an IBA include not only the national park's territory but also part of Southern Pirin.

See map 2.7 in Annex 2.

- **Pirin as a Natura 2000 site**

Being a member state of the European Union, Bulgaria is developing its Natura 2000 network. The Bulgarian Biodiversity Act foresees the establishment of Natura 2000 in Bulgaria. Regarding Pirin, the whole territory of Pirin National Park is proposed as Natura 2000 site, according to Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora and Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds. Many of the territories surrounding the Park are also designated as Natura 2000 sites according to the EU Habitat Directive.

See map 2.8 in Annex 2.

- **Pirin as an Important plant area (IPA)**

In 2003, the Plants along the Borders Project, funded by the Regional Environmental Center provided a pilot analysis of the Important Plant Areas in Bulgaria. The experts have identified:

- endangered plant species
- endangered habitats
- list of potential Important Plant Areas in Bulgaria
- potential trans-boundary Important Plant Areas

As a result, the project has identified 114 Bulgarian Important Plant Areas including Pirin Mountain. The Pirin Mountain is an Important Plant Area according to the following criteria: endangered species, endangered habitats and floral diversity.

The project does not set the borders of the Pirin site. The proposal is that only the National park in its present borders is declared an Important Plant Area.

- **Pirin within the UNESCO MAB Programme**

In 1997, the Bauyvi Dupki-Dzindziritsa Reserve was designated a Biosphere Reserve under the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme. The reserve is a strict reserve and meets the requirements of IUCN category I. Human intervention is not allowed except guarding, visits with scientific purposes and hiking along marked trails that are defined by an Order of the Minister of Environment and Water. Therefore, the reserve does not meet the requirements of a Biosphere Reserve set by the Seville Strategy.

5.c Means of implementing protective measures

According to the Protected Areas Act, the National Parks are exclusively state property and being such the MoEW and its regional departments provides their management, guarding and control over the activities, carried out in them.

In 1999, the Pirin National Park Directorate was established as a structure of the MoEW in order to ensure the on-site management.

According to the Protected Areas Act, the National Park Directorate:

- provides the management of the site;
- assigns the implementation of supporting, restoration and regulation activities, as well as activities related to the tourist development;
- issues annual licenses for grazing, licenses for use of timber by the local population within the activities for forest maintenance and restoration;
- issues licenses for gathering of mushrooms, medicinal plants and wild fruits in quantities and from places, determined by the Management Plan;
- provides control over the fulfillment of the regimes for use of the natural resources, determined by the management plan;
- provides control over activities, carried out by other organizations, institutions and people on the territory of the Park;
- organizes monitoring over the components of the environment;
- maintains database for the site;
- imposes sanctions for violations.

In order to provide effective control over the activities carried out in the National Park and the compliance with the regimes and norms of use, determined by the Management Plan, the territory of the Park was divided in several Park Regions. Every Park Region is managed by chief inspector – the head of the guard. Mobile guards of the park’s staff permanently monitor and control the activities carried out in the whole territory.

For each violation, registered in the National park the respective sanctions foreseen by the national law are imposed.

The National Park Directorate concluded agreements with representatives of other local authorities, structures of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, which aimed at establishing of a system for control on and combating poaching and other illegal activities in the forests, as well as cooperation and joint actions in cases of fires. The PAA requires development of management plans for the protected areas within the National Park category. The approved Pirin NP Management Plan provides the framework for the conservation of the ecosystems and biodiversity of the property. The MP has been developed and is enforced over the whole territory of the National Park. It provides zoning of the territory of the Park and determines special regimes and norms for the uses in the particular zones according to their conservation value. In that connection, the MP divided the Park’s territory in six zones with specific management regimes.

In compliance with the Management Plan, the National Park Directorate annually prepares plan for activities to be carried out in the site, which are in the following directions:

- Conservation of the biological diversity;
- Sustainable use of resources;
- Information provision;
- Public relations, interpretation and promotion;
- Environmental education;
- Scientific researches and monitoring aimed at conservation and maintenance of the biodiversity in Pirin NP;
- Improving the conditions for tourism and the tourist infrastructure;
- Supporting the development of the adjacent territories;
- Institutional development and training of the National Park Directorate.

There is no buffer zone surrounding the Park.

There is no legal framework for designation of buffer zones around the protected areas, which belong to the National Park category. In the past, buffer zones were designated only around protected areas, which are “strict reserves” and “managed reserves”. According to the last changes in the specific Bulgarian legislation - Biodiversity Conservation Act, those buffer zones, were transformed into protected areas from the category of “protected site”. The zoning of the Park, as well as the special regimes for use, determined for each of the zones, according to the Management Plan of the site, provide conditions for adequate protection of the most valuable zones, which are strictly protected and form the core zone of the property.

5.d Existing plans related to municipality and region in which the proposed property is located

Below are some of the main plans and strategies that envisage the construction, resources use and other activities on the Park’s territory:

Plans	Date of issue/ termination
For the Blagoevgrad District	

Regional development Plan of Blagoevgrad District (to be revised each seventh year)	2007-2013
Municipal Territorial Development Plans (to be revised each seventh year) for the adjacent municipalities of the National park. Municipalities of Bansko Municipality of Razlog Municipality of Simitly Municipality of Strumjani Municipality of Kresna Municipality of Sandanski Municipality of Gotse delchev	2007-2013 (open plans, which are revised annually)
Strategies for development of the municipalities including strategy for development of tourism	2007-2013
General Urban Development Plan of the skiing zone with center the town of Bansko	1999
Territorial Development Plan of tourism and skiing zone with center the town of Bansko	2000
Projects for the water supply infrastructure of the Park and the adjacent zone	1999
Building and regulation plans concerning the zone adjacent to the Park	
Forest Development Projects for the State Forestry Enterprises in the zone adjacent to Pirin National Park (subject of revision on every ten years) State Forestry enterprise „Saqndanski“ State Forestry enterprise „Katunci“ State Forestry enterprise „Strumjani“ State Forestry enterprise „Kresna“ and State Forestry enterprise „Simitly“ State Forestry enterprise „Dobrinishte“ State Forestry enterprise „Goce Delchev“ State Forestry enterprise „Razlog“	Period for action: 2008 – 2018 2000 – 2010 2000 – 2010 1999 – 2008 for both new plans are being developed in the present 2001 – 2011 2006 – 2016 2003 -2013

5.e Property management plan or other management system

Following the prescriptions of the Bulgarian Protected Areas Act the property, being as well a National Park, is managed according to Management Plan approved by the Council of Ministers and revised each tenth year (*See annex 5*).

In 2001, the Minister of Environment and Water mandated the Bulgarian-Swiss Biodiversity Conservation Programme for elaboration of the First Pirin NP Management Plan following its re-categorization according to the new Protected Areas Act. On 6th of August 2004, the Management Plan was approved by the Decision #646 of the Council of Ministers. The present Management Plan will be in force until 2014 but every fourth year, public hearings regarding its implementation will be organized and amendments made.

The definition of objectives of the management plan followed the requirements of the Protected Areas Act and the adopted national categories system, which on its side follows

closely the World Conservation Union (IUCN) management category system. The whole Pirin NP is an IUCN Category II protected area.

The purposes of the management plan include:

- To provide the necessary information on the types of habitats, localities and species, which are subjects of European directives
- To resolve the complex tasks for protection of the biodiversity and landscape diversity, as well as the recreation activities
- To develop the database and the geographic information system (GIS) of Pirin NP
- To identify the responsible for different aspects of the management of the protected area and the zones included persons/ institutions
- To determine the regimes and the relevant norms for use of the zones and areas within the Park territory
- To determine the priorities and measures for development and use, and the activities for implementation of the prescribed tasks
- To provide the necessary information for applying for funding of priority programs and projects
- To determine the participants, partners and their position in the realization of the Plan

The Management Plan formulated the following long-term objectives of the National Park:

1. Conservation, protection and maintenance of the ecosystem and landscape naturalness and intactness;
2. Provide opportunities for environmental education and interpretation;
3. Stimulate scientific studies;
4. Incomes generation for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages of the National Park;
5. Improving the management policy and the specialized warding of the National Park;
6. Observing the legal and institutional framework.

The management of the property follows the approved zoning of the territory. Six zones with respective objectives and restrictions have been identified and mapped accordingly:

(See map 2.5 in Annex 2):

Zone Ia – Reserve Zone includes territories of the Bayuvi Dupki-Djindjiritsa and Yulen Strict Reserves according to the Orders for their designation. The activities allowed include:

- a) Guarding
- b) Life-rescue operations
- c) Visits with scientific purposes
- d) Hiking only along the marked trails, including with education purposes
- e) Collecting seed material, wild plants and animals for scientific purposes or for their reintroduction at other places, in quantities, mode and time excluding the disturbance of the ecosystems
- f) Carrying out of sanitary activities only with the permission of the MoEW issued after receipt of a positive scientific reference from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and positive decision of the National Council on the Biological Diversity

Zone I b – Zone of Limited Human Intervention includes territories without changed or with only modestly changed habitats with preserved natural features and processes, localities of threatened habitats of species of conservation significance. The activities allowed are:

- a) Guarding
- b) Life-rescue operations

- c) Scientific research
- d) Hiking tourism only along the marked trails, including with education purposes
- e) Collecting seed material, wild plants and animals for scientific purposes or for their reintroduction at other places, in quantities, mode and time excluding the disturbance of the ecosystems
- f) Extinguishing fires and carrying out of sanitary activities in the forests, damaged as a result of natural disasters and calamities with the permission of the NPD, issued upon approval of the Scientific Council

Zone II a – Zone of Conservation of the Forest Ecosystems and Recreation includes territories of the Pirin NP covered by forest vegetation, including dwarf-pine. The activities allowed are:

- a) Guarding
- b) Life-rescue operations
- c) Extinguishing fires and fire-safety activities according to the action plan of the NPD
- d) Maintaining the tourist trails and the safety facilities
- e) Passing of domestic animals on trails defined by a project
- f) Scientific research
- g) Hiking and recreation
- h) Nordic skiing following marked trails only
- i) Collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs
- j) Maintenance and restoration activities in the forests in cases of strictly proven necessity
- k) Regulating the numbers of certain animal species
- l) Angling

Zone II b – Zone of Sustainable Use of Open Areas and Recreation includes the pasture areas of the Pirin NP, traditionally related to the pasture stockbreeding and maintained by this activity. The activities allowed are:

- a) Guarding
- b) Life-rescue operations
- c) Extinguishing fires and fire-safety activities according to the action plan of the NPD
- d) Maintaining the tourist trails and the safety facilities
- e) Scientific research
- f) Hiking and recreation
- g) Collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs
- h) Maintenance and restoration activities in cases of strictly proven necessity
- i) Regulating the numbers of certain animal species
- j) Stocking with Balkan Trout and angling at places, defined by the NPD
- k) Grazing of sheep, cows and horses with a permit from the NPD

Zone III – Tourism Zone includes territories of the Pirin NP in the regions of Bansko and Dobrinishte with existing intensive tourist pressure and existing sports facilities. The activities allowed are:

- a) Guarding
- b) Life- rescuing operations
- c) Extinguishing fires and fire-safety activities according to the action plan of the NPD
- d) Waste collecting and transporting the hard refuse, coordinated with the NPD;
- e) Scientific research
- f) Hiking and recreation
- g) Specialized tourism (horseback riding, cycling, skiing, etc.)
- h) Collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs

- i) Maintenance and restoration activities
- j) Regulating the numbers of certain animal species
- k) Stocking with Balkan Trout and angling at places, defined by the NPD
- l) Grazing of sheep, cows and horses with a permit from the NPD
- m) Sports

Zone IV - Zone of buildings and facilities includes the regions of the existing huts, lodges, bungalows, Park administration buildings, transformation stations, water catchments, openings for air electric power lines, fire-prevention openings, roads, existing skiing runs and facilities, as well as the ones that are under constructions according to the approved projects, the sites of new construction envisaged by the projects and included in the management plan, and constructions for the purposes of the National Park determined by the Plan. The zone allows the long-term use of the existing tourist resources and sports facilities with maximum preservation of the landscape qualities. All the activities regarding constructions and reconstructions of infrastructure have to be coordinated with the National Park Directorate.

The above-described zoning guarantees biodiversity and landscape protection within, as well as the use of the National Park.

There is a special **Regulation for management, assignment of activities for maintenance and restoration, providing of tourist services, guarding and control in protected areas exclusively state property.**

According to this Regulation the corresponding structures of the Ministry of environment and water that are responsible for the management and control of protected areas exclusively state property (National Park Directorate) are obliged to develop, as follows:

1. Management plan of the protected area;
2. Annual plans for the activities related to usage of the natural resources in the protected area, including as follows:
 - Plan for maintenance and restoration activities in the forests;
 - Plan for grazing and usage of hay;
 - Plan for usage of medicinal plans;
 - Plan for gathering of mushrooms and wild fruits;
3. Annual plans for activities in protected areas, provided by the competent authorities and funded by the Enterprise for management of environmental activities;
4. Annual plan for monitoring over the components of the environment.

The Management plans was developed in compliance with the Regulation for management plan preparation.

The annual plans for the activities related to usage of the natural resources in the protected area are being developed in compliance to the ecological status of the protected area and the zoning and regimes, provided by the Management plan.

The scope for the use of natural recourse is being determined after a special assessment over the status of the corresponding resource, prepared on the basis of an analyses over the data received as a result of the monitoring activities, provided annually by the NP Directorate.

The plan for grazing and usage of hay, the plan for usage of medicinal plans and the plan for gathering of mushrooms and wild fruits are being approved by an order of the competent authority, in the case of Pirin NP this is the Director of the NP.

With the annual plans are being determined:

1. The places and territories for grazing of livestock, the usage if hey, gathering of wild fruits, mushrooms and medicinal plants

2. the breeds of domestic animals, which could be grazed within the property; the species of the wild fruits, mushrooms and medicinal plants, which could be collected;
3. the number of the animals that could be grazed, respectively the quantities of wild fruits, mushrooms and medicinal plants that could be collected;
4. the period for grazing and respectively for collecting of wild fruits, mushrooms and medicinal plants;
5. the means for grazing as well as for usage of hay and collecting of wild fruits, mushrooms and medicinal plants.

The plans for maintenance and restoration activities in the forests, related to the usage of fuel wood are being developed annually by the Regional departments of the MOEW (the Pirin NP Directorate) on the basis of assessment for the state of the forests. Those plans are approved by the minister after consultation with the National Nature protection service directorate within the MOEW.

The annual plans for activities in protected areas, provided by the competent authorities include activities funded mainly by the state budget, the State Enterprise for Management of Environmental Activities (SEMEPA) and other sources. **See information available in point 5.f.**

The annual plans for monitoring over the components of the environment are being developed by the regional structures of the MOEW, respectively the Pirin NP Directorate in coordination with the Executive Environmental Agency which is the institution responsible for the overall monitoring of the environmental components.

5.f Sources and levels of finance

The state budget covers the salaries and social security tax of the staff of the Pirin NP administration.

The main source of funding for the implementation of conservation measures envisaged by the PAs Management Plans is the State Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities (SEMEPA). The Environmental Protection Act stipulates the establishment of SEMEPA and its main aim is to provide funding of activities in the protected areas. Yearly, the regional structures of MoEW, in this case the Pirin NP Directorate, are planning of and applying for the necessary funds to implement activities within the respective PAs. The PAs Management Plans envisage these activities.

SEMEPA is providing funds for activities in the following areas:

- Maintenance and restoration activities targeting conservation of rare and threatened species of plants and animals and their habitats;
- Development of education and public relation programmes and information materials;
- Scientific studies and monitoring;
- Maintenance and restoration activities within exclusively state owned PAs including WHPs;
- Fire prevention and activities against fire;
- Building of information centers and points.

The table below provides information about the budgets for staff and management, as well as for activities in Pirin NP.

Year	Resources provided by the state budget for staff (incl. insurance) and management (in BGN)	Resources provided by the SEMEPA (in BGN)
2004	513 762	706 600
2005	469 399	482 030
2006	608 153	149 170
2007	594 076	87 100
2008	583 341	96 000

The funds from the state budget are covering the following:

- a. Salaries;
- b. Additional payments;
- c. Social insurances;
- d. Special clothing;
- e. Expenses for repair of cars, fuel, etc.
- f. Telephone and post services;
- g. Insurance of the property;
- h. Office and other materials;
- i. Capacity building.

In the recent years, national and international agencies have contributed to specific activities and projects:

- In 2004, Pirin NP applied and got funding for a project of interpretation trail suitable for disadvantaged people. The National Trust Eco-Fund funded the project;
- In 2001 the Bulgarian Swiss Biodiversity Conservation Programme provided funding for elaboration of Pirin NP Management Plan;
- In 2005, the Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation is providing funding for the implementation of some measure, like the establishment of the scientific and consultative council and to promote the participation of the local stakeholders, within the frame of the SDC funded Pro-biodiversity Partnerships: Nature beyond Conservation Project;
- In order to develop the current nomination file MoEW submitted a Preparatory assistance request to the World Heritage Center. The requested assistance contains consulting services for nomination file preparation for extension of the Pirin NP WHP.
- In 2006 the Municipality of Razlog in partnership with Pirin NPD received funding from the PHARE Program of the EU, for the implementation of a project, called "Environmental protection and sustainable development in transboundaries areas". The project envisages the establishment of an interpretative-educational trail.
- In 2006 the Pirin Tourist forum, a Bulgarian NGO in partnership with Pirin NP Directorate received funding from the PHARE Program of the EU for the realization of a project, called "Green paths in Pirin, East Macedonia and Thrace". The project envisages the establishment of educational trails and informational points.
- In 2007 the National Park Directorate in cooperation with Razlog municipality carried out a project for construction of three eco trails, with funding ensured by the PHARE project for transborder cooperation between Bulgaria and Greece "Beside the springs of Mesta river Nestos" .
- In 2008 the National park Directorate applied for funding with a project called "Sustainable management of forests and environmental protection by means of establishing a fire protection system and information center". The project was

approved and will be funded by a financial mechanism of the European Union. The same will be implemented within the period 31.01.2009 - 31.01.2010.

- In 2008 the National park won funding for a project within the Program for European territorial cooperation between Bulgaria and Greece for the period 2007 – 2013 (INTERREG IV A). The project envisaged the establishment of tourist complexes - camping areas in the region of Pirin chalet, Sinanitsa chalet and in the region of Mozgovitsa and will be implemented till the end of 31.01.2010.

Besides, in partnership with the Association for Sustainable development – Kustendil, the National park Directorate is looking for funding in order to realize a project, envisaging construction of water filtration facilities in three chalets, located within the National Park. This project is envisaged as implementation of some of the activities, foreseen in the Management Plan.

Activities related to conservation and protection of species and natural habitats in protected areas will be provided mainly by using funds from the "Operational Program Environment" and also other financial instruments of the EU. The regional structures of the MOEW, including the National park administrations (i.e. Pirin National park Directorate) have been determined as beneficiaries.

More than 100.000 million Euro will be ensured within priority 3 "Conservation and restoration of the biodiversity" under the Operational Program "Environment" for the period 2007-2013.

In this relation, it should be mentioned that in the end of 2008 was launched the first call of proposals under this priority. The call was for projects which main subject is "Conservation and restoration of biological diversity in Bulgaria".

The total amount of the financial support, which is about to be provided within the upper mentioned procedure is 13 098 930 BGN. Other similar procedures will be launched soon, as well.

There is no entry fee to the Park.

5.g Sources of expertise and training in conservation and management techniques

Team of specialists from different institutions (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, NGOs, and municipal experts) formed to proceed with the necessary inventories and studies and to work with the NPD to develop the Management Plan. The Plan makes provision for the establishment of a permanent Scientific Council to advise the Park staff on conservation matters.

The Pirin NP Management Plan envisages organization of annual trainings and seminars for the staff. As there is no specialized institution to provide trainings for the protected areas staff, the MoEW organizes annually training for the Park staffs and for the other regional structures. The main training topics include:

- Specialized training in flora and fauna
- Specialized training in PR
- Language courses
- Specialized training in elaboration and maintenance of GIS data base
- Introduction to and implementation of the national and international environmental legislation (including World Heritage Convention)
- Exchange visits and participation to trainings provided by the Alpine PA Network, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, Pirin Tourism Forum, etc.

Different national and international organizations provide additional training, like the Workshop on Forest and NP organized during the preparation of the MP and supported by the Government of Switzerland.

The directors of the three Bulgarian National Parks have also regular meetings and meetings with the staff of the National Nature Protection Service within the MoEW.

5.h Visitor facilities and statistics

The Pirin NP provides the following tourist facilities:

- 13 main tourist itineraries (including the international itinerary E-4) and 17 secondary ones exist. The main itineraries are marked according to the standards of the BTS; signboards in Bulgarian (transliterated in Latin letters) indicate the direction and the duration of the itinerary. The secondary trails are not marked.
- The hiking in the Bayuvi Dupki-Dzindziritsa and Yulen reserves is strictly controlled. According to the Protected Areas Act, hiking in the Bulgarian strict and managed reserves, including for educational purposes (in Pirin NP these are particularly Bajuvi Dupki-Djindjirica and Yulen reserves), is permitted only following the marked trails, inscribed in the Order for Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water and/or the MP. In 2004, such trails were designed for both reserves within Pirin National Park. As for the visits with scientific purposes, a special permission issued by the MoEW is required. Besides the permission, guide from the NPD must accompany the group. There are restrictions concerning the number of the people in the group – it should not exceed 15.
- Some of the winter tourist trails were equipped with facilities which to ensure the security of the visitors. For example, along the trail starting from Demjanica chalet up to Tevno lake, special metal rope parapets were built;
- A wooden platform which to ensure the access of tourists to the the oldest tree in Bulgaria - the Baikusheva mura (a Pinus peuce species) was built in order to prevent the negative influence of the tourists on the roots and the soil around the tree.
- In 2004, two new trails were inaugurated: the Demjanishka River Tells Stories Interpretative Trail and an educational trail for disabled people in the site of Rolbana.
- The following information points were established:
 - Information Centre in the NP Directorate Office in Bansko. The Centre offers various informational materials, exhibition, meeting hall with a possibility to make different multimedia projections, library for visitors.
 - The main entrance to the Park in Bansko
 - Information office in the Village of Dobrinishte
 - Information and guarding point at Vihren hut
 - Information and guarding point at Demjanitsa hut
 - Information and guarding point at Yavorov hut
 - Guarding point at Gotze Delchev hut
 - Information and guarding point at Pirin hut
 - Information and guarding point at Kamenitsa hut
 - Information point in the town of Dobrinishte (built in 2008).

The Mountain Rescue Service (MRS) is responsible for the visitors' safety in the mountain. The central office of the MRS is in Bansko, but there are nine stations in the different huts in the National Park: Vihren, Demjanitsa, Tevno Ezero, Bezbog, Kamenitsa and Yavorov. The NPD also has offices in the towns of Sandanski and Kresna and provides information and guarding at the site Varbite.

Different tourist constructions and facilities in the Park offer accommodation. Their capacity is for 1,997 tourists a night.

Type of facilities	Number of Beds
Huts	885
Hotels	214
Cabins	123
Buildings of different administrative institutions	615
Camping Grounds -	160
Total -	1,997

There is no statistics on the visitor number and their pressure on Pirin NP. So far, only the hut keepers maintain some statistics. They provide the data to the headquarters of the Bulgarian Tourist Union where from the National Park Directorate obtains the processed data.

The table below shows the number of people that used to be accommodated in the accommodation facilities (chalets and shelters) within the national park for the period 2002 and 2006, as well as the number of nights for the same period

	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	Number of people	Number of nights	Number of people	Number of nights	Number of people	Number of nights	Number of people	Number of nights	Number of people	Number of nights
Accommodation facilities - Chalets and shelters										
Vihren chalet	1483	2056	1389	2062	2807	3110	2050	2711	972	1005
Banderitsa chalet	1202	1890	1030	1888	2905	3040	1450	1982	633	761
Demjanitsa chalet	1287	2020	1252	1320	No data	No data	1152	1192	975	1147
Shelter Tevno Lake	566	566	586	752	No data	No data	580	743	462	622
Sinanitsa chalet	1225	1398	1315	1405	1310	1397	350	350	No data	No data
Pirin chalet	1438	1656	600	600	620	970	620	960	750	750
Yavorov chalet	1553	1971	1610	2383	1873	2401	1401	1670	1518	1875
Kamenitsa	1111	1111	1464	2920	978	1529	1250	1250	2568	2568
Malina chalet	300	300	105	105	200	375	200	200	420	420
Shelter Spano pole	No data	No data	20	80	70	120	250	250	350	350

5.i Policies and programmes related to the presentation and promotion of the property

The National Park implements series of activities that aim to promote Pirin as WHP and to raise the general public awareness on conservation issues. So far, an emphasis is given to the work with schoolchildren. The main events organized/ information materials produced are described below:

- 1. Annual photography competitions** on different topics like landscape phenomena, water, etc.
- 2. Events for children in the open** held in different mountain huts, which include photography and painting competitions. Photos and paintings are used to produce different informational materials, calendars, etc.
- 3. Days of Pirin** – since 2002 the Park Directorate in partnerships with the adjacent municipalities organize annually local events to raise the awareness about the National Park. These involve meetings with local people, concerts, exhibitions, hikes in the mountain, etc.
- 4. Issuing Orbel Bulletin** that informs local people about the activities of Pirin NP Directorate, presents the Park plants and animals, other protected areas, joint partnership events, etc.
- 5. Educational activities** tailored for different target groups. Educational materials such as posters, brochures, etc. are distributed.
- 6. Leaflets** offering information about norms and regimes in the different Park zones, fire hazard season and prevention measures, general information about the Park.
- 7. Information and promotion brochures in Bulgarian and English:**
 - Demjanishka river tells stories; Yulen, Bayuvi Dupki – Dzinidziritca reserves (in Bulgarian)
 - Remarkable Plants in Pirin NP Check-list (in Bulgarian)
 - Wonderful Pirin Video (in Bulgarian), 2002 – author Drago Mateev, duration 90 min.
 - Book on Pirin Habitats (in Bulgarian)
 - Pirin National Park– presentation brochure in Bulgarian and English
- 8. Education exhibitions in the NPD Information center**
- 9. Opening of interpretative educational trails**
- 10. Publication in regional and national media**
- 11. Periodical regional Olympiads**

5.j Staffing levels

Currently (2008) the Pirin National Park Administration includes 54 permanent employees. Each year during the fire hazard season, the Park Directorate contracts additional people as fire prevention staff.

The structure of the staff is the following:

I. Director

II. Management and Control Department

- Head of Management and Control Department
- 5 Chief Inspectors of the Park Regions
- Senior Control and Security Experts
- Junior Control and Security Experts

III. Experts Department

- Head of the department

- Chief Maintenance and restoration activities Expert
- Chief Infrastructure Expert
- Junior GIS Expert
- Junior Flora Expert
- Junior Fauna Expert
- Chief Education Programmes and Information Centers Expert
- Chief Tourism Expert

IV. Accounting, Economic Activities and Human Resources Department

- Head of the department
- Legal advisor
- Junior human resources expert
- Junior Accounting and Cash Specialist
- Junior Cash Specialist
- Technical Assistants -4

The administrative structure complies with the requirements of the Protected Areas Act and the regulations for its implementation.

6. Monitoring

The Environmental Executive Agency of the MoEW is the institution responsible for the overall monitoring of the environmental components and for the establishment and maintenance of the National Biodiversity Monitoring System (<http://monitoring.biodiversity.bg/>).

In the period 2004 -2006 was elaborated and approved a national framework for observation and information of the biological diversity in compliance with the European directives, related to conservation of species and habitats.

In 2007 with an Order of the minister of environment and water a National Biodiversity Monitoring System in Bulgaria (NBMS) and a practical manual for collection and storage of data were approved. A special regulation was also adopted.

In the National Biodiversity Monitoring System are also determined the subjects of the monitoring and the monitoring schemes.

Most of the habitats and species to be monitored are located within protected areas.

The following species on the territory of the park are being monitored within the NBMS.

Plants - *Leontopodium alpinum*, *Gentiana lutea*, *Gentiana punctata*, *Oxytropis urumovii*, *Papaver degenii*, *Thymus perinicus*, *Erigeron vichrensis*;

Fish species - *Salmo trutta morpha fario*;

Birds - *Tetrao urogallus*, *Alectoris graeca*, *Bonasa bonasia*, *Bubo bubo*, *Aegolius funereus*, *Aquila chrysaetos*, *Falco peregrinus*, *Picoides leucotos*, *Falco cherrug*, *Buteo rufinus*, *Circaetus gallicus*;

Reptiles - *Lacerta vivipara*;

Mammals - *Rupicapra rupicapra*, *Capreolus capreolus*, *Sus scrofa*, *Ursus arctos*, *Canis lupus*.

Besides, in the three national parks, including Pirin National park a program for Complex Environmental Monitoring (CEM) is provided, which envisages also monitoring over the abiotic components, such as waters (lakes and rivers) and soils. Within the CEM, some additional elements are also monitored. These are: the state of the forests; some resource species of plants, such as *Vaccinium myrtillus*, the influence of the grazing, the tourist flow and its impact on the environment.

The information compiled by the National Park Directorate is submitted on annual basis to the Executive Agency. The monitoring of Pirin started in 2004 and the data has been sent to the Executive Agency and to the National Nature Protection Service.

6.a Some key indicators for measuring state of conservation

Subject	Indicator	Periodicity	Data storage institution
Plants (endemics)	1. site	annually, seasonally	NPD, EEA
	2. area of the locality	annually, seasonally	NPD, EEA
	3. population density	annually, seasonally	NPD, EEA
	4.% of blossoming plants	annually, seasonally	NPD, EEA
	5.% of fruit plants	annually, seasonally	NPD, EEA
	6. general status of the locality	annually, seasonally	NPD, EEA
Soils	1. pH	every 5 years	NPD, EEA
	2. cations		NPD, EEA
Lake water	1. pH	once a year	NPD, EEA
	2. dissolved oxygen		NPD, EEA
	3. biological oxygen consumption		NPD, EEA
	3. transparency		NPD, EEA

6.b Administrative arrangements for monitoring property

The Environmental Executive Agency of the MoEW is the structure responsible for the monitoring of all environmental components. The National Monitoring Framework gives the parameters for the monitoring. Following the prescriptions of the Monitoring Framework each year the EEA requires the NPD, RIEWs and Basin Directorates to fill a specific form with the monitored indicators.

Within the Pirin NPD the monitoring is organized as follows:

- the rangers provide to the experts on Flora, Fauna and Forests the required information on monthly basis
- at the end of the year the Flora, Fauna and Forests experts summarize the information provided by the rangers and send a report to the EEA
- the report contains also an assessment of the environmental status of the Park

It is expected that with the establishment of the Scientific Council monitoring will become better placed into the daily focus of the NPD and will become an effective managerial tool.

6.c Results of previous reporting exercises

Since its designation in 1983 and until the emergence of the problems resulting from the skiing development projects in 1999, the WHP was not specifically monitored. During the last years, the Pirin National Park as World Heritage Property has been a subject of reactive monitoring on behalf of the World Heritage Center. For this purpose, two international missions have been organized in 2002 and 2004.

In 2002, the World Heritage Center of UNESCO, mandated by the 25th Session of the World Heritage Committee held in Helsinki in 2001, and in response to the request of Mrs. Dolores Arsenova - Minister of Environment and Water, organized a mission in the Pirin National Park and World Heritage Property. The joint mission was a result of the numerous concerns expressed by the Bulgarian non-governmental organizations regarding the potential threats

by the new project for the development of the skiing zone above the town of Bansko, proposed at this time.

The main objective of this mission was to clarify the actual area of the property and the location of the skiing zone in relation to its boundaries.

Although there were approved plans for the construction of the skiing zone above the town of Bansko, already before the initial designation of the property, the report of the mission stated that the new construction was dividing one of the largest and most valuable territories of the Park into two parts. It had strongly affected the intactness of the property and posed barriers to the daily and seasonal migrations of the animal species like bears, deer, etc.

As a result of the observations and consultations carried out, the mission has made the following recommendations:

- The Government shall provide a map with the property boundaries and provide additional information regarding the envisaged enlargement of the ski zone;
- As an official declaration of the future management intentions to elaborate a Temporary Management Plan of the Property until the elaboration and approval of a permanent one.
- A Scientific Council for the World Heritage Property should be established.

The report of the first mission recognized that enlargement of skiing constructions has not been permitted in other World Heritage Properties and that the existing and proposed construction are not connected to ecotourism development.

The second joint mission with the participation of experts of UNESCO and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) was held in February 2004. A set of recommendation were issued regarding:

- Recommendations concerned with the World Heritage Property, zoning and buffer zones – approval of the Management Plan in the shortest terms possible. Providing a map of the boundaries of the property, and making proposal for technical assistance for elaborating nomination for updating the boundaries of Pirin NP as a World Heritage Property. The zoning of the territory of the NP should be in accordance with the Management Plan requirements.
- Recommendations concerned with the protection of the property;
- Recommendations concerned with the management;
- Recommendations concerned with the communications enhancement.

In part fulfillment of the recommendations of the two missions, the MoEW submitted to the World Heritage Center a request for international assistance with the objective to elaborate a nomination file for the extension of the Pirin National Park as a World Heritage Property. The Management Plan of Pirin NP, which frames the planning and implementing of activities, as well as the guarding and control over the territory of the Park was approved in August 2004.

Detailed maps explaining the changes in the status of the National Park and the WH property were provided by the MOEW to the World Heritage Center in January 2005.

A Scientific Council (SC) was established in 2005 according to the requirements of the Management plan. The SC is an advisory body providing required expertise to the Park administration for an improved management of the National Park. The SC provides the necessary scientific basis in the taking of decision by the park's administration or on the solving of concrete problems. The SC comprises experts dealing with the different components of the biodiversity and environmental sciences.

Another important advisory body, envisaged in the Management Plan of the National Park - Consultative Council (CC) was established in November 2005. The Rules of Operation of the CC were officially approved at its first meeting, held in April 2006. The CC is an independent body of the Pirin National Park Directorate. Its composition follows the "quota" principle and therefore includes representatives of the four main stakeholder groups: 1)

state administration including park's one, 2) local administration (adjacent municipalities), 3) business and 4) NGOs.

The Consultative Council of Pirin National park is a consultative body to the National Park Directorate, which supports the Directorate in the implementation of the Management plan (MP). The CC prepares statements regarding the implementation of the management plan and emerging problems referring to the Park protection and management, use of lands, forest and water resources. The CC provides standpoints on research activities, awareness and educational programs, informational service, and other activities of the park's administration.

Within a previous nomination cycle for extension of Pirin National Park as WHP, in Pirin National Park a mission with representative of IUCN was held in September 2007. As a follow up, in the IUCN technical evaluation report about Pirin National park from 2008, as well as the draft decision from the 32 session of the World Heritage Commission, the following recommendations were given:

- to be approved the extension of the World Heritage property, as proposed by the State Party in 2007 nomination file in order to strengthen the integrity and management of the World Heritage Property;
- to be excluded the ski zones above the town of Bansko and Dobrinishte from the WHP and also transformed into a buffer zone of the WHP in order to give an added layer of protection of the property;
- to be excluded from the WHP the Kulinoto ski zone and Sandanski resort area as their values and integrity are no longer compatible with World Heritage status.

The recommendations in the report and the draft decision also envisaged some obligations for the State Party, such as:

- to ensure that the adverse effects of the development of ski facilities and extension of tourism zones are minimized or mitigated to the extent possible;
- no further development of ski facilities or extension of the tourism zones to be allowed within the revised boundaries of the extended property;

According to the documents mentioned above any further development of ski facilities or extension of the tourism zones within the revised boundaries of the extended property, or any further developments outside the extended property that would adversely affect the Outstanding Universal Value and integrity of the property, would result in the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The State Party was also requested to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of any developments, including in the new buffer zone, which may affect the Outstanding Universal Value or integrity of the property.

7. Documentation

7.a Photographs, slides, image inventory and authorization table and other audiovisual materials

Id. №	Format	Caption	Date of photo	Photographer	Copyright owner	Contact details of CR owner	Non exclusive cession of rights
1.	35mm	Belemeto	September	NATIONAL	NPD	Bulgaria	yes

			2008	PARK DIRECTORATE (NPD)		Bansko 2770 4	
2.	35mm	Leontopodium alpinum	July 2008	NPD	NPD	Bulgaria str.	yes
3.	35mm	Gazei peak	December 2008	NPD	NPD	Pirin National Park	yes
4.	35mm	Pinus silvestris	September 2008	NPD	NPD	Director ate	yes
5.	35mm	Polejan peak, Julen nature reserve	September 2008	NPD	NPD		yes
6.	35mm	"Sveshtnika" natural monument	September 2008	NPD	NPD		yes
7.	35mm	"Vihren peak	September 2008	NPD	NPD		yes
8.	35mm	Vlahinski lake	September 2008	NPD	NPD		yes
9.	35mm	Damjanica river	September 2008	NPD	NPD		yes
10.	35mm	"Gorno Gazeisko" lake	September 2008	NPD	NPD		yes

Annex 6: Slide transparencies

7.b Texts relating to protective designation, copies of property management plans or documented management systems and extracts of other plans relevant to the property

In annex we attach the following documents:

Annex 1: Sufficiently scaled map of Pirin National Park World Heritage Property (1:25 000), bearing topographic features, showing the proposed extension, exclusion, proposed buffer zone of the WHP and the boundaries of the already inscribed property;

Annex 2: Thematic A3 Maps:

- 2.1 Soils
- 2.2 Plant communities
- 2.3 Forest vegetation
- 2.4 Habitats
- 2.5 Zoning
- 2.6 Map of Pirin National Park and Pirin as Corine site
- 2.7 Pirin National Park as Important Bird Area;
- 2.8 Map of Pirin National Park as Natura 2000 site and surrounding territories, as Natura 2000 sites.

Annex 3: Hard copies of the orders for designation or changes of Pirin National park as protected area according to the Bulgarian legislation.

Annex 4: Nature protection legislation (on a CD).

Annex 5: Hard copy of Pirin National Park Management Plan.

Annex 6: Photos with sights from Pirin National park, slide transparencies and electronic version of these sights on a CD. Image inventory and photograph and audiovisual authorization form, according to Annex 5 of the Operational guidelines.

Annex 7: Nomination file for changes in the boundaries of Pirin National Park WH Property (on a CD).

7.c Form and date of most recent records or inventory of property

Below are listed the main recent scientific reports for Pirin NP. The reports are available in hard and electronic in Bulgarian at the National Park Directorate.

Title	Author	Year of investigation
Management structure	Eng. Toma Belev	2001-2002
Existing projects on the territory of the Pirin NP Quality of the water – hydrochemistry and hydrobiology	Arch. Dimitrina Berberova	2001-2002
Existing zoning of the karst and caves in the Pirin NP	Alexey Zalov	2001-2002
Geology and geomorphology of Pirin NP	Boyan Rashev	2001-2002
Soils of Pirin NP	Eng. Ivan Petrov	2001-2002
Ecosystems and biotopes in Pirin NP	Dr. Tenyu Meshinev Dr. Iva Apostolova	2001-2002
Characteristics of the Pirin NP forests	Eng. Ivan Petrov	2001-2002
Assessment of the forest protection measures	Dr. Yancho Najdenov	2001-2002
Vascular plants in Pirin NP	Dr. Petar Zelev Eng. Dobromira Dimova Dr. Evgeni Tsavkov	2001-2002
Lichens in Pirin NP	Dr. Dobri Ivanov	2001-2002
Algae in Pirin NP	Dr. Petar Zelev	2001-2002
Mosses in Pirin NP	Dr. Petar Zelev	2001-2002
Medicinal plants in Pirin NP	Slavcho Savev	2001-2002
Diversity of the invertebrate fauna in Pirin NP	Dr. Hristo Delchev and others	2001-2002
Diversity of the vertebrata fauna in Pirin NP	Dr. Vassil Popov	2001-2002
Buildings and infrastructure in Pirin NP	Arch. Yuliya Kenareva	2001-2001
Agriculture in Pirin NP	Hristina Yancheva	2001-2002
Endangered local breeds in Pirin NP	Atila Sedefchev Vergil Mourarov	2001-2002
Hunting and angling in Pirin NP and adjacent territories	Eng. Karanfil Dzambazki and Roumen Kolchagov	2001-2002
Tourism, recreation, sport and services in Pirin NP	Lubomir Popyordanov	2001-2002
Analysis of the data of a sociological poll in Pirin region regarding the attitude of the local people towards environmental protection	Dr. Roumyana Stoilova	2001-2002

Cultural and historical heritage	Simana Markovska Georgi Georgiev	2001-2002
Landscape of Pirin NP	Arch. Dimitrina Berberova	2001-2002
Status of the environmental components in Pirin NP	Eng. Margarita Klecherova	2001-2002
Characteristic and assessment of the Bajuvi dupki-Dzindziritsa Biosphere Reserve	Arch. Tzena Stoichkova	2001-2002

7.d Address where inventory, records and archives are held

Pirin National Park DIRECTORATE

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8.b.2. Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Blagoevgrad

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8.c Other National/Local Institutions

Below are given contact persons and addresses of officials responsible for projects related to the Pirin NP

Institution/organization	Project	Contact person	Contact details
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Wilderness Fund Society	CORINE	Jeko Spiridonov, Board Chair	7, Gotze Delchev blv. Sofia 1612 Phone: +3592 927 17 59 E-mail: office@wf-bg.org
Bulgarian Society for Protection of Birds	IBA	Irina Kostadinova, IBA & Natura 2000 Programme Officer	P.O.Box 50, Sofia 1111 or Musagenitza complex. block 104, entrance A, floor 6 Phone: +359 2 971 58 55 E-mail: irina.kostadinova@bspb.org http://www.bspb.org
Botanical Garden, Bulgarian academy of science	IPA	Dr. Antoaneta Petrova, Director	P.O. Box 664, Sofia 1000 Phone: +3592 967 28 23; E-mail: petrovabotgar1@abv.bg

UNESCO National Committee "Man and Biosphere Programme"	MAB	Dr. Ana Petrova Chair	MAB committee for Bulgaria Institute of Botany, BAS 23, Acad. G. Bonchev Street 1113 Sofia Phone: +359 2 9792155 E-mail: petrova@iph.bio.bas.bg
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National Nature protection Service Directorate

Ministry of environment and water of Bulgaria

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Fax. 003592/ 940 61 27

E-mail: tzvety@moew.government.bg

9. Signature on behalf of the State Party

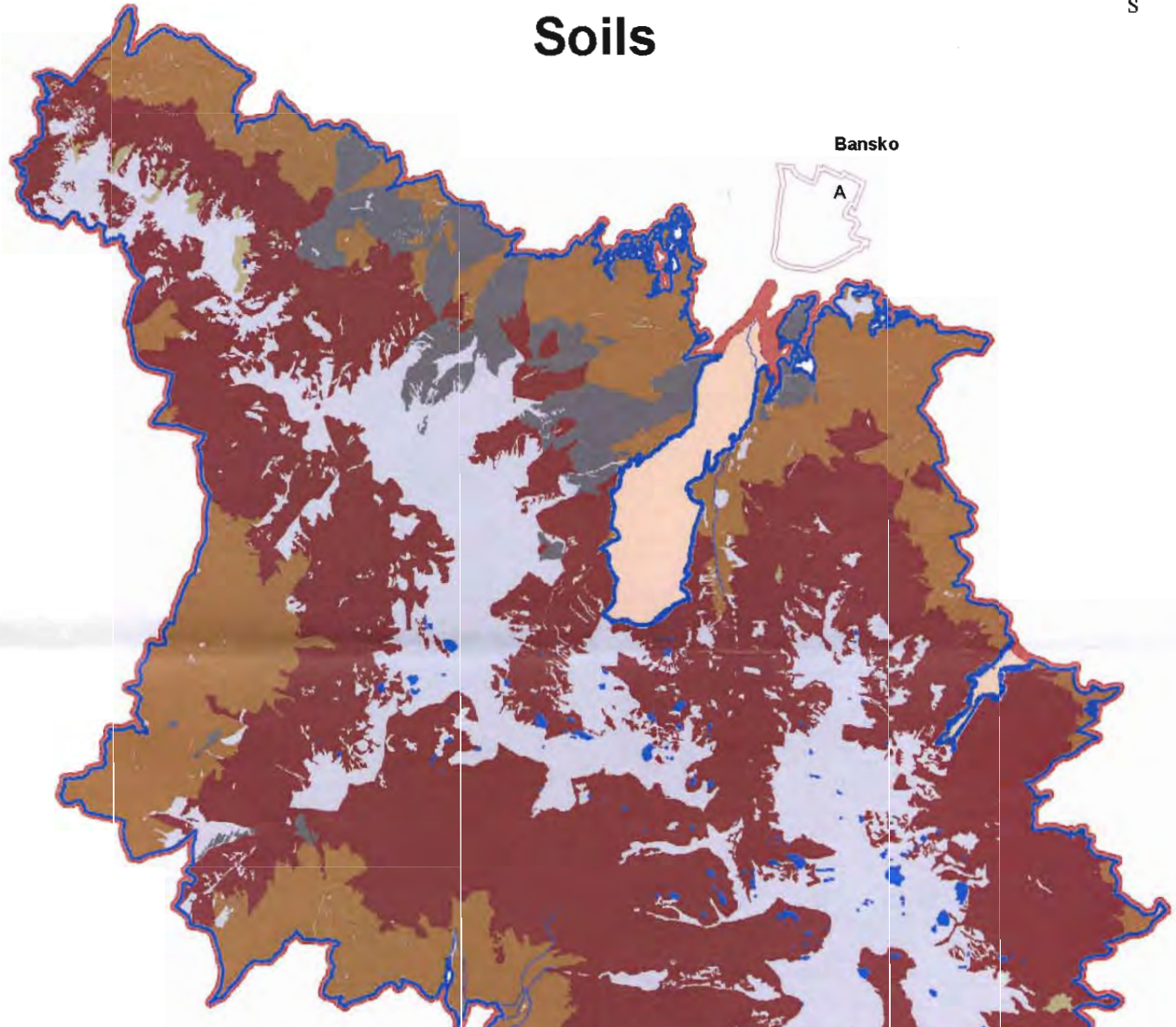
Djevdet Chakarov

Minister of Environment and Water

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)



Soils



Legend

-  BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK
-  PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)
-  PROPOSED BUFFER ZONE
-  Rocks and screes
-  Cambisoles
-  Umbr. Cambisoles
-  Rankers
-  Rendzinas
-  Lake
-  Park administration



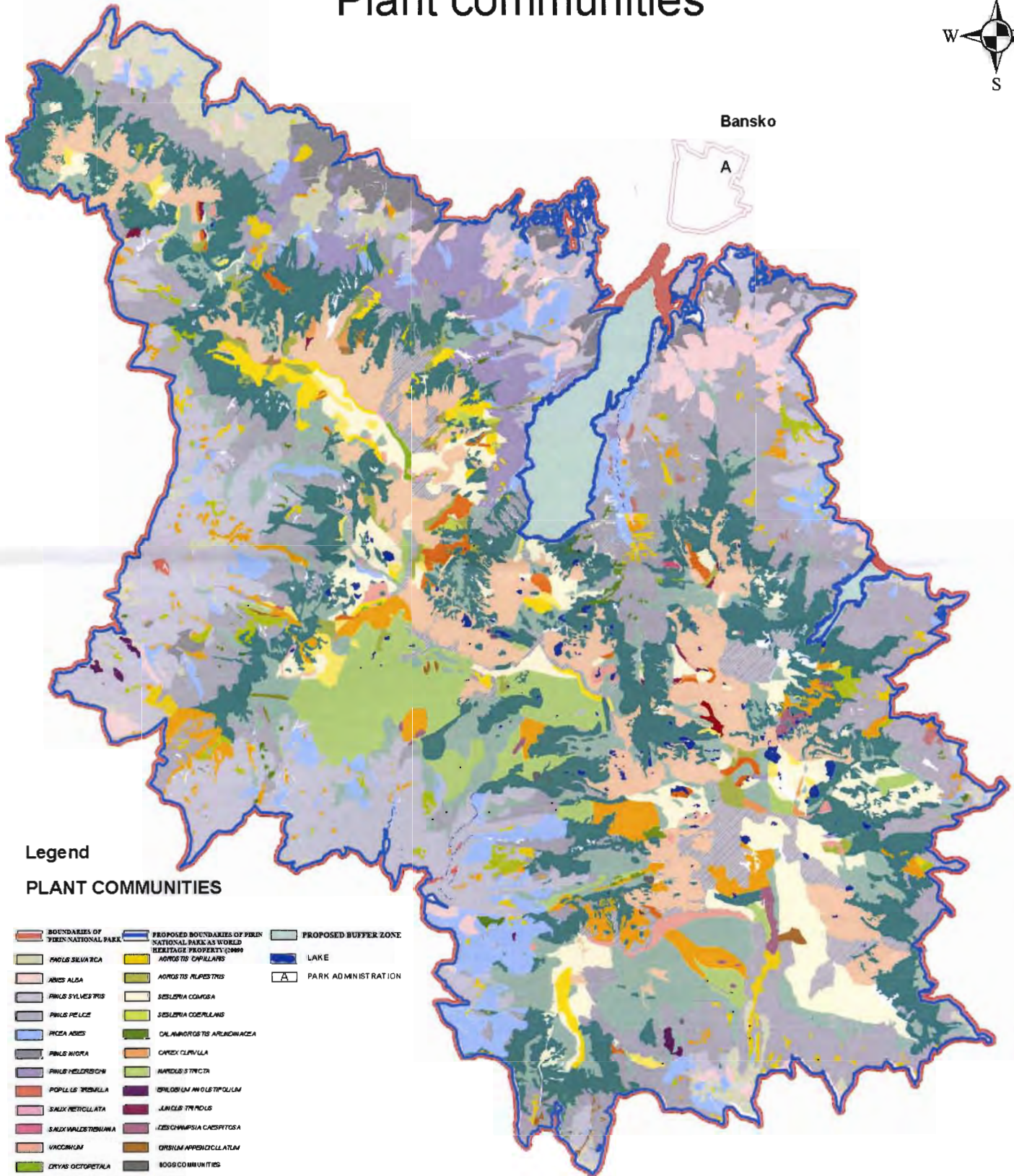
PIRIN NATIONAL PARK PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)

Plant communities



Bansko

A



Legend

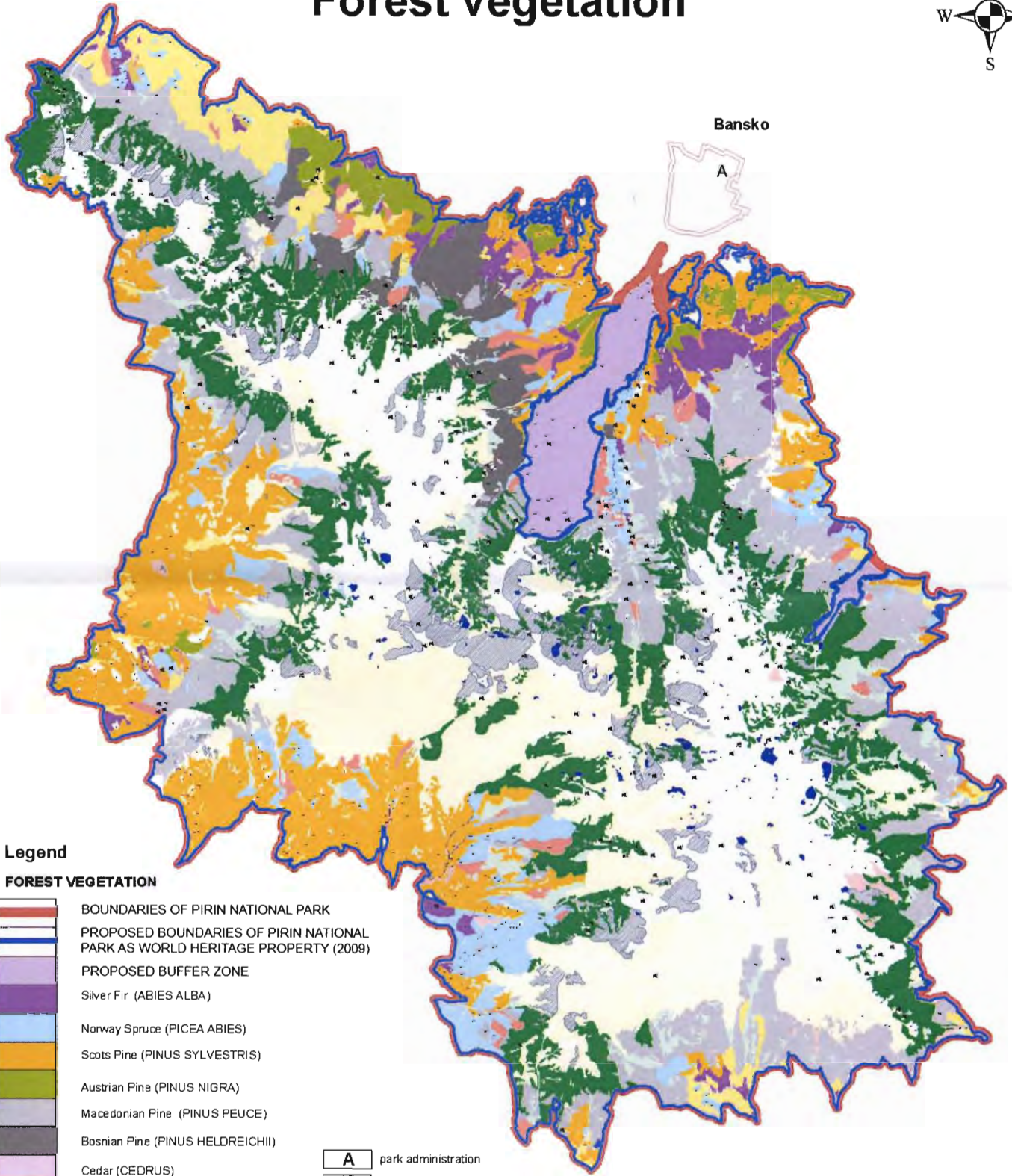
PLANT COMMUNITIES

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK | PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009) | PROPOSED BUFFER ZONE |
| PINGUS SILVATICA | AGROSTIS CAPILLARIS | LAKE |
| ABIES ALBA | AGROSTIS REPENS | PARK ADMINISTRATION |
| PINGUS SYLVESTRIS | SESLERIA COMOSA | |
| PINGUS PEUCE | SESLERIA COERULEANS | |
| PINUS AOMES | CALAMAGROSTIS ARLANDINACEA | |
| PINUS MYRTA | CAREX CLIVILLA | |
| PINUS HELDREICHII | JUNCUS STRICTA | |
| POPULUS TREBULLA | SPHAGNUM ANOSTROFOLM | |
| SALIX HERCULLATA | JUNCUS TRIPOLIS | |
| SALIX MALESTRENIANA | IZES CHAMPUSA CADPITOSA | |
| VACCINIUM | QUESNIA APPENDICULATAM | |
| DRYAS OCTOPETALA | BOGOS COMMUNITIES | |
| CHARME CYTUS LES JASMINOIDES | SOTOPHILARIA BULLGARICA | |
| PINUS MURCO | CAREX CRPA | |
| JUNIPERUS SIBIRICA | POANEDIA | |
| JUNIPERUS COMMUNIS | PTERIDUM ACULUM | |
| PESTUCA VALICA | MENASCIUM LONGIPOLLINIS P. PANICULUM | |
| PESTUCA PLOBENSIS | PESTUCA PIRINICA | |
| PESTUCA INGRESSENS | RUMEX ALPNUM | |
| PESTUCA ARGYREAS | GENUS COMMUNITIES | |



PIRIN NATIONAL PARK PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)

Forest vegetation



Legend

FOREST VEGETATION

- BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK
- PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)
- PROPOSED BUFFER ZONE
- Silver Fir (ABIES ALBA)
- Norway Spruce (PICEA ABIES)
- Scots Pine (PINUS SYLVESTRIS)
- Austrian Pine (PINUS NIGRA)
- Macedonian Pine (PINUS PEUCE)
- Bosnian Pine (PINUS HELDREICHII)
- Cedar (CEDRUS)
- Mixed coniferous
- Dwarf Pine (PINUS MUGO)
- Aspen (POPULUS TREMULA)
- European Alder (ALNUS GLUTINOSA)
- European white birch (BETULA ALBA)
- Mixed broad-leaved
- Common Beech (FAGUS SYLVATICA)

- park administration
- rocks
- peat bogs
- areas unfavorable for forestation
- open areas unfavorable for forestation
- pinus mugo
- plantation
- felling clearing
- peak
- lake
- screes
- denuded terrain
- meadows
- high-mountain pastures



PIRIN NATIONAL PARK PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)

Habitats



Bansko

A

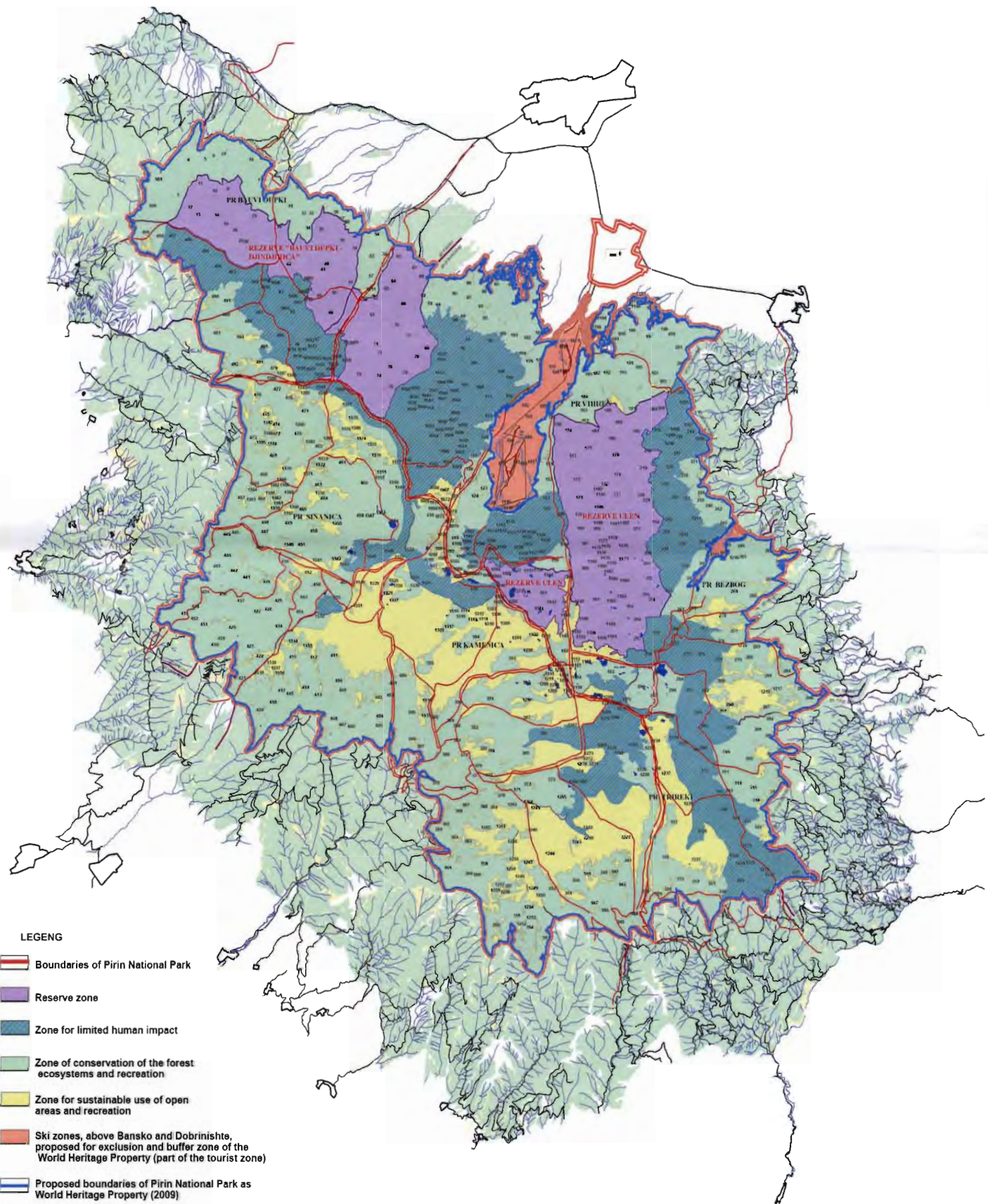
Legend

Habitats

- BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK
- PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)
- PROPOSED BUFFER ZONE
- Felling areas
- Forests openings, yards, skiing runs
- Rivers
- Waterfalls
- Permanent lakes
- Standing temporary waters
- Pinus mugo communities
- Juniperus sibirica communities
- Chamaecytisus absinthioides communities
- Forests dominated by Pinus sylvestris
- Communities of small shrubs (Vaccinium, Bruckenthalia, Salix and Dryas octopetala)
- Grassland vegetation in the forest zone
- High - mountain grassland vegetation on siliceous soils
- High - mountain grassland vegetation on calcareous soils
- Aspen forests
- Riverine alder forests
- Mixed forests dominated by broad-leaved deciduous trees
- Mixed forests dominated by coniferous trees
- Pure Picea alba forests
- Forests dominated by Picea abies
- Pure Pinus sylvestris forests
- Pure Pinus nigra forests
- Forests dominated by Pinus nigra
- Forests dominated by Pinus peuce
- Pure Pinus heldreichii forests
- Forests dominated by Pinus heldreichii
- Tree plantations
- Siliceous rocks
- Calcareous rocks
- Siliceous screes
- Calcareous screes
- Park administration
- Pure Pinus peuce forests
- Pure Fagus sylvatica forests
- Forests dominated by Fagus sylvatica
- Pure Abies alba forests
- Forests dominated by Abies alba



FUNCTIONAL ZONING OF PIRIN NATIONAL PARK

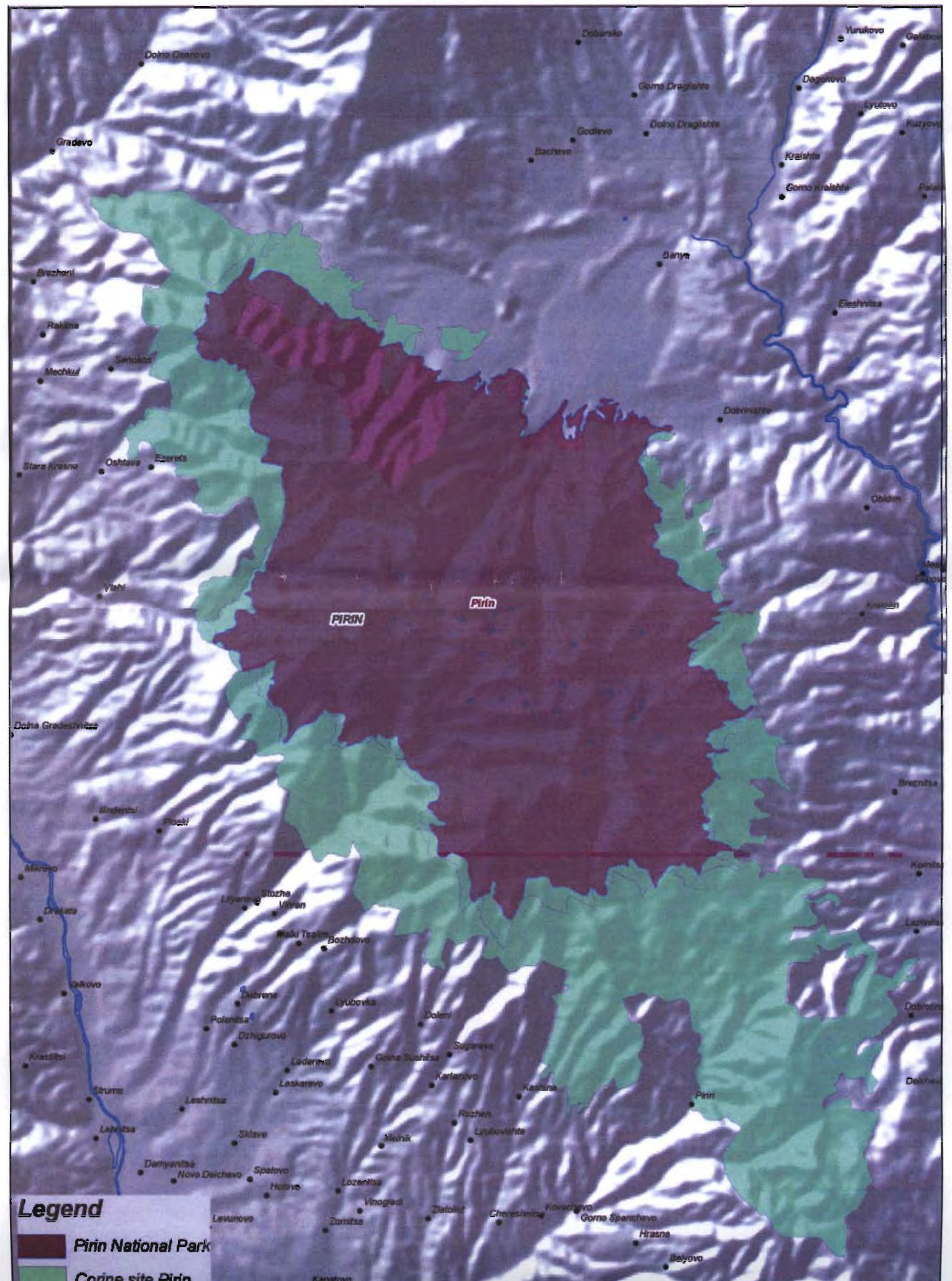


LEGENG

-  Boundaries of Pirin National Park
-  Reserve zone
-  Zone for limited human impact
-  Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation
-  Zone for sustainable use of open areas and recreation
-  Ski zones, above Bansko and Dobrinishte, proposed for exclusion and buffer zone of the World Heritage Property (part of the tourist zone)
-  Proposed boundaries of Pirin National Park as World Heritage Property (2009)
-  Bounbers of park region
-  Tourist route
-  Lake

Map of Pirin National Park and Pirin Corine site P00002700



Scale 1:150 000



Map of Pirin National Park and Pirin as Important Bird Area



Source: Bulgarian Society for the protection of Birds / BirdLife International.

-  Pirin National Park
-  Pirin Important Bird Area

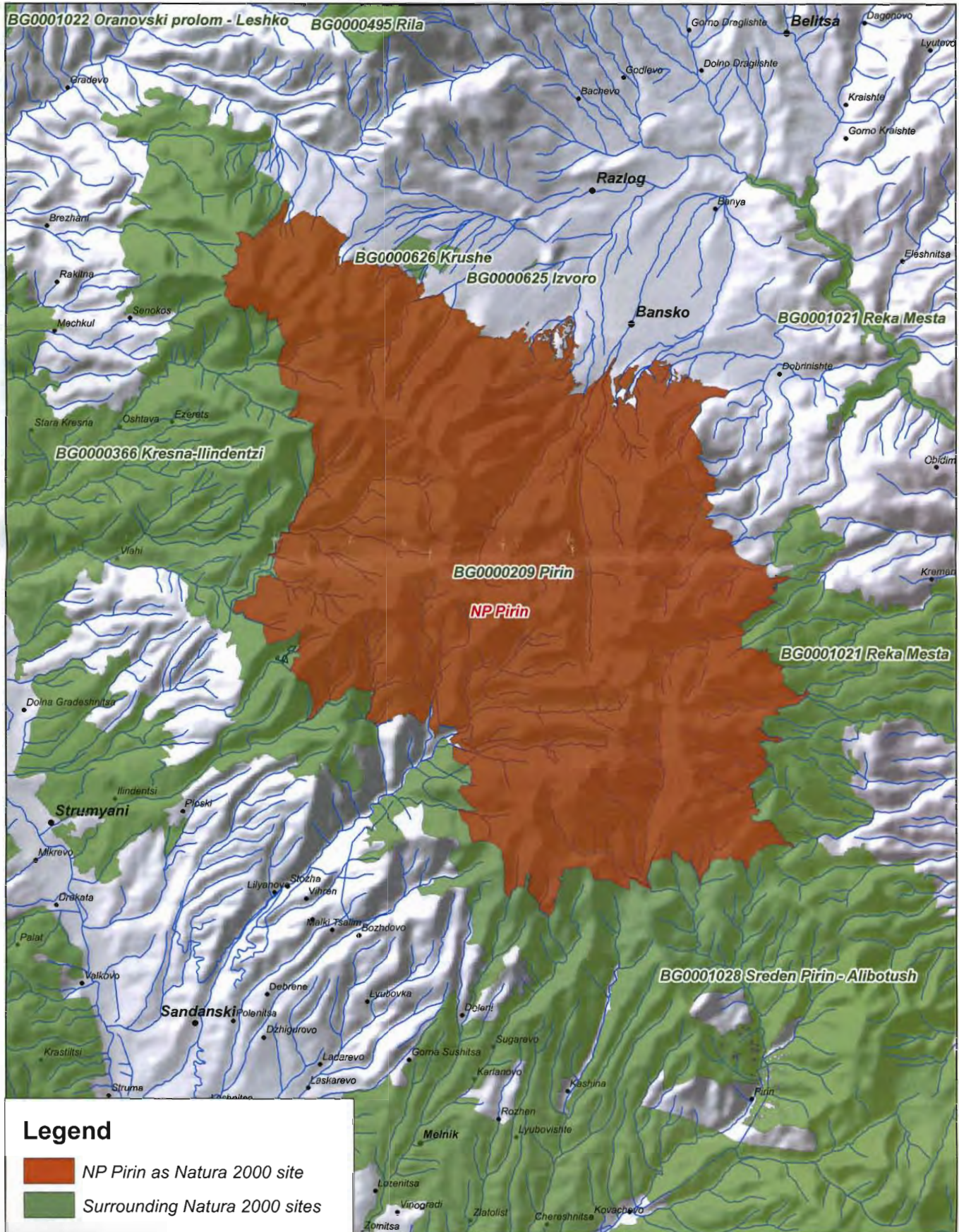
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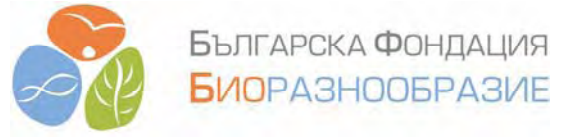


Map of Pirin National Park as Natura 2000 site and surrounding Natura 2000 sites



Scale 1:150 000





PIRIN NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

*This MP is elaborated with the financial support of the Swiss
Agency for Development and Cooperation
in the framework of the BSBCP*



2004

PREFACE

In historical aspect the boundaries, the regime and the management of the territory of the Pirin National Park have undergone a number of changes. In 1963 the park was first designated as People's Park "Vihren", with an area of 6736,0 ha. In 1974 the People's Park Pirin was designated with an area of 26 413,8 ha. With this area it was included in the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage by UNESCO's order of 1983. 1979 was an important year in the park's history – an independent Directorate, subordinated to the Ministry of Forests and Forestry industry and seated in the town of Bansko, was formed.

In the last several years the idea of establishing a "good management practice" as a necessary condition for achieving sustainable development of the protected areas acquired a global recognition. After 1996-1997 this became a major issue in Bulgaria too. The sense of the good management practice is the involvement of the people, who define its goals and priorities and participate in their fulfillment. To make this possible it is necessary to establish a management system, which allows everybody to live a long, healthy and creative life.

In international aspect, there is a new structure of people's motivation. Except the good food, rest and recreation, care for the body and the health, the people favour a combination of intact natural environment with cultural and historical resources, which satisfies their spiritual needs as well. Because of these reasons the national parks become tourist focal points, which together with their adjacent territories, if managed in a coordinated manner, represent functionally linked elements of the sustainable development.

The Pirin NP management plan proposes specific measures and mechanisms, which may contribute to the changing of people's thinking and way of life.

The plan's main message is that the overcoming of the people's isolation and the establishing of conditions for their effective interaction with the park administration are necessary prerequisites for the achieving of sustainable development.

On behalf of the Pirin National Park Directorate, I would like to express our gratitude to the authors of the management plan and to all, who participated in its elaboration. We hope that the conclusions and recommendations made will lead to a wider and more active participation of the people in the protection of the Pirin NP as a World Heritage site.

Georgi Grancharov, eng.
Director of the Pirin National Park

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The elaboration of the Pirin NP management plan required the involvement of an utmost wide circle of citizens and experts, who, with their comments and recommendations, became committed co-authors.

In the process of work we had the chance to use the professional advice of permanent international consultants with experience in the management of protected areas, like Peter Hislaire and Pierre Galland from Switzerland and Andrej Bibic from Slovenia.

Closest to the authors' team were the employees of the Pirin NPD. The Directorate's staff provided support in the form of transport, information, logistics, etc.

Employees of the municipalities of Razlog, Bansko, Gotse Delchev, Sandanski, Strumiani, Kresna and Simitly also showed understanding and provided support for the elaboration of the plan.

Special thanks deserve the BSBCP Executive Director Rossen Vassilev and the foundation's staff, which provided technical support and created favorable work conditions throughout the whole period.

The tasks, related to the Pirin NP management plan were fulfilled in close relationship with the BSBCP Pirin Project team in Bansko, with coordinator Petko Tsvetkov.

I would like to thank for the co-operation, provided by RIEW – Blagoevgard, the district and municipal administrations, with which we hope to continue working together in the future.

And last but not least, the team thanks all members of NGOs and educational institutions in the region and the representatives of the local mass media for the expressed interest and cooperation.

Acknowledging the support obtained, the team assumes full responsibility for the data, opinions and positions, expressed in this plan.

Ljudmila Dimitrova, Landscape architect
MP Coordinator

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MAPPING, annexed in the Management Plan in scale 1:100 000

Map #	THEME
3	Cadastral and Administrative Affiliation
4	Designation of the Park and the reserves in it and boundaries changes
5	Geology and petrography map
6	Relief
7	Hydrographic network
9	Soils
19	Functional zoning

MAPPING, annexed separately to the Management Plan in scale 1: 75 000 и 1: 25 000

Map #	THEME
2	Park's boundaries, adjacent settlements, main sites
8	Precipitation
10	Habitats
11	Plant communities
12	Forest tree vegetation - species
13	Forest tree vegetation - age classes
14	Localities of vascular plants of conservation value
15	Medicinal plants
16	Habitats of animal species of conservation value
17	Technical infrastructure, built areas and buildings
18	Landscapes
19	Functional zoning

ABBREVIATIONS

PAA	Protected Areas Act
REMPA	Regulation for Elaboration of Management Plans for Protected Areas
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
MOEW	Ministry of Environment and Water
NNPS	National Nature Protection Service
SG	State Gazette
BAS	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
NFB	National Forestry Board
MRDPW	Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works
RFB	Regional Forestry Board
MRS	Mountain Rescue Service
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
BTU	Bulgarian Tourist Union
PTF	Pirin Tourism Forum
BSPB	Bulgarian Society for Protection of Birds
NPD	National Park Directorate
NP	National Park
MP	Management Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
v.	village
CM	Council of Ministers
MFNP	Ministry of Forestry and Nature Protection
PA	Protected Area
PAs	Protected Areas
BSBCP	Bulgarian Swiss Biodiversity Conservation Programme
MFFI	Ministry of Forestry and Forest Industry
ATS	Administrative and technical sections
CE	Capital equipment
PR	Park region
PR	Public relations
MI	Ministry of Interior
RSFAS	Regional Service for Fire and Accidents Security
SWOT analysis	Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats analysis
Mt.	mountain
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
HEC	Higher Expert Council
JOBS	Jobs Opportunities by Business Support Project
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
SFB	State Forestry Board
N	North
NE	North - East
NW	North – West
E	East
SE	South – East
SW	South – West
W	West
S	South

WEPS	Water Electric Power Station
vol.	volume
fam.	family
NPA	Nature Protection Act
RIEW	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water
DIR	Directive
PL	Power line
HEPS	Hydroelectric Power Station
PDU	Power distribution unit
Co	Company
p.	point
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
dka	dekar
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
NSI	National Statistical Institute
TIHD	Total index of human development
SGS	State Game Station
CHH	Cultural and Historical Heritage
Ldi	Landscape diversity index
PDP	Park Development Project
RSFAS	Regional Service for Fire and Accidents
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
SC	Scientific Council
BA	Biodiversity Act
MPA	Medicinal Plants Act
HGPA	Hunting and Game Protection Act
MD	Ministry of Defense
MI	Ministry of Interior
FACA	Fishery and Aquatic Cultures Act
PCC	Public Consultative Council
FB	Forestry Board
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
COD	Chemical Oxygen Demand
BOD	Biochemical Oxygen Demand

SUMMARY

The nature protection, the biodiversity and the protected areas conservation are global and European priorities. With the adoption of the Protected Areas Act in 1998 the Pirin NP acquired a national park statute and became directly dependent on the Ministry of Environment and Waters (MoEW).

The park's area is 40356,0 ha. It is exclusive state property and includes the territories of the municipalities of Razlog, Bansko, Gotse Delchev, Sandanski, Strumyani, Kresna and Simitli. The Park is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Pirin NP management plan is specialized plan for: nature protection and landscape protection, balanced uses of the recreation capacities and natural resources of the territory and turning the protected areas into a socio – economic factor for regional development.

Management Plan Preparation

The Memorandum of Understanding, signed by the governments of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Swiss Confederation in 1994 resulted in the origination of the Bulgarian-Swiss Biodiversity Conservation Programme (BSBCP). An Amendment to the Memorandum was signed in 2001 and a new project, named “The Pirin National Park Component” was added to the Programme. The main element of this project is the elaboration of the Pirin NP management plan.

Terms of Reference

The elaboration of the management plan was preceded by Terms-of reference, prepared by the National Nature Protection Service (NNPS) and endorsed by the Minister of the Environment and Waters in July 2001. This document defined its scope and contents. The contents and structure of the management plan comply with the Ordinance on the elaboration of management plans and the general European standards for planning protected areas.

Studies

The Pirin NP management plan is a result of purposeful preliminary studies and planning in the period August 2001- August 2002.

According to the requirements of the Terms-of-reference, the plan's different parts include short, synthesized texts and the detailed reports on the studies made are annexed in separate Scroll – annexes. For convenience in using the plan on the terrain and for facilitating communication to a larger public, a shortened version, including the zones, norms, regimes and recommendations for carrying out the activities, was prepared.

Shareholders' participation

The participation of the interested institutions and persons in the planning process was ensured: the District and Municipal Administrations, RIEW – Blagoevgrad, RFB – Blagoevgrad, different users. Representatives of the different tourist, sports, conservation and other non-governmental organizations also took part.

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS AND EVALUATIONS

Abiotic factors

This chapter includes data about the climate, geology and geomorphology, hydrology and hydrobiology, soils.

Ecosystems and biotopes

The habitat diversity is presented in a form, accessible both for the park officers and other interested persons. The description and the mapping are done on the basis of the Classification of palearctic habitats; /CE; Nature and environment # 78/96/.

Flora and vegetation

The park's flora has preserved to a great extent its original character. A total of 1315 species and intraspecific taxa have been established on the territory of Pirin NP. This number represents about 30% of the Bulgarian flora as a whole. Descriptions of the vegetation in sections have been made for all park regions. Mapping of phyto-cenoses is done for each of the sections and sub-sections defined in the Park.

The description of plant communities (associations) is made according to dominant method.

The plant communities established could be classified into 6 main groups. The forested area of the park, including the area of the Mountain dwarf pine, is 57,3% of its total area.

Additional information is collected regarding the level of conservation, degradation processes, presence of species of conservation importance in the communities etc.

Fauna

Studies, analyses and mapping of the fauna habitats and species have been made. 2091 invertebrate animal species, 6 fish species, 8 amphibian species and 11 reptile and 159 bird species have been established. The mammal fauna includes 45 species, including 12 bat species.

Landscape

The landscape structure of the National Park includes 5 landscape types with high aesthetic qualities. Measures for protection, management and planning of the landscape, aiming at the decrease of the man-made landscape influence on the visitors, have been defined.

Technical infrastructure

The information about the total number of different buildings, facilities and their capacities has been updated. Descriptions and evaluations of the buildings on the park's territory, the available technical and transport infrastructure, etc. have been made.

Use of resources

Pasture: The pastures' capacities have been defined on the basis of their productiveness. All grazing plots are located in territories with traditional regimes of agricultural use. There is a tendency of domestic animals' decrease. In the Pirin NP and its adjacent territories 11 indigenous breeds and sub-breeds have been found. Seven of them are included in the "Red Register of the Autochthonic forms of domestic animals" (threatened breeds).

Forestry: Of all the 73 sub-sections of the park, where forestry activities have been fulfilled, 15, or 21% were checked in 2001. A decrease of the total use of timber is noticed compared to previous periods, the used timber being mainly dry or collapsed mass.

Fishing: The Balkan trout has been established in 32 lakes and 21 rivers. Many of the lakes and rivers are being stocked with non-typical fish species.

Tourism and recreation

The park's capacities and conditions for recreational activities, tourism, and sports, have been made as well as a list of the existing tourist trails and other tourist facilities.

The places of interest for practicing specific sports and tourist activities - rock climbing, speleology, organized nature tourism, horse back riding, etc. have been described.

The collected information shows that the Pirin NP features in 70% of the international programs for active and adventure tourism in Bulgaria.

The adjacent territories have a huge potential for eco-tourism and human resources, but high-quality additional tourist services are missing. It is necessary to optimize the tourist infrastructure.

Public knowledge of the site

A sociological study of the public opinion in the Pirin region was made in February 2002. The mass concern about the forest felling is great. The local people expect programs for development of small and family businesses and for more substantial binding of the settlements in the region with the already established resort centers - Sandanski and Bansko.

A brochure "About the people and the nature of the Pirin region", showing the results of the public opinion study, has been elaborated and annexed to the management plan.

Cultural and historical heritage

Beside intact nature, the cultural and historical heritage is a key element for the development of ecotourism. The management plan describes cultural and historical heritage sites in the municipalities of Razlog, Bansko, Gotse Delchev, Sandanski, Strumiani, Kresna, Simitli and Hadgidimovo, which, combined with the unique natural features, may contribute significantly to the sustainable development of the Pirin region.

Environmental issues

The state of the environmental components has been described and analyzed on the basis of the collected information. Data about the waste-waters, the pollution sources and the solid waste have been included. Summarized assessments of the necessary measures for protection of the water-supply zones have been made. An inventory of all the sites, which are sources of water and air pollution, has been made too. The ways of treating the communal waste have been studied.

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES AND CONSTRAINTS

Long-term objectives

The goals have been defined according to the requirements of the Protected Areas Act and the adopted categorization system of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). On the basis of the characteristics and evaluations made, the following long-term objectives have been formulated:

- I. Conservation, protection and maintenance of the ecosystems' and landscape's naturalness and intactness
- II. Providing opportunities for conservation education and interpretation
- III. Stimulation of scientific studies
- IV. Incomes generating for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages of the national park
- V. Improving the management policy and the specialized warding of the national park
- VI. Observing the legal and institutional framework

Constraints

The levels of impact of the constraints/ threats on the goals were defined by the experts, who have elaborated the different parts of the Pirin NP management plan. The evaluation is made according to the point system, concerning their impact on the achieving of the main goals and their territorial scope in the park.

Potentials of the park

The evaluation of the Park's potentials was made according to the goals defined. It is the basis for setting the programs and projects in Part 4. The Pirin NP may offer an example of natural succession processes a key element of a regional ecological network, a model site for development of sustainable tourism, a model site for public management of a protected area, a case study for achieving sustainable economic development in connection with the adjacent territories.

NORMS, REGIMES, CONDITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES

The following zones are defined in the Pirin NP:

Zone	Management goals	Main activities allowed	% of park territory
Reserve zone	Preserving the natural succession processes in the ecosystems	Scientific research and passing along the marked trails	14,8
Zone of limited human impact	Preserving of locations where threatened habitats have been established	Scientific research and passing along the marked trails	19,4
Zone of conservation and restoration of forest ecosystems and recreation	Ensuring conditions for the natural development of the forest ecosystems; Creating conditions for recreational use	Scientific research, hiking and recreation; collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs; maintenance and restoration activities, regulating the numbers of animal species; angling	48,7
Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation	Stimulation of responsible and purpose-oriented ways of long-term sustainable use of resources; Supporting the regional development.	Scientific research, hiking and recreation; collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs; maintenance and restoration activities, regulating the numbers of animal species; angling, grazing	13,8
Tourism zone	Creating conditions for sports, tourist and recreational use and for the development of specialized tourism	Scientific research, hiking and recreation; collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs; maintenance and restoration activities, regulating the numbers of animal species; angling, grazing, sports activities	2,6
Zone of buildings and facilities	Providing conditions for visitor recreation, for shepherds' staying in the area; Providing opportunities to the park guards for optimum management; for providing visitor information and interpretation	Scientific research, hiking and recreation; collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs; maintenance and restoration activities, regulating the numbers of animal species; angling; construction, repair and reconstruction	0,7

The proposed regimes and norms aim at the overcoming or limiting the impact of the threats, identified in Part 2, ensuring conditions for control and managerial decision making. Regimes of using the natural resources for recreation and for the development of the traditional stock-breeding are defined.

OPERATIONAL TASKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE AND PROTECTION

Defining priorities

The following priority directions for the plan's 10-year period of action have been defined on the basis of the characteristics and evaluations made and the goals set:

Priority directions for conservation, protection and maintenance of the ecosystems' and landscape's naturalness and intactness

Observing the defined regimes and norms
Sustainable use of natural resources

Protection of the fish and game fauna

Optimum protection and management of habitats with high conservation value after natural disasters or unregulated human interference

Regulated pasture use and control

Priority directions for providing opportunities for conservation education and interpretation

Studying the visitors

Informing the local people and the visitors about the biodiversity and the park's value

Carrying out conservation training initiatives

Priority directions for stimulation of scientific studies

Coordination of scientific studies and publications about the park

Priority directions for incomes generation for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages of the national park

Improving the sanitary – hygienic state of visitor servicing sites

Development of sustainable tourism

Supporting the traditional stock-breeding on the park's territory

Introducing a concession regime

Priority directions for improving the management policy and the specialized warding of the national park

Management re-structuring

Work in partnership

Increasing the staff qualification and the guard's effectiveness

Priority directions for observing the legal and institutional framework

Clarifying the ownership status of sites on the park's territory

Effective applying of the legislation

Establishing a legal base for financial revenues from other users' profits from the park.

Programs and projects

The programs and projects are defined with the goal of establishing a wide support for the park, as well as motivating a responsible and nature-conservation behaviour of the park's users.

The following groups of programs and projects are planned to be implemented in the plan's period of action on the basis of the evaluation of the NPD responsibilities:

- I. Complex long-term monitoring for the conservation and maintenance of the biodiversity in Pirin NP;
- II. Sustainable use of resources;
- III. Information provision;
- IV. Public relations, interpretation and promotion;
- V. Conservation education;
- VI. Coordination of scientific studies and publications;
- VII. Improving the conditions for tourism and the tourist infrastructure;
- VIII. Supporting the development of the adjacent territories;
- IX. Institutional development of the NPD and training;
- X. Applying the legislation and the active statutory base

Some of the planned projects and activities, which are to be implemented directly by NPD employees as a part of their work obligations, are included in p.4.2., "Operational tasks".

The work of the Park Directorate is a main guarantee for the applying of the management plan. For this reason special attention is paid on its development and the increasing of its staff's qualification.

Work plan

A Work Plan, including activities and projects for the first 3 years of the plan's action has been elaborated. It involves the projects of all programs, which should be implemented since the very beginning of the plan's action. Exemplary implementation costs are given for the first year.

REVIEW OF THE FULFILLMENT OF GOALS AND TASKS**Monitoring, reporting**

A review of the goals, set in the national park's management plan, is planned for 2008, based on the permanent monitoring performed by the Park administration and the annual reports. A scheme, pointing out the participants in the review, a list of projects and activities, which should obligatorily be subjected to evaluation, the goals and projects' evaluation criteria, etc. is proposed for this review.

Geographic Information System

A Geographic Information System /GIS/, which can combine 20 GIS layers, is elaborated for the park's territory.

Mapping, annexed to the respective parts of the Management plan

In the management plan are annexed 7 maps in scale 1: 100 000.

Separately, on the basis of the elaborated information GIS-layers, 12 maps in scale 1:25 000 or 1:75 000 are annexed to the plan. For every park region, maps in two copies have been elaborated, which contain the necessary information for the work of the employees.

SCROLLS, annexed to the Pirin NP management plan

SCROLL I: Annexes, described in the text of the management plan – they add to the characteristics and evaluations made and are an indivisible part of the MP. They are annexed on magnetic bearer and a hard copy.

SCROLL II: Statutory documents, letters, statements and minutes of work meetings. They are annexed on magnetic bearer and a hard copy.

SCROLL III: Reports of studies and research, made in the process of elaboration of the MP. They are annexed on a magnetic bearer.

SCROLL IV: Geographic Information System for the territory of Pirin NP, containing: the real geodesic coordinates in meters /coordinate system of 1970/ for the park boundaries and the two reserves, 2 pieces of Digital Model of the Territory on magnetic bearer.

PART: 0

INTRODUCTION

0.1. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE ELABORATION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The main precondition for elaboration of the present Plan is the necessity of contemporary management of the category *national park* in accordance with the European requirements for conservation of a protected area.

0.1.1. Grounds arising from the Protected Areas Act /PAA/:

Art. 55. (1) Management plans shall be developed for protected areas, following conditions and procedures set forth in a regulation approved by the Council of Ministers

(2) The national and nature park management plans shall be developed within a three-year period, and for reserves and maintained reserves, within two years as of their declaration. The management plans shall be updated every 10 years.

PAA SG, issue 133/11.11.98, amended SG, issue 98/99, amended SG, issue 28/04.04.2000, SG, issue 48/13.06.2000, SG, issue 78/26.09.2000.

0.1.2. Grounds arising from the Ordinance for Elaboration of Management Plans for Protected Areas /OEMPPA/:

Art. 4. The management plans shall be developed for an effective period of 10 years and shall be updated after the expiring of this term.

*Regulation # 7 of the Council of Ministers of 8. 02. 2000.
Promulgated, SG, issue 13/15.02.2000*

0.1.3. Grounds arising from the Memorandum of Understanding

between the Swiss Federal Government represented by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria represented by the Ministry of Environment and Water (MoEW) concerning the III Phase of the Bulgarian Swiss Biodiversity Conservation Programme (BSBCP) - 01.01.2002 – 30.06.2004

Strategic goal:

To provide a lasting basis for the conservation of the biodiversity of the Pirin National Park and World Heritage site

Specific objectives:

- 1) Prepare a Management Plan for Pirin and facilitate its approval
- 2) Create conditions and promote support for the implementation of priority activities underlying the Management Plan
- 3) Concrete measures to improve the interaction of the local communities and the general public with Pirin National Park

The MoEW bears the general responsibility for the contents and the approval of the Pirin NP Management Plan. Through NNPS, they are responsible for the allocation of the tasks of elaboration of the MP (Chapter II of the Ordinance, promulgated in SG 13 / 2000), for the approval of the plan's draft version and for submitting it to the Council of Ministers for final adoption...

The Director of the park and his team will be entrusted with the applying of the Plan.”

PIRIN Program Document – Annex IV to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria, 19. 12.2001, amended 11.05.2002

0.1.4. **Grounds arising from the Terms of Reference for the elaboration of the Management Plan for Pirin NP** - approved by the Ministry of Environment and Water according to art. 11 of OEMPPA

A Management Plan for Pirin National Park designated by Order # RD-395/15.10.1999 of the Ministry of Environment and Water (State Gazette, issue 28. of 04.04.2000), should be elaborated.

The subject of the Management Plan for Pirin National Park should be:

- ⇒ The lands, the forests and the aquatic areas in the Park's boundaries, covering a total area of 40 332,4 ha;
- ⇒ The diversity of ecosystems, habitats and species of the flora and the fauna;
- ⇒ The sites and activities related to tourism, to the maintenance and the use of the resources;
- ⇒ The management prescriptions, measures and activities concerning the Park according to the goals set for a period of 10 years.

June 2001

0.2. THE PROCESS OF ELABORATION - PARTICIPANTS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

In the process of elaboration of the Plan 45 experts took part. A core team of consultants was constituted. They combined the data from the research and the previous ones concerning the main parts of the Plan. Advisors from the SDC methodologically guided the integral process of its development as well as Swiss NGOs and experts from the National Nature Protection Service in the MoEW

0.2.1. Participants in the core team that elaborated the Management Plan:

Name	Place of work	Position in the MP development
Landscape arch. Ljudmila Dimitrova	ECO- Innovations Ltd	Leader of the MP and coordinator of the team
Eng. Georgi Gruev	PROLES- Engineering Ltd	Geographic Information System /GIS/
Assoc. prof. Dr. Petar Jeleu	University of Forestry	Flora and vegetation
Eng. Dobromira Dimova	University of Forestry	Flora and vegetation habitats, zoning
Senior assoc. Dr. Christo Delchev	Institute of Zoology, BAS	Invertebrate fauna
Senior assoc. Dr. Vasil Popov	Institute of Zoology, BAS	Vertebrate fauna
Eng. Toma Belev	Directorate of Vitosha Nature Park	Management structure, regimes, norms, regulations
Assoc. prof. Dr. Roumjana Stoilova	Institute of Sociology, BAS	Public information
Simana Markovska	Pirin Tourism Forum	Tourism, recreation, sport, public utility services in the National Park

0.2.2. Foreign experts with international experience in Protected Area Management

Pierre Galland - Switzerland

Peter Hislair - Switzerland

Andrej Bibic - Slovenia

The complete list of participants in the team that elaborated the Management Plan for Pirin National Park is enclosed in SCROLL1, Annex 1.1.

0.2.3. Stakeholders that participated in formulating and taking the decisions in the Plan:

- ⇒ Central authorities
- Ministry of Environment and Water /MoEW/
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry- National Forestry Board /MAF- NFB/

- Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works /MRDPW/
- ⇒ Local and regional authorities
- District Administration Blagoevgrad
- Municipalities of Razlog, Bansko, Gotze Delchev, Sandansky, Strumyani, Kresna, Simitly
- Land redistribution commission Bansko
- Directorate of Pirin National Park
- Regional Forestry Board /RFB/, Blagoevgrad
- State forestry boards
- ⇒ Non-governmental organizations /NGOs/
- Mountain Rescue Service /MRS/
- Bulgarian Tourist Union /BTU/ and tourist associations in the region
- Pirin Tourism Forum /PTF/
- BALKANI Wildlife Society
- University rescue squad
- EKO-OKO
- Slunchev sviat /Sunny world/- Razlog
- Bulgarian Society for Protection of Birds /BSPB/

0.2.4. Workshops and public hearings

In the process of elaboration of the Plan the following workshops and discussions were held:

A workshop on:

Management Plan for Pirin National Park – objectives and peculiarities - Sofia, 03 October 2001

Main goals of the meeting:

- To announce publicly the beginning of elaboration of the MP for Pirin NP;
- To ensure the procedure for active participation of the concerned authorities, organizations and persons in formulation and taking the decisions even during the initial phase of planning;
- To provide the necessary information to the stakeholders connected with the objectives, specific characteristics and purpose of the Management plan for Pirin NP, the legal and normative basis for its elaboration, as well as for the process of its development, discussions and approval.

A workshop on:

Current results from the development of the Management Plan for Pirin NP – Blagoevgrad, 07 March 2002

Main goals of the meeting:

- To announce publicly the results of the stages of development of the Management Plan for Pirin NP;
- To continue the procedure of active participation of the concerned authorities, organizations and persons in formulating and taking the decisions;
- To inform the stakeholders of particular activities, which took place and should be held during the development of the Management Plan for Pirin NP;
- To present “the Information System Concept for Pirin NP”.

A travelling seminar with journalists on:

Elaboration of the Management Plan for Pirin NP – a challenging task – Razlog, 05- 06 July 2002

Main goals of the meeting:

- Work with the media for unified strategy for promoting the Pirin NP;
- Establish contacts with the journalists covering the nature protection and sustainable tourism development for the local and national mass media.

A seminar on: Classification of the habitats in Pirin NP – Bansko, 08 July 2002

Main goals of the meeting:

- Develop unified classification system of habitats in collaboration with the core experts, participating in the Project and Mr. P. Galland;
- Achieve maximum applicability of the MP and its objective and future implementation.

A workshop with the core experts elaborating the MP – Bansko, 09- 10 July 2002:

Main problems discussed in the meeting:

- Consultations with Andrej Bibic – adviser on the MP
- How will the MP meet the requirements of NATURA 2000
- What are the tools to reduce the visitors' pressure /example: Bavarian Forest NP /

A workshop for discussing Sections 1 and 2 of the Management Plan- Sofia, 16. 10. 2002:

Main goals of the meeting:

- Discuss the overall and specific objectives;
- Formulate priority activities in the Management Plan for the 2003-2013 period on the basis of the evaluations, constraints and threats identified by the experts.

Public Information Desks at the municipal centers of Sandanski, Strumyani, Kresna, Simitly, Razlog, Bansko

Main goals:

- Use the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Pirin National Park to present in public the goal and the objectives of the MP once again.

Workshops for defining a concept for zoning the territory of the Pirin NP – Sofia, 11. 11. - 18. 11. 2002

- Carry out a number of meetings with the experts and consultations with the core team, the National Park Directorate, and MoEW to determine the zones and their functions on the basis of the results of the existing evaluations.

Workshop for discussing Part 3 of the Management Plan – Blagoevgrad, 24 January 2003

Main goal of the workshop:

- Acquainting the whole staff of the NPD with the zones, norms and regimes planned in Part 3 of the MP;
- Ensuring the active participation of all NPD employees in the decision-making concerning the future management of the Pirin NP.

Workshop for discussing Part 3 of the Management Plan – MOEW, Sofia, 21 April 2003

Main goal of the workshop:

- Acquainting MoEW, Rila NP, Central Balkan NP and Pirin NP representatives with the zones, norms and regimes planned in Part 3 of the MP.

The data mentioned in point 0.2.3. are annexed in SCROLL 3: Letters, statements and minutes from workshops.

0.3. PURPOSE AND PECULIARITIES OF THE PLAN

- ⇒ Provides the necessary information on the types of habitats, localities and species, which are subjects of European directives.
- ⇒ Resolves the complex tasks for protection of the biodiversity and landscape diversity, as well as the recreation activities.
- ⇒ Develops the database and the geographic information system /GIS/ of Pirin NP.
- ⇒ Identifies the responsible persons for different aspects of the management of the protected area and the zones included.
- ⇒ Determines the regimes and the relevant norms for use of the zones and areas within the park territory.
- ⇒ Determines the priorities and measures for development and use, and the activities for implementation of the prescribed tasks.
- ⇒ Provides the necessary information for applying for funding of priority programs and projects.
- ⇒ Determines the participants, partners and their position in the realization of the Plan.

PART 1

DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION OF THE PARK

GENERAL INFORMATION

1.0. LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES

1.0.1. Location of Pirin NP according to the physical - geographic zoning of Bulgaria.

It belongs to the Rila-Rhodopean region, the subregion of Rila Mt. and Pirin Mt. and the Mesta River basin, the Rila-Pirin region (Geography of Bulgaria, 1997)

According to the administrative division of Republic of Bulgaria the territory of Pirin NP falls within the district Blagoevgrad and in 7 Municipalities: Razlog, Bansko, Gotze Delchev, Sandansky, Strumyani, Kresna and Simitly.

The Blagoevgrad District is in the southwest planning region according to the National Plan for regional development.

Map # 1 shows the park's location within the borders of the Republic of Bulgaria and the country's administrative division.

1.0.2. Boundaries

Map # 2, annexed separately to the Management Plan, shows the park's boundaries and the reserves according to the orders for their designation, the adjacent settlements and other major sites.

The real geodesic coordinates in meters /coordinate system of 1970/ for the park boundaries and the two reserves are annexed to the plan on a magnetic bearer.

GIS - the following layers are generated: park boundaries, adjacent settlements, boundaries of the reserves within the Park, main tourist facilities – chalets, shelters, installations, sport facilities, main peaks with their altitude, national road network around the Park, including IV class roads, main water streams and lakes, the locality of the Pirin National Park Directorate (NPD), boundaries of the park regions and their offices.

1.0.3. Adjacent territories and objects

From the adjacent territories a subject of research to the Plan are the territories bordering with the National Park and the surrounding settlements, which affect it socially, economically, culturally and ecologically.

From the ecological, social and economic point of view the parameters used for determining of their range are dependent on the characteristics of the problems, which result in considerably different in range areas.

- ⇒ Built up areas in the municipalities of: Razlog, Bansko, Gotse Delchev, Sandansky, Strumjani, Kresna and Simitly the development of which influences directly or indirectly the Park;
- ⇒ Priority habitats of protected species;
- ⇒ Objects of cultural and historical heritage;
- ⇒ Traditional places for recreation- places for fairs etc.
- ⇒ Objects and buildings in adjacent territories – summer houses, holiday homes, chalets, fish-breeding ponds, etc.
- ⇒ Territories/ villages located close to Central and Southern Pirin.

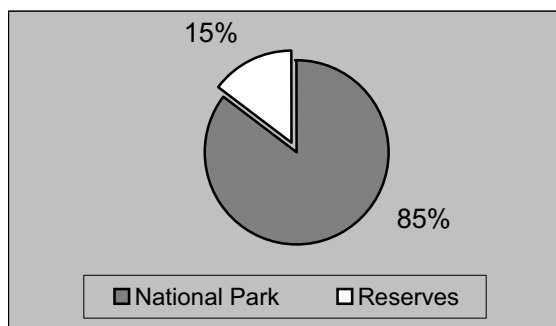
1.1. AREA OF THE PARK AND THE PROTECTED TERRITORIES WITHIN IT

Table 1. Area of the Park and the Protected Areas within it.

No	Name category	Order #	Area according to the Order in ha	Area according to the digital model in ha	% of the NP area	Difference in ha
1.	Pirin National Park	RD-395/15.10.1999 of MoEW	40332,4	40356,0	100,0	+ 23,6
		Forests – 29 999,4 ha				
		High mountain pastures– 10 333,0 ha				
2.	Bajuvi dupki-Djindjiritza Reserve	976/26.12.1979	2873,0	2841,9	7,1	- 31,1
		Forests 2873,0 ha according to Forest Development Project of SF-Razlog from 1978				
3.	Julen Reserve	223/26.08.1994 of MoE	3156,2	3149,9	7,8	- 6,3
		Forests – 2385,0 ha Agricultural lands - 771,2 ha				

Note: The differences in the size of the quoted areas are a result of their more precise measurement on the basis of the used by the Land redistribution commissions compatible digital models.

Fig.1. Percentage ratio of the park's areas with different status according to the PAA



1.2. CADASTRAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AFFILIATION

Table 2.
Distribution of the area by municipalities, settlements and land purposes

Municipality, Settlement	Forest lands according to digital model /ha/	Forest lands according to order /ha/	Agricultu ral lands according to digital model /ha/	Agricultu ral lands according to order /ha/	Total according to digital model /ha/	%
Razlog Municipality	3872.7	4201.4	249.7	248.8	4122.4	10.2
Settlement, town of Razlog	3872.7		249.7		4122.4	10.2
Bansko Municipality	12404.4	12234.0	2355.6	2485.3	14760.0	36.6
Settlement, town of Bansko	8022.3		2210.4		10232.7	25.4
Settlement, Dobrinishte village	2161.6		110.9		2272.5	5.6
Settlement, Obidim village	1339.4		15.1		1354.5	3.4
Settlement, Kremen village	881.1		19.2		900.3	2.2
Gotze Delchev Municipality	1809.4	1501.3	185.5	22.1	1994.9	4.9
Settlement, Breznitsa village	936.3		160.1		1096.4	2.7
Settlement, Kornitsa village	873.1		25.4		898.5	2.2
Sandanski Municipality	6234.1	6231.4	6120.3	6130.8	12354.4	30.7
Settlement, Pirin village	1559.7		2306.7		3866.4	9.6
Settlement, Liljanovo village	2703.9		2166.2		4870.1	12.1
Settlement, G. Sushitza village	229.0		101.9		330.9	0.8
Settlement, Sugarevo village	253.8		22.6		276.4	0.7
Settlement, Plosky village	1487.7		1522.9		3010.6	7.5
Strumjani Municipality	176.7	179.2	0.0	0.0	176.7	0.4
Settlement, Ilindentsi village	176.7		0.0		176.7	0.4
Kresna Municipality	4567.5	4568.5	1443.1	1446.0	6010.6	14.9
Settlement, Stara Kresna village	637.6		33.9		671.5	1.7
Settlement, Vlaha village	3929.9		1409.2		5339.1	13.2
Simitly Municipality	937.0	1083.6	0.0	0.0	937.0	2.3
Settlement, Gradevo village	109.4		0.0		109.4	0.3
Settlement, Senokos village	692.1		0.0		692.1	1.7
Settlement, Brejani village	135.5		0.0		135.5	0.3
Total:	30001.8	29999.4	10354.2	10333.0	40356.0	100.0
%	74.3		25.7		100.0	

Note: The differences in the numbers are a result of the precision of the boundaries of the settlements' territories after combing the digital models of the land redistribution commissions.

On Map # 3 Cadastral and Administrative Affiliation, the distribution of the areas according to the type of land use and the administrative affiliation is shown

1.3. LEGAL STATUS

1.3.1. Development and legal status of the Park till its re-categorization according to the Protected Areas Act

Order # 3074/ 08. 11.1962 of the Forestry Board of the Council of Ministers /CM/ - declaration of Vihren People's Park with an area of 6736 ha,

"...Includes the watersheds of the rivers of Banderitza and Damjanitza, sections 18-54 of the Bansko forestry board with an area of 2908 ha and 3828 ha of the alpine zone of Pirin..."

Order # 3011/ 30. 09.1974 of the Ministry of Forests and Nature Protection - designation of Pirin People's Park with an area of 26413.8 ha:

"...For the conservation of the specific character of the central parts of Pirin mountain massif, where the alpine character, the existing habitats and the endemic and relict plant and animal species are of scientific and cultural value and because of the possibilities for development of national and international tourism, outlined by the approved general principles of the territorial planning of "Ski region Pirin" ...

... The reserves of Bayuvi dupki, Seimen tepe and Malka Dzindziritza must be included within Pirin People's Park, preserving their already defined reserve regime according to the Law on Nature Protection..."

Order # 594/ 03. 03. 1976 of the Ministry of Forests and Nature Protection /MFNP/ - Determining an area of 26479.8 ha of Pirin People's Park

"... Because of the exploitation of recently discovered resources of marble and under art. 22 of the Law on Nature Protection, the following subsections are excluded from the territory of Pirin People's Park: 306-a, b, c, 1, c, g, s- Pirin railway station with a total area of 34.0 ha ..."

Order # 1036/ 17. 11. 1987 of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers – New 12639 ha are included into the territory of People's Park Pirin:

"... of which:

- 1. Forested lands with a total area of 4369,9 ha.*
- 2. Agricultural lands – highland pastures located between the forested lands, included in People's Park with a total area of 8276 ha.*
- III. Excludes from the borders of People's Park Pirin 16,1 ha from:*
 - 1. Dobriniste Forestry board - sections: 36- g (part), 39- b (part), 3 with total area 10,1 ha.*
 - 2. Sandansky Forestry board - sections 177-a with area of 6,0 ha.*

The grazing of domestic animals except goats is allowed within the high mountain pastures"

1.3.2. Legal status of Pirin National Park and the reserves of Bayuvi dupki-Dzindziritza and Julen included in it

By an **Order # 395/ 15. 10. 1999** of the Minister of Environment and Water Pirin People's Park was re-categorized as a National Park according paragraph 2 of the Transitory and concluding regulations of the PAA.

Art. 18. (1) Designated as national parks shall be areas without any settlements within their boundaries and which include natural ecosystems with large diversity of plant and animal species and habitats, with typical and remarkable landscapes and abiotic objects of nature.

(2) The national parks shall be managed for the purpose of:

1. maintenance of the diversity of the ecosystems and wild nature protection;
2. conservation and maintenance of the biological diversity within the ecosystems;
3. providing of opportunities for development of scientific, educational and recreational activities;
4. creation of prerequisites for development of tourism, environmentally friendly livelihood of the population and other activities in harmony with the goals under the preceding items.

Art. 20. The reserves and managed reserves within the national parks shall retain their regimes defined with the declaration orders thereof.

PAA SG, issue 133/11.11.98, amended SG, issue 98/99, amended SG, issue 28/04.04.2000, SG, issue 48/13.06.2000, SG issue 78/26.09.2000.

By a **Governmental Decree # 1388/ 29. 01. 1934** of the Ministry of Agriculture also the state property Bayuvi dupki was declared a reserve. In 1977 the Bayuvi dupki reserve was included in the list of the biosphere reserves of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme.

By an **Order # 976/ 26. 12. 1979** of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers the territories of the Bayuvi dupki and Malka Dzindziritza reserves were enlarged and formed one reserve - *Bayuvi dupki-Dzindziritza* with a total area of 2873 ha.

By an **Order # RD- 223/ 26. 08. 1994** of the Ministry of Environment and Water the reserve Julen with an area of 3156,2 ha was designated on the territory of Bansko municipality.

By an **Order # 225/09.12.1982 of UNESCO**, the Pirin NP was designated as a World Heritage site with an area of 26 423,8 ha.

The historical development and the changes in the boundaries of the park and the reserves in it from its designation to the present moment are illustrated by Map # 4, annexed to the Management Plan.

1.3.3. Legal frames of the Park's Management

The management of the National Park is carried out by the Ministry of Environment and Water /MoEW/. The National Nature Protection Service /NNPS/ with the Ministry plays coordinating and controlling role related to the management of the protected areas.

The direct management and the implementation of the state policy are realized by the Pirin National Park Directorate.

⇒ Other Laws implemented in the management of the National Park:

- *Biodiversity Act* – the National Park Director controls the activity of the owners and users of land, forest and water areas included in the National Ecological Network with respect to the biodiversity conservation; controls the protection of the plant and animal species; maintains BA registers.
- *Hunting and Game Protection Act* – defines methods and means for regulation of the animal species numbers. This act is applied in the NP by the Minister of Environment and Waters.
- *Act on limiting the harmful impact of waste on the environment* – this act does not oblige the NP Director, but the PAA provides that the Director may stop activities, damaging or polluting the environment in the National Park, thus bridging the gap in the regulations of this act.
- *Fishing and Aquatic Cultures Act* – defines methods and means for sport fishing at the places defined by the MP. This act is applied in the NP by the Minister of Environment and Waters.
- *Concessions Act* – right of usage, valid for a 35-year period. The Concessions Act explicitly provides for the possibility of conceding parks with national importance.
- *Medicinal Plants Act* – the way of usage is defined with an ordinance on the rules and requirements for collecting herbs or generic material from medicinal plants, issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.

In Annex, SCROLL II, are enclosed the acts, regulations and other statutory documents, necessary for the management of the Protected Area.

1.3.4. Status of the Park and the reserves included in it according to international legislation, agreements and standards.

The mentioned conventions and European directives are the starting points for determining of the main purposes and measures of the current Management Plan.

International conventions of which Bulgaria is a party and European Directives:

- ⇒ **Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage** - it requires undertaking of general policy for inclusion of the cultural and natural heritage in the public life and for its integration into programs for general planning; establishment of administrations for protection, conservation and evaluation of the cultural and natural heritage, which should be sufficiently staffed and have adequate resources allowing them to realize their purposes; development of scientific and technical research and surveys and improvement of the methods of interference allowing the Country to prevent activities, which endanger its cultural or natural heritage. The State Parties are obliged to undertake the necessary legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures to identify, protect, preserve and regenerate this heritage.
- ⇒ **European Landscape Convention** – each country should: legally define the landscape as a considerable component of the living space of people, as an expression of the diversity of shared by them cultural and natural heritage and a base for their identity; establish and implement a landscape policy, aiming at its protection, management and planning by relevant measures; define and establish procedures for participation of public, local and regional authorities and other concerned parties in the implementation of the policy with respect to the landscape.
- ⇒ **Convention on Biological Diversity** – it requires undertaking special measures for rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems and ensuring the regeneration of endangered species by development and implementation of strategies and management plans. The parties are called to avoid the introduction of alien species, which endanger the ecosystems, habitats and the local ones.
- ⇒ **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora** – it requires protection of some defined species from excessive exploitation by international trade. The countries- members are obliged to undertake special and urgent measures to accomplish these demands.
- ⇒ **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats /Bern/** – it requires undertaking of special measures for ensuring protection of the natural habitats of wild flora and fauna species, as well as for conservation of endangered – facing extinction, natural habitats. The parties are obliged to pay special attention to the protection of regions of importance for the migratory species like wintering, mating, breeding and feeding places.
- ⇒ **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals /Bonn/** – it requires conservation and regeneration of the habitats of the migratory species. The parties to avoid and eliminate the negative influence of activities or obstacles, preventing species' migration.
- ⇒ **Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats of wild fauna and flora** – it aims at ensuring species diversity by protection of the natural habitats, as well as by restoring their optimal status. The Directive underlines the responsibilities of the parties for conservation of priority natural habitats in their natural state. These habitats must be protected in the frames of one integral ecological network, protected areas should be designated and their management plans should be developed and implemented.
- ⇒ **Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds** – the oldest European nature protection directive. It requires measures for protection, maintenance and restoration of the adequate, in terms of diversity and area habitats for all bird species.
- ⇒ **Seville Strategy for Biosphere Reserves, March 1995 – Man and the Biosphere Programme of UNESCO.** Its general guidelines include enhancement of the contribution of biosphere reserves to the practical implementation of the international conventions concerning nature protection and sustainable development and mostly the Convention on Biological Diversity. The biosphere reserves are viewed as investment for the future. They should sustain and generate natural and cultural values by scientifically, culturally, constructively and functionally sustainable management.

The Bayuvi Dupki – Dzhindzhirtza Reserve was designated as a biosphere reserve in 1977. Like the other biosphere reserves in Bulgaria, it does not meet the international criteria for biosphere reserves.

In Annex, SCROLL III: "Reports from studies and researches, carried out in the process of elaboration of the Plan" a report is presented on the Bayuvi dupki – Dzhindzhiritza biosphere reserve.

1.4. OWNERSHIP

1.4.1. Exclusive state property defined by the Constitution of Republic of Bulgaria and the PAA

The property on the territory of the national parks is exceptionally state property, including the terrain where sites and facilities have been constructed regardless of their ownership, i.e. it cannot be disowned or transformed into another kind of property.

Art. 18. (1) The mineral resources, the coastal beaches, the republican roads, as well as the water, the forests and the parks of national importance, the nature reserves and the archaeological reserves defined by law shall be exclusive state property.

Art. 18 of the Constitution of Republic of Bulgaria

1.4.2. Ownership on Facilities in the Park

About 30% of the sites have proper ownership documents.

Table 3. Distribution of the sites in Pirin NP according to the ownership

Kind of the site	State property number	Municipal property number	Physical persons number	Legal bodies acc to the TL number	Legal bodies acc. to the LLBNO number	Total
Chalets					12	12
Hotels	1				3	4
Lifts; rope-ways	1	5		1		7
Vacation homes	3	2		3	1	9
Commercial facilities		1		12	3	16
Summer houses			6	3	1	10
Bungalows	2	7		10	31	50
Ski-runs	1	7				8
Diary farm			1			1
Warehouse					1	1
Picnic site	1					1
Power transformation post	12					12
Parking lot	3					3
Camping site					2	2
Total	25	22	7	29	54	137

1.4.3. Legal status of the existing land use rights for construction of facilities and use of natural resources

Art. 50. In observation of their powers, the directors of the regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water shall, within the territory of their regions: control the activities of owners or users of forests, lands and aquatic areas;

Existing rights for use of buildings:

- The biggest share of a site owner on the territory of the Pirin NP belongs to the company ULEN: with Decree № 514/03.07.2001 the company has received a concession for 30 years on exclusive state property for “Ski zone with center Bansko”. The conceded area is 99,55 ha.
- The second biggest owner of sites on the territory of the Pirin NP is the Bulgarian Tourist Society (BTS): the sites are managed by local BTS structures. The Pirin NPD has not received yet the necessary documents for the legalization of these sites.
- Third come the sites owned by legal persons according to the Trade Act: according to the available data these sites are managed personally by their owners. The ownership and usage mode documentation has not been provided to the Pirin NPD.
- Facilities that are municipal property – they represent private communal property, as more of them are for rent. The relevant contracts are not made directly available to the Pirin NP Directorate, and there is no actual information about the rights and the obligations of the renters.
- State owned facilities. The relevant data are not made directly available to the Pirin NP Directorate, as well as no information is available to it on the state structure to which the rights are delegated to manage the facilities and how to manage them.

In SCROLL 1, Annex 1.2. List of the sites on the territory of the Park with data about the existing use rights is annexed.

Illegal construction and sites – according to § 14 of the PAA, the illegal buildings in the PA as defined by the PAA or in the water supply zones should be obligatorily removed and the terrain should be re-cultivated at the expense of the violator. Buildings or parts of constructions in protected areas or water supply zones established without a permit or in contradiction with the approved projects and the other construction documents or violating the Protected Areas Act, should not be legalized.

Art § 15. entrusts the Minister of Environment and Water, The Minister of Finance and the mayors of municipalities with the implementation of this Act.

Possibility for granting concessions - the Concessions Act provides a possibility for using the NP resources through granting concessions for 35-year period. The order of granting a concession is the following: a decision of the Council of Ministers for granting the concession is adopted, a competition or tender is organized or the concessionaire is defined without a tender or competition in the cases, specified by the law, after which one of the ministers and the chosen concessionaire conclude a concession contract. However, the Act explicitly prohibits granting of concessions in cases of danger for the environment or the protected areas. In order to judge if such a danger exists, an ecological analysis of the concession is prepared for the adoption of the CM decision. The Act also provides for the possibility of changing the concession contract clauses, as well as its pre-term termination on condition that a danger for the environment or the protected areas arises. The concession possibilities, provided by the Act are limited with a view to the protection of the environment and the preventing of an unreasonable use of the national park resources.

1.5. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

1.5.1. The management of Pirin NP - a historical review.

During the period 1980- 1995 Pirin People's Park was the only Protected Area, which possessed an independent and acting on the entire area administration which managed to gain enough experience and to establish itself as a competent authority accepted by the local municipalities.

Created by the Order of MFFI 54- 25/ 19. 12. 1979, the Park Administration has undergone different transformations, including considerable changes in staff number and duties.

The last Park Development Project for Pirin NP of 1993 offers a model structure including 1 director, 2 chief engineers, 6 chiefs of administrative and technical sections /ATS/, 6 foresters, 6 assistant foresters, 39 forest rangers, 5 workers, information and design specialists, 12 employees in visitors centers, 2 – in the Park museum, 6 research workers, 3 accountants, a secretary, a specialist "Labor and Salaries", 2 logistics and a lawyer. This structure comprises staff of 92 persons and is recommendable in an independent management of the territory.

1.5.2. Organizational structure and administration

⇒ Total number of the staff and its division by positions of equal functions

According to the results of the studies performed in September 2001 the administration of Pirin NP includes 41 full-time employees, of which 13 are civil servants/state officials. The levels of subordination are shown in point 1.5.2.2. This administrative structure corresponds to the philosophy of the PAA and the legal regulations for its implementation. All the activities for management of the natural resources and the tourist services are contracted for management by the park administration to different business entities. There is part time staff hired on temporary contracts by the park administration, of which 4 additional park-guards and 9 fire prevention staff.

⇒ According to **the educational background** the permanent staff includes 16 people with master degrees and 25 high-school graduates.

Table 4. Presents administrative and territorial dividing of the Park

Park region	Area ha	Park guard specialists Number	Average area of a guard section ha	Address	Phone/ fax
1. Vihren	9807,0	6	1634,5	4 "Bulgaria" Str. 2770 Bansko	07443-82-04
2. Kamenitza	12 352,4	4	3088,0	A Base for Erosion Control 2800 Sandanski	0746-21-629
3. Bajuvi dupki	4842,1	3	1614,0	1 "Stephan Stambolov" St. 2760 Razlog	0747-23-64
4. Bezbog	6445,5	4	1611,0	State Forestry 2777 Dobrinishte	07447-32-06
5. Sinanitza	6885,4	3	2295,0	State Forestry Kresna	07433-35-42

The average guarding area for a guard specialist is 1948,0 ha (the total warded area being 40 931,1 ha and the total number of guards – 21).

Every park region is managed by a chief inspector, which is the head of the guard specialists. To the Park region Sinanitza is joined the Tisata guarding region with an area of 575,1 ha, including the reserve with the same name guarded by 1 employee.

Fig. 2. Functional structure of the Pirin NP Directorate. Organizational relations and the staff subordination relations at the different levels.

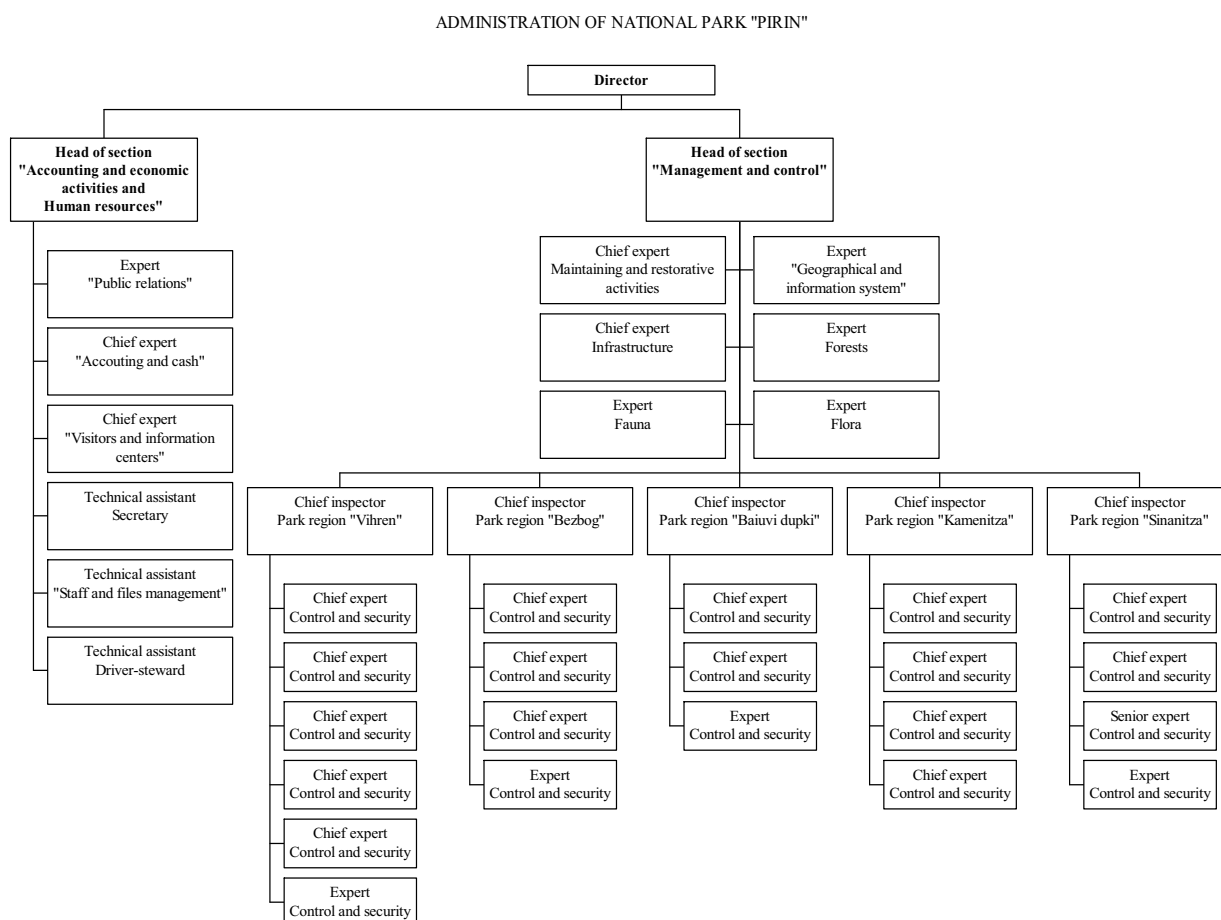


Table 5. Staff – main functions of the different positions

POSITION	MAIN FUNCTIONS
Head of <i>Accounting and economic activities and Human Resources Department</i>	Organizes, controls and is responsible for the accounting and financial activities of the Directorate and performs internal financial control.
Head of <i>Management and Control Department</i>	Plans, organizes and controls the general guarding operations on the territory of the Park, the safety and fire-prevention activities on the territory of the NP and the regional divisions.
Chief Inspector	Organizes and carries out the guarding activities. Represents the Park Directorate on a local level.
Experts <i>Control and security</i>	Follow the keeping of the regime in the protected areas, defined by the Order for their declaration and by the MP. Accompany visitor groups. Perform activities related to the monitoring of the qualities of the

	components of the environment.
Chief Expert <i>Maintenance and regeneration/restoration activities</i>	Plans, organizes and controls the execution of activities, related to the realization of maintenance, regeneration and other activities on the Park territory. Prepares vision-papers, plans and projects and sends them for approval following the defined administrative order.
Chief Expert <i>Geographic information system /GIS/</i>	Responsible for developing, maintaining and updating of the GIS and the web site of the Park. Participates in the training of the staff on GIS.
Chief Expert <i>Infrastructure</i>	Responsible for the planning and carrying out of the bids. Controls the making and positioning of the tourist and other infrastructure.
Junior Expert <i>Forests</i>	Provides methodological guidance in organizing and carrying out of specific activities in the NP with priority on the protection of the biodiversity and the landscape. Supports the preparation of the relevant documentation.
Junior Expert <i>Fauna</i>	Develops programs and plans for protection of the animal species of high nature conservation value in the Park. Controls the activities concerning the diversity of the animal species in the Park. Monitors the viability of the animal populations with a special accent on the critical and the indicator species.
Junior Expert <i>Flora</i>	Develops programs and plans for protection of the plant species of high nature conservation value in the Park. Performs quantitative determination of the resources of the medicinal plants and forest fruit species, allowed for collection, performs quantitative determination of the capacity of the pastures and the number of the grazing livestock on the territory of the relevant park regions.
Junior Expert <i>Public Relations</i>	Develops public awareness programs about the Park and the activities in it. Develops tools for environmental education of the residents living in neighborhood of the Park.
Chief Specialist <i>Accounting and cash</i>	Performs cash operations on the basis of preliminarily prepared debit and credit documents. Keeps the cash – book, takes, keeps and provides cash and securities. Responsible for the ready cash. Collects the taxes for use in the Park. Accounts the passes and the transport and fuel consumption documents. Makes statistical reports for salaries and long-lived tangible assets.
Technical assistant <i>Staff and files management</i>	Maintains and keeps the log-books and the personal files, advises the employees about their rights and duties. Registers the official and the internal correspondence.
Technical assistant <i>Driver and logistics</i>	Keeps the park car in good working order. Drives the staff towards the places of their work. Helps in delivering the materials necessary for the work of the Directorate. Participates in the activities in extreme situations like terrain checks up, natural disasters and accidents.

In Annex, SCROLL III: "Reports from the studies and researches, carried out in the process of elaboration of the Plan", the terms of references of the staff are described.

1.5.3. Material and technical provision /2003/

⇒ Buildings

- *The Pirin NP Directorate* possesses a solid administrative building in the town of Bansko, a farm building, adjacent to the main one and additional land also adjacent to the main building with an area of 1,5 decares and the right for construction;
- For the needs of the *Vihren Park region /PR/* a two storey bungalow is constructed within the boundaries of the Park, near the Bansko access point. It executes the functions of a regional office;

- The administration of the *Bayuvi dupki PR* is situated in a rented room in the old building of the Razlog municipality. For the needs of the region a bungalow is purchased. It is necessary as support point and it is situated in the Betalovoto site;
 - The administration of the *Kamenitza PR* is situated in two rented room in the building of the Service for anti-erosion operations in Sandanski;
 - The administration of the *Bezbog PR* is situated in a rented room in the building of the State Forestry Board in the village of Dobrinishte. For the needs of the region a bungalow is purchased. It is necessary as a support point and it will be situated in the region of Gotse Delchev chalet;
 - For the needs of *Sinanitza PR* a bungalow is constructed in the town of Kresna, on land let free of charge. It is expected to perform the functions of a regional office. The bungalow doesn't suit to the needs and the park region is situated in a rented room in the Kresna State Forestry Board. A bungalow owned by the park is used as a support point for the needs of the region. It is situated in the Varbite site.
- ⇒ Existing technical equipment
- The Directorate is provided with 4 four-wheel drive vehicles - UAZ (9- places), 4 Lada Niva (1 of them should be discarded), 12 motorbikes, 1 KAMAZ heavy truck and other tangible assets;
 - The individual communication between the Park personnel is realized by mobile phones – only the park guards and the chief inspectors are equipped;
 - A computer network is established in the buildings of the headquarters;

In SCROLL 1, Annex 1.3. is presented the Existing material and technical provision of the NP Directorate as of the end of the year 2000.

- ⇒ Fires prevention
- A specialized for steep and hardly accessible forest terrains and light for carrying equipment is bought- 4 water pumps and pipes will be immediately used when there is a signal for fire.

1.5.4. Other state, municipal and public organizations which implement functions on the territory of the Park

Table 6. Partner organizations and their functions on the territory of the park

PARTNER ORGANIZATION	FUNCTIONS
Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water Blagoevgrad and the laboratory complex of the Executive Agency of Environment – Sofia	Monitoring of the components of the environment
Regional units of the MI /Ministry of Interior/	Guarding of the park territory and its resources
Regional Emergency and Security Services	Fires prevention and fire management
Blue Link Foundation	Provides Internet information concerning the NP
Bulgarian Tourist Union	Maintaining of the tourist chalets and shelters and helps in the maintenance of the tourist marking and cleaning of the regions around the tourist chalets
Mountain Rescue Service with the Bulgarian Red Cross Organization	Prevention and protection of the health and live of the visitors in the Park
BALKANI Wildlife Society	Monitoring on the status of the populations of the large carnivores in the Park – wolf, bear, and carrying out ecological educational programs for the role and the protection of the large carnivores
Bulgarian Biodiversity Preservation Society SEMPERVIVA	Protection of ancient local breeds of domestic animals in the region of Kresna
Bulgarian Association Mountains and People in collaboration with the Odyssea - IN company	Training of mountain guides in the region of the Park
Pirin Tourism Forum - association of the municipalities in the region	Promotion of the Park and the region, education of the private owners for tourist activities, making an

	inventory of the tourist resources in the region and preparation of tourist products related to the wild nature, the local crafts and products
Wild Flora and Fauna Fund in Blagoevgrad	Organizes educational activities in the settlements around the Park aiming at the protection of the biodiversity and protection of some species of birds of prey
Wilderness Fund	Realizes educational campaigns in the region of the Park and research activities related to the wild nature and the large carnivores conservation and the development of ecological and village tourism.
Local organizations – Eco-Okò - Gotse Delchev, Eco-Team - Bansko, Sunny world – Razlog, Community Center Slovo – the village of Petrovo, the Otez Paisii Primary School - Bansko and the Technical School of Farming - Sandansky	Environmental education programs among the young people and the local population
BALKANI Wildlife Society, For the Earth, IEEC, Green Balkans, BSPB and 29 other ecological NGOs	Campaigns aiming at the nature protection in the Park on a national level

1.5.5. Financing – Table 7. shows the costs of NP Directorate per funding sources reported for the period of 1999-2002

Table # 7
Costs per funding sources reported for the period of 1999-2002

Years	Staff Number incl. staff according to Council of Ministers' decree 66/96	COSTS:										FUNDING SOURCES:			
		Salaries, additional pays and social security	Business trips	Training and seminars	Running costs (phone, rents, transport, consulting services, clothing, stationery, taxes, insurances, etc.)	Fuel and lubricating material, electricity, heating	Costs for repair of vehicles and office equipment	Costs according to the Activities Plans	Capital expenditure (major repairs, new constructions, equipment purchases, etc.)	Costs total:	State budget	NEF	BSBCP	Total	
1999	21	170986	3630		30445	12033	3781	16259	8166	245300		245300	-	245300	
2000	41	153561	4876		59493	23532	5048	170075	56402	472987	237242	235745	-	235745	
2001	44	202177	4025		53425	39372	11534	100382	107573	518488	373599	144889	-	144889	
2002	44	245050	8304	1280	53604	41956	14460	171403	231913	767970	522797	233175	11998	767970	

1.6. EXISTING PROJECTS

1.6.3. Projects approved during the last 15 years and related to the construction, resources use and other activities on the Park's territory

Territorial development plans of the municipalities: a special attention is paid to the possibilities for establishment of a North Pirin tourist region on the basis of the “*rich recreation resources*”, which are underused and underdeveloped because of the poor transport communications. The perspectives for development of the accommodation are defined. The trends for organization of public services in already constructed buildings and the harmonious construction of new buildings by keeping of large green areas are determined.

Strategies for development of the municipalities on the territory of Pirin NP – developed and approved in accordance with the demands of the National plan for regional development for the 2000-2006 period. The defined mission of the municipality administrations is – to ensure conditions for social, economical and cultural development in favor of attraction of foreign investments and improvement of the living standards of the population.

⇒ Priority areas for the municipalities are:

- Preservation and increasing the human potential
- Improvement of the social status of the population
- Protection of the ecological balance
- Reformation of the local government by innovation practices
- Economic development through encouraging of small and middle enterprises
- Rehabilitation of the agriculture
- Conservation and restoration of the historical monuments
- Preservation and development of the traditional culture
- Construction of a modern dump for household solid wastes
- Organizing the settlements and improvement and optimization of the road network

⇒ Structural Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats analysis (SWOT) of municipalities

Strengths:

- Favorable climate and beautiful nature, rich in resources

Weaknesses:

- Migratory processes
 - The region is not popular amongst foreign investors
 - Insufficient municipal subsidies from the state budget
 - Relatively poor population and high rate of unemployment
- ⇒ Environment
- Regeneration measures for the cut down forest areas
 - Implementation of management programs for the household solid wastes
- ⇒ Agriculture
- Support for development of private farms equipped by modern technologies
 - Rehabilitation and construction of irrigation system
 - Encouraging the development of herbs and mushrooms cultivation
 - Encouraging of the greenhouses on the basis of existing thermal springs.
- ⇒ Tourism
- Attracting the investments in the tourism
 - Improvement of the material and technical base and the quality of the services;
 - Development of information centers.

Regional plans for development of Blagoevgrad District

Main objectives:

- Development of alternative branches of the district economy where natural preconditions exist – spa resorts and tourism, environmentally sound energy;
- Development of trans-boundary cooperation;
- Development and improvement of the transport communications and the public services.

Sociological polls of public opinion for environment conservation and economic use of Pirin

The objective of the study is:

- The attitude of the population of the country and Blagoevgrad district towards the Project for Statute of Pirin NP
- Construction of the Mesta cascade
- Evaluation of the ecological awareness of the population

On the basis of the sociological study presented, the following recommendations are made:

- The construction of the Mesta cascade will bluntly disrupt the ecological equilibrium of Pirin Mountain.
- The boundaries of Pirin NP are close to the optimal. Changes shouldn't target decreasing of the area of the Park.
- The administration and management of the Park must be assigned to the state authority of environment and the local municipal administrations.
- The activities on the territory of the Park and the mountain have to be orientated towards environmentally sound use.

Park Development Project for Pirin People's Park

Objectives and principles:

- The conservation objectives are of priority and the area is viewed as a II category according to the criteria and the regimes of the national park
- The People's park has scientific, educational, recreation and tourist functions
- For the long-term conservation of the ecosystems and their genetic pool reserves are declared, as well as for protection of the greatest biodiversity
- Main and supplementary information centers are to be developed

Projects concerning the Ski zone with center the town of Bansko

⇒ Territorial development studies (October, 1998) – AgrolesProekt, Ltd – Sofia; Investor: Bansko municipality.

The investigations of the authors concluded the following:

- The tourism became a leading branch of the local economy;
- The development of the winter tourism related to the skiing has no alternative as a source of incomes and working places in the near future;
- The number of beds in the town is assessed to 5000 beds. It is accepted that 70-80% of them should be skiers. Because the capacity of the existing ski runs is 2000- 2200 skiers, hence shortage of tracks for 1500- 2000 skiers was registered;
- The main reason for the inadequate use of the mountain during the winter is the lack of public transport to the ski zone and the inconvenient technical parameters of the Bansko-Shiligarnika road for winter conditions. The parking lot has no capacity to cover the peak hours;
- The rope-ways system not finalized and linked;
- There is no lift to service the tourist and the skiers' flow from the town.

The project includes the following decisions:

- Cabin lift connecting Bansko and the Shiligarnika site with a capacity of 1500 persons per hour;
- Chair lift connecting the Shiligarnika site with the Banderishka poljana site with a capacity 500 person per hour.
- Chair lift Shiligarnika-Platoto with a capacity of 900 persons per hour
- Ski run Platoto- Shiligarnika with a capacity of 427 persons per hour
- Rope-way Balkaniada – capacity of 800 persons per hour
- Enlargement of the ski run Starata pista – the capacity is increased by 20 skiers and becomes total of 243 skiers
- Rope-way Platoto – capacity of 900 persons per hour
- Ski run Platoto – capacity of 235 persons per hour. The run should be traced south of the existing rope-way and it is an extension of the existing ski run
- Children ski run and rope-way in the Shiligarnika site
- Ski run Todorka peak-Banderishka poljana – with a capacity of 319 skiers
- Chair lift Banderishka polyana-Todorka peak – with a capacity of 900 persons per hour
- Proposal for safety improvement measures of the upper part of the ski run Tsrna mogila.

- ⇒ General urban development plan of the ski zone with center the town of Bansko (1999) – Final project. Investor: Julen Corporation.
- ⇒ Park development project (1999), AgrolesProekt Ltd, Draft project. Investor: Bansko municipality
- ⇒ Territorial development plan of tourist and ski zone with center the town of Bansko (November, 2000) – Final project. Investor: Julen Corporation.

Changes following the recommendations of the records of the Higher Expert Council of 20. 07. 1999 for enforcement of the Order RD-02-14-1353/ 13. 07. 1999 of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

- An additional investigation of the territories adjacent to Bansko to the south has been made to get principal permission for changes in the status of some of the agricultural lands adjacent to the urban border and including a 100 m wide strip of land along the future east-west ring-road and south of the Motikata restaurant within the boundaries of Pirin NP.
- The recommendation to develop the lower cabin lift station as a multifunctional complex (information facilities, primary health care center, commercial complex, a catering public complex, cultural and entertainment center, service center) has been realized. The constructions part of the site is 1200 m² and the total built up area is 2500 m².
- The project proposes a new connection between Ikrishchanska poljana site, Shiligarnika site and Banderishka polyana site by a tourist trail, long 1400 m and with an area of 0.99 ha.
- Corrections of the new ski run in the region of Platoto. The run is situated to the south of the existing rope-way and is an extension of the existing ski run.
- According to the building decisions each zone has clearly defined boundaries and parameters. These zones have no status of urban formations.
- It is declared that there will be no facilities controversial to the purposes defined by the acting legislation (PAA) and changes in the status of the existing facilities are not necessary.

The recommendations from the records of the Higher Expert Council of 19. 07. 2000 in consequence of art. 20, par. 1, p.1 of Regulation 4/98 for Environmental Impact Assessment /EIA/

- The trails of the ski runs Banderitza and Shiligarnika underwent correction
- The trails and parts of trails of existing ski runs were dropped out
- The length and the final part of the ski run Tsrna mogila underwent correction
- The Children ski run underwent correction
- Reforestation of the dropped out sections of the ski runs Chalin valog-west, Todorka and Starata pista is envisaged
- The newly planned parking places were dropped out
- It is declared that the revised plan doesn't provide increasing of the accommodation within the Park. Only refurbishment of the existing buildings is acceptable.
- It is declared that the capacity of the ski runs and facilities is based on the economic potential of Bansko and its reconstitution with the priority of tourism as an alternative of the ineffective industrial development. This capacity takes also into account the permissible anthropogenic pressure on nature and environment.
- It is recommended that the number of the beds in Bansko for serving the tourist flow should not exceed 7800;
- The proposal for management of the territory by concession was dropped out.

The recommendations under the Annex to the record of the HEC are the following:

- The territorial development plan shows the obligatory conditions, restrictions and recommendations concerning the ski runs and the ski paths, the chair lifts and rope ways and the built up zones.
- The project doesn't envisage creation of a holiday village in the Banderishka polyana site.
- The existing 10 bungalows in the region of the upper station of the lift shall not be removed.

The Ministry of Environment and Water does not approve the requirements, which are indicated as fulfilled. By note # 26-00-10751 from 22.01.2001, signed by Minister Maneva, the above materials are not approved and actions cannot be undertaken for making the Resolution # 57-13/ 2000 of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) effective. In the closing part of the note addressed to the stakeholders it is said

that after the elaboration of the management plan for Pirin NP and according to its decisions measures will be undertaken for changing the territorial development plan.

Other projects

- ⇒ Projects for the water supply infrastructure of the Park and the adjacent zone.
- ⇒ Building and regulation plans concerning the zone adjacent to the Park:
 - General urban plan for the resort and tourist locality Predel
 - Construction and regulation plan of the resort Popovi livadi
 - Cadastral plan of the sites Popina laka and Tourichka cherkva
 - Construction and regulation plan of the summer houses in the place Varbite, town of Kresna
- ⇒ Forest development projects for the State forestry boards in the zone adjacent to Pirin National park for the last 10- years' revision period.
- ⇒ Investigation of the potential for economic development of the municipality of Gotse Deltchev – under the Project Jobs Opportunities by business support (JOBS), Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, UNDP
- ⇒ Developments and programs related to the regional development and tourism connected with the occurrence of the Park
 - Investigation of the tourist development of municipalities Bansko and Razlog. UNDP in Bulgaria, 1996
 - Management plan for the environment of the resorts zones BANSKO and BOROVIK – Program PHARE - MOEW, 1996
 - Strategy for development of the tourism in the municipality Gotse Delchev and the region
 - Municipal program for proposing projects for funding by the European Union – Sandanski municipality

In SCROLL 1, Annex 1.4. the described projects are presented by summarized information concerning their objectives and contents.

1.7. EXISTING FUNCTIONAL ZONING AND REGIMES

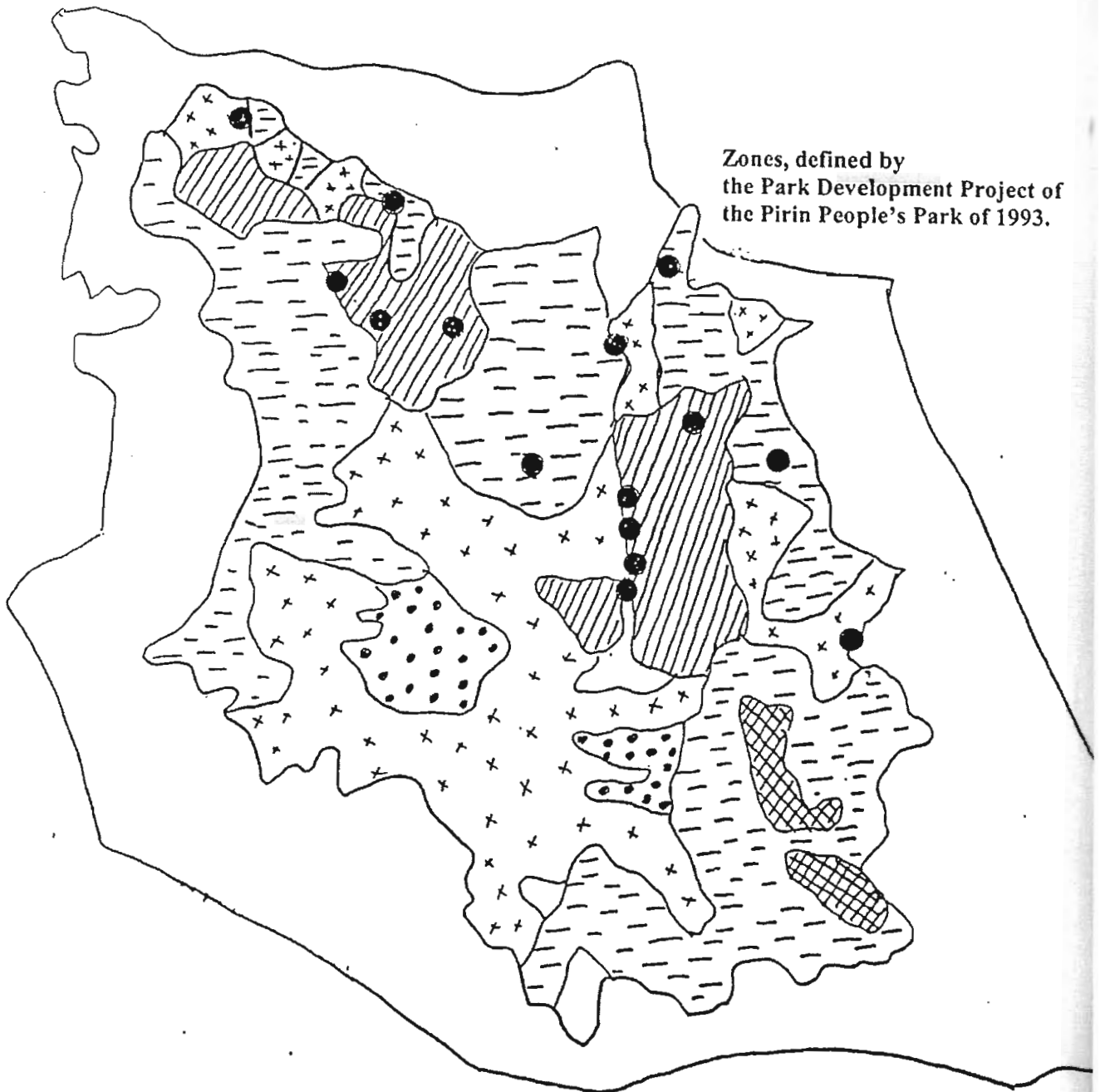
1.7.1. Functional purpose and regimes of the zones defined by the Park Development Project for Pirin People's Park of 1993

Table 8. Zones, regimes and norms, defined by the Park Development Project of the Pirin People's Park of 1993.




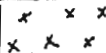
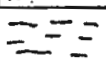
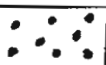
Main zones	Area ha	% of the total park area	Regimes
1. Territories of strict protection regime – include the reserves	6092,8	16,0	Reserve regime
2. Territories with temporary regime of strict protection – defined in the alpine and sub alpine zones	1178,8	3,1	A ten-year period of reserve regime is determined and it could be changed only in extreme situations: fires, calamities, mass wind-throws
3. Territories with managed regime:	30 901,7	80,9	
3.1. Protected areas maintaining their existing status – includes the announced by the Order natural monuments, historical places and old trees	51,1	0,2	
3.2. Territories with functions of protection – includes areas with water supply functions	3182,5	10,3	In some of them sections are defined where limited grazing is permitted
3.3. Territories with recreation and tourist functions of the natural landscape – defined in the regions with already developed accommodation, sports equipment, and traditional tourist itineraries	15988,6	51,7	The traditional character of the skiing zone Bansko is maintained as an object of mass sport. The development of new skiing runs is not permitted.
3.4. Territories with traditional regime of agricultural use – include the terrains of the highland pastures	2333,6	7,6	The grazing is allowed
Additional zones	Range and regimes		
Park buffer zone	Includes the adjacent areas bordering the People's Park		
Transition zone	Includes the neighboring territories, which are economically and socially related to the Park. The regime of this zone is recommendable and includes the demands for sustainable use and development.		

1.7.2. Established violations of the regimes

- ⇒ Poacher felling near the northwestern border of the biosphere Bajuvi dupki-Djindjiritza reserve. In these places the biosphere reserve borders the Razlog SFB.
- ⇒ The sanitary and water-protection zones and the requirements for them for catchments and reservoirs are not respected in a lot of places.
- ⇒ Trespassing by cars and illegal parking in the region of Picknika place, Banderitza and Vihren chalets are registered
- ⇒ Construction in the Bezbog PR.



Zones, defined by the Park Development Project of the Pirin People's Park of 1993.

Main zones		Area /ha/	% of the total park area
	Territories of strict protection regime	6092,8	16,0
	Territories with temporary regime of strict Protection	1178,8	3,1
	Natural monuments, historical places and old trees	51,1	0,2
	Sanitary protection zones	3182,5	10,3
	Territories with recreation and tourist functions	15988,6	51,7
	Territories with traditional regime of agricultural use	2333,6	7,6
	Park buffer zone		

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ABIOTIC FEATURES

1.8. CLIMATE

1.8.1. Factors, forming the local climate

⇒ Location of the Park according to the climatic zoning of Bulgaria

The territory of Pirin NP is situated on three different in their characteristics climatic regions (St. Stanev, 1991).

Maleshevsko-Pirin low mountain sub-region - the southern section of the Park with altitudes up to 1000 m is situated there.

The sub-region along the Mesta river valley - the eastern and some of the northern slopes of the mountain with an altitude up to 1000 m are situated here.

Mountain climatic sub-region – including the central part of Pirin Mt where the National Park is located and the altitude there is above 1000 m.

⇒ Impact of the continental and the Mediterranean climate on the formation of the local climate

Pirin Mountain belongs to the continental-Mediterranean climatic zone where the frequent and abundant rainfalls are characteristic. The character of the climate is defined mostly by the Mediterranean cyclones. They appear most frequently in the late autumn and winter. The summer here is very often under the influence of the “Azores maximum” and that’s why it is dry and hot.

⇒ Impact of the relief on the climate of the Park

- The low mountain zone with an altitude of 600- 1000 m covers about 16% of the total area of the mountain;

- The middle mountain zone with an altitude of 1000- 1800 m covers about 40% of the area;

- The high mountain zone with an altitude above 1800 m covers about 44% of the total area of Pirin Mt.

The main climate characteristics for the whole mountain are lowering of the temperature with increasing of the altitude and increase of the quantity of rainfalls. The drop in the temperature following the increasing of the altitude is better outlined during the summer and that is the reason for smaller annual amplitudes of the temperature in comparison to this tendency in the valleys situated near by.

1.8.2. Elements of the climate

The numeral values of the characteristics are defined by the data from observations made in total of 16 rainfall measuring and meteorological stations. Among them only 5 are located within the borders of Pirin NP and 1 of them is meteorological. 11 stations are positioned out of the Park but in the same climatic region.

⇒ Air temperature

The annual temperature varies within the ranges of about 9-10°C in the low mountain zone, 5-7°C in the middle mountain zone and within 2-3°C in the highest parts of the mountain (Bansko – 9.3°C, Popina laka – 7.1°C, Vihren chalet – 3.5°C).

The coldest month is January with an average temperature of about – 2°C to – 5°C.

The hottest month is July - the average monthly maximum temperatures in July and August are almost equal and are about 20°C at the altitude of 1600 m and about 15°C at the altitude of 2000 m..

The monthly amplitude (the difference between the average monthly maximal and minimal temperatures) is characterized by small seasonal variation in comparison to this one in the lower parts. The free atmosphere in altitude and the inclination of the terrain are the factors, which prevent the considerable overheating of the air during the day and the significant drop in its temperature while becomes lower in the night.

The annual course of the temperature amplitude is with minimum during December and January (when the cloudiness is the greatest) and maximum in July and August (when the cloudiness is the lowest).

In about 75% of the winter days inversions in the air temperature up to the altitude of 2000 m are observed.

⇒ Rainfall

The annual rainfalls vary in the range of 600-700 mm in the low mountain to 1000-1200 mm in the highest zones. Greater portion of the rainfalls in the winter is of snow as in the altitude up to 1000 m the solid falls are about 70- 90% of the total rainfall quantity and in the highest zones they reach 100% of the total rainfall quantity.

Table 9. Average annual rainfall measured in the meteorological and rainfall measuring stations in Pirin Mountain during the 1936-2000 period

Stations	Altitude in m	Average annual rainfall in mm
Kresna	180	470
Gotze Delchev	508	593
Papaz chair *	1400	721
v. Gradevo	466	668
Bansko	936	577
Razlog	780	550
Predel	1142	876
Popina laka *	1203	685
Gotze Delchev hut *	1600	676
Damjanitza *	1894	1003
Vihren *	1970	1050

* rainfall measurement stations situated in Pirin NP

The most abundant are the rainfalls in the winter and the beginning of the spring and the summer (mostly its second half) is the season with the lowest rainfalls.

The annual rainfall amplitude is lesser than the one in the other mountains. The average maximum rainfalls are 30- 50 mm.

⇒ Air humidity

The air is the driest during the summer (August) - from 60 to 75% with the change of the altitude. Maximum monthly values are observed in December (in some places in November) and are about 80 to 85%.

⇒ Snow cover

The average *number of the days with snow-cover* varies from 20-30 in the lowest zones of the mountain to 120-160 days in the highest zones.

The average thickness of the snow cover varies in wide ranges. The maximum snow thickness is:

- In lower parts (with an altitude 700-800 m) is during January – 10-13 cm;
- For the altitudes of 1000-1800 m is in February – about 40-60 cm;
- Above 1800 m it is at the end of March-beginning of April - about 140-160 cm (Vihren – 190 cm).

In some winters the maximum snow cover could reach 250-350 cm.

⇒ Wind

During the spring the prevalent direction is W-NW but the frequency of the south winds becomes more prominent. In the summer the north-west winds become stronger and they predominate along the mountain peaks. In this season also a mountain valley circulation appears.

In the beginning of the autumn the winds are still as in the summer but in the middle of the season the north-east winds become occasional.

The greatest wind velocity is during the February-March period and is the least in August-September. The average monthly wind velocity reaches 10 m/s and even more. At the same time in the orographically closed relief forms it is about 1 m/s (Bansko 0.8 m/s). In the summer and autumn the number of the quiet days raises to 30-40% in the lower zones of the mountain and to 10-15% in higher ones. In the highest ones during the entire year the days of quiet weather are about 5-7%.

⇒ Sun shining

The maximum of the monthly sun shining duration coincides with the minimum of the cloudiness in August and it is 220-240 h.

The annual amplitude of the sun shining duration is lesser in higher parts of the mountain 130- 150 h in comparison with this one in the lower zones (to 1000 m), where it is about 180- 200 h. That is due to increase of the sun shining duration in winter and its decreasing in the summer.

Table 10.

Temperature conditions during the vegetation period

	Average starting date of air temperature transition of more than 10°C	Average end date of stable air temperature above 10 °C	Period with constant retention of the air temperature above 10°C
Low mountain zone with an altitude of 600- 1000 m	25 April	15 October	173
Middle mountain zone with an altitude of 1000- 1800 m	05 May	5 October	153
High mountain zone with an altitude above 1800	21 June	29 August	69

1.9. GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

1.9.1. Geological structure, morphological structures and morphometry

1.9.1.1. Main morphological structures and rock formations composing them

Pirin Mountain as a morphological unit represents a complex horst high mountain structure, rising in the middle part of the Rila-Rhodopes massif between the graben valleys of the Struma and Mesta Rivers. The main orographic and hydrographic ridge stretches from northwest to south – southeast and lies closer to the northeastern parts of the mountain. Pirin is divided from Rila by Predel saddle (1140 m) and in the south it ends at the Parilaska saddle (1170 m), which divides it from the border mountains Slavianka and Stargach. In morphographic aspect Pirin Mountain is divided into three parts: Northern, Middle and Southern.

The Pirin National Park covers the high elevation areas in its northern part, which is distinguished by well-developed alpine relief.

- ⇒ In morphological aspect two parts are differentiated here: *northern part* – sharp, marble Vihren ridge (including Vihren peak – 2915 m, Kutelo – 2908 m, Banski and Razlozhki Suhodol), along the eastern slope of which the deep and waterless cirques Banski Suhodol, Bayuvi dupki and Kazanite are curved into, and *a southern part* – a granite ridge along which the Banderishki chukar (2737 m), Momin dvor and other peaks rise. These two parts of Northern Pirin, too different in their aspect, are divided by Kabite saddle and the valleys of the opposite rivers Vlahina and Banderitza. The deeply curved into valleys of the Vlahina, Sandanska Bistritsa and Pirinska Bistritsa rivers (tributaries of Struma) and Demyanitsa and Retidze rivers (tributaries of Mesta) divide this part of Pirin into several lateral elevations – the marble Sinanitza ridge and the granite Kamenitza ridge to southwest and the granite Poledzan ridge to the northeast.
- ⇒ Middle Pirin is located between the Todorova polyana and Popovi livadi saddles. It is comparatively lower (the highest is Oreliak peak – 2099 m).
- ⇒ Southern Pirin is the lowest part of the mountain. It stretches between the Popovi livadi saddle and the Parila saddle. Its rounded ridge is almost at the level of the saddles in Northern Pirin (Sveshtnik peak 1973 m).
- ⇒ The geological fundament of the mountain belongs to the Rhodopian Supergroup – metamorphic rocks. Biotite schists and gneisses, amphibolites, quartzites and marbles are the predominant rocks. They

appear in the northern parts of the park as the marbles of the Dobrostan formation occupy the largest area (about 25% of the territory).

- ⇒ Paleozoic granitoids cover small areas around the borders of the park. Late Cretaceous granitoids build up two clearly distinguishable structures: the North-Pirin and the Bezbog plutons. The first one consists of medium-grained granites. It appears in the northwestern parts of the park. The second one consists almost entirely of porphyric biotite granites to leucogranites. It covers large areas of the Yulen Nature Reserve and Kamenitza ridge.
- The Central-Pirin pluton covers almost the whole southern part of the park. It is thought to be of Early Oligocene age. It consists of granites. Altogether granitoids cover about 55% of the territory of the park. Proluvial Quaternary fans occur only in the lowest part of the park, close to the town of Bansko.
- Glacial deposits are concentrated in the cirques and the glacial valleys. They consist of gravel and blocks of granite, gneiss and marble.

Table # 11. Distribution of the main morphologic structures and the constituent rock formations in the Park by area and percentage proportion

TYPE	Area (ha) /	% of the total area of the Park
Proluvial formations – sediment cones (gravels and sands)	461,4	1,1
Glacier formations (boulders, gravels and sands)	2092,0	5,2
River-glacier formations – sediment cones (boulders, gravel and sands)	19,0	0,05
Nevrokop group (breccia-conglomerates, conglomerates, sandstone)	5,3	0,01
Central Pirin pluton (granites)	15308,3	37,9
Northern Pirin pluton (granites)	2512,7	6,2
Bezbog pluton (granites)	6538,4	16,2
Spanchevo pluton (granitoids)	522,8	1,3
Zmeevo pluton (granitoids)	230,6	0,6
Dobrostan marbles group (marbles)	4762,1	11,8
Lukovitsa gneisses-schists, schists and schists group (gneisses, gneisses-schists, schists, marbles, amphibolites);	2012,9	5,0
Boykovo gneisses group (thin-stripped biotite gneisses) and Bachkovo leptinite group (leptinoid gneisses, leptinites)	5431,0	13,5
Vucha diverse group (amphibolite-biotite, biotite and bi-micaceous gneisses, gneisses-schists, marbles, calcyphites, etc.)	459,5	1,1
Total	40356,0	100,0

GIS – a layer of the basic rocks is generated of the polygone type as well as Map # 5 Geologic-petrographic Map

1.9.1.2. Main morphometric indicators:

Average and absolute altitude

The relief of Pirin National Park is notable for its alpine character – strong segmentation, steep slopes, high ridges and deep river valleys. Its highest point is peak Vihren (2914 m. –the third highest on the Balkan Peninsula). The lowest point is situated at the entrance of the park at Bansko (950 m.) /Table 12/.

Table # 12. Distribution of the territory of the Park by elevations and areas

Altitude	Area (ha) /	% of the total area of the Park
from 600 to 1000 meters	163,6	0,4
from 1000 to 1600 meters	5108,9	12,7
from 1600 to 2000 meters	12108,0	30,0
from 2000 to 2500 meters	19830,8	49,1
above 2500 meters	3144,7	7,8
Total	40356,0	100,0

Of the data exposed in the table it becomes clear the predominant section of the areas are located in the hypsometrical belt of the elevation range of 2000-2500 meters, which covers 49% of Pirin NP. The second – by some 30% - ranks the belt located between 1600 and 2000 meters, i.e. around 60% of the territory of the Park is above 2000 m of elevation

Table #13. Distribution of the Park area by the exposure of the terrain

Exposure		Area (ha)	Total areas by evaluation (ha)	% of the total area	Total in % by evaluation
Directions	Evaluation				
N	Shadowed	6013,9	22488,5	14,9	55,7
NE		5144,6		12,7	
NW		5381,8		13,4	
E		5947,8		14,7	
SE	Sunny	3198,9	17867,5	7,9	44,3
SW		3944,8		9,8	
W		5358,8		13,3	
S		5365,4		13,3	
Total:			40356,0		100

Of the data in the table # 13 it becomes clear that the predominant sites are of sunny exposures – they cover 22488,5 ha or 55,7% of the total area of the Park. The largest is the area of northern exposure totaling 6013,9 ha, while the most limited – that of southeastern exposure – only 3198,9 ha.

Inclinations

The slopes gradient in the lower sections is 11° per 1 km, while in their upper parts this decreases to 4°-5°

Table # 14. Distribution of the Park area by the slope of the terrain

Slope of the terrain	Degrees	Area (ha)	% of the total area of the Park
Flat	0 - 5	121,6	0,3
Sloping	6 – 10	231,6	0,6
Inclining	11 – 20	3466,4	8,6
Steep	21 – 30	17629,7	43,6
Very Steep	above 31	18906,7	46,9
Total			100,0

Of the data in the table it becomes evident that the predominating areas are very steep – 46.9%. The second rank the steep areas 43,6%. i.e. the steep slopes are characteristic to some 90,5% of the territory of the Park.

Relief segmentation

The horizontal fragmentation of the faulted slopes of the Pirin mountain is some 3 km per 1 km², while the vertical cutting of the river-valley network reaches 600-700 m per 1 km² discovering the deepest sections of the fundament. The average slopes are outlined by 30-35 to 40 degrees isoclines.

1.9.2. Geomorphology of the relief

Geo-morphological development of the mountain

The tectonic structure of the Pirin Mountain is mainly a result of Precambrian, Hercynian, Alpine and Neotectonic movements. The main Precambrian fold structures of Northern Pirin exhibit north-northwestern – south-southeastern trends. The Alpine structure of the mountain is dominated by faults and tectonic magma phenomena. A period of planation in the Early Miocene leads to the formation of the main denudation surface (peneplain). The Neo-tectonic movements lead to the destruction of the peneplain and complete development of all faulting zones that divide the Pirin horst from the surrounding grabens.

Relief forms

The contemporary relief of the Pirin Mountain is formed during the Pleistocene. At this time the mountain is a subject to an Alpine-like glaciating. It is linked to the global cooling of the climate and takes place simultaneously with the glaciating of the Alps. The snow line reaches down to 2200-2300 m. Today, all glacial forms of the relief are situated within the borders of Pirin National Park.

There are 35 cirques in the highest parts of Pirin. The largest are the Popovoezeren, Vasilashki, Valyavishki and Banderishki. Numerous high mountain lakes (186) occupy the bottoms and the terraced slopes of the cirques. The cirques in the marble part of Northern Pirin are smaller but deeper. There are no lakes due to the carbonate geological substrate. Snow patches consisting of perennial firn are found on shadowy sites on the slopes of the cirques that have northern exposition – Golemiya Kazan, Kutelo, Banski Suhodol.

As a result of the lateral erosion of the glaciers the ridges between them turn into narrow and sharp saddles – Koncheto, Strazhite, etc. Pyramidal and conic peaks are formed above the highest parts of neighboring cirques – Vihren, Kutelo, Kamenitza, etc. Relatively short alpine glaciers descend below the snow line during the Pleistocene. They transform the previously existing river valleys into U-shaped glacier valleys.

Northern Pirin exhibits a clearly distinguishable central ridge and several lateral ridges. From northwest to southeast the peaks Pirin (2593 m.), Bayuvi dupki (2820 m.), Banski Suhodol (2884 m.), Kutelo (2907 m.), Vihren (2914 m.) tower above the central ridge. This is the highest part of the park. Its characteristic feature is the karst developed in the Proterozoic marbles. Tens of pot-holes, precipices and caves are scattered on the bottoms of the cirques. Karst terrains cover large areas.

The Sinanitza ridge (Georgiytza, 2598 m.) branches off westwards of the Graniten peak (2669 m.). The Todorin ridge (Todorin vrah, 2764 m.) is formed to the north of the Vazela peak (2620 m.). To the south the central ridge descends to an altitude of about 2600 m. The Polezhan ridge (Polezhan, 2851 m.) located in the north of peak Momin dvor (2715 m.) is very high and split. The Kamenitza ridge (Kamenitza, 2822 m.) is situated in the south of peak Kralev dvor (2680 m.). Further southwards the central ridge is dominated by the peaks Orlovetz (2668 m.), Zheleznik (2673 m.), Hleven (2645 m.) and Cherni vrah (2345 m.). Altogether about 60 peaks above 2600 m. are located on the territory of the national park.

The central ridge plays the role of a main hydrological divide of the mountain. In the east all rivers are tributaries of Mesta. In the west the rivers flow towards Struma.

Places of avalanche activity in the park

The combination of steep and high slopes and thick snow cover in winter is a prerequisite for the formation of avalanches. They occur very often in February and March along the slopes of the high marble ridge, Tipitzite, Voivodski vrah and Strazhite.

⇒ Risky sites, dangerous for tourists, the places of which should be marked according to data from Mountain Rescue Service /MRS/:

Bezbog Chalet – Pirin Chalet; the area of Popovo Lake, Dzhengalska porta, Kralevdvorska porta, Mozgovishka porta, Solishteto, Kornishki preval, Begovishka porta, Southeast side of Todorin peak, Vinarska porta, Bashlijska porta, Mecha poliana – Banderitza Chalet, Banderitza Chalet – Vihren Chalet, the Gullies crossing the road below Banderitza Chalet and below Vihren Chalet – total number of 12; after

Muratovo Lake – 1 in number, at Banderishka porta – 1 in number, Sinanishka porta, Yavorov Chalet - Peshterata – Sinanitza FB, Suhodolski preval, Yavorov Chalet until going downhill from the ridge of Ushitsite, Suhodolski preval to the region of Vihrenski preslap, Chernata voda to Sinanitza Chalet.

GIS – a layer of the relief was generated; it is of the line type for the horizontals of 50 and 100 m sections, as in the attribute file the respective heights are entered. Map # 6 on Relief and Avalanche Hazardous Sites

1.9.3. Karst and caves in Pirin NP

The development of the karst in the Pirin including in the Pirin NP is connected with the distribution of the Pre-Cambrian marbles on the territory of the mountain. The intensive neo-tectonic movements and the chemical composition of the marbles, as well as their jointing and the substantial rain-falls sum have predetermined the development of a large number of predominantly vertical caves. According to the regional division of the caves in Bulgaria (Popov, 1976) the territory of the Park within the so called Vihren-Sinanitsa cave region (402), which covers an area of 57.2 km² and could be divided into two sub-regions – Vihren and Sinanitsa. As a result of the long-term expeditions carried out by the Bulgarian cave-divers a total of 113 precipices and precipice caves have been studied, mapped and classified till now in this region.

⇒ Caves in the Vihren-Sinanitsa cave region

Vihren sub-region

The Vihren sub-region covers the caves along the so-called karst ridge of Northern Pirin. It falls completely within the boundaries of the Park. The caves here are vertical and are mainly concentrated in the cirques of: Kazanite; Bunderishki; Kamenititsa; Banski Suhodol and Bayuvi Dupki.

Sinanitsa sub-region

It is associated to the distribution of the narrow strip of marbles between the so-called Vulchi Rid and the peak of Sinanitsa. It covers mainly the N-NW slopes of the Sharalya peak. The caves are located in the range of 1650 and 1800 m of elevation. They are of a natural origin but cut through ore ledges because of which, geologists have described them as medieval cave mines. Specific archeological studies to clarify this problem were not carried out.

In SCROLL1, Annex 2. 1. are represented tables on the location of the caves by sub-regions and cirques, containing also data on names, lengths, depths and numbers.

1.10. HYDROLOGY AND HYDROBIOLOGY

1.10.1. Hydrology and hydrography

Hydrographic characteristics

Pirin NP is situated on a territory of the basins of rivers Struma and Mesta. Both rivers flow into the Mediterranean Sea and their basins are respectively parts of the Mediterranean Sea basin. The total area of the basins of the rivers Struma and Mesta is 13564 km².

- *Main watershed:*

It passes along the main crest of Pirin Mountain and its direction is northwest southeast. It divides the watersheds of the Struma and Mesta rivers

- *Area of the watersheds*

Table # 15. Main River Catchment

Main River Catchment Areas	Total Area	NP Pirin Area	in % of the NP Pirin Area	in % of the total area
-	km ²	km ²	%	%
Struma	10797	206.065	51.06	1.52
Mesta	2767	197.495	48.94	1.46
Total	13564	403.560	100.00	2.98

The total area of the surface basin is 404.665 km² as 204.120 km² of them belong to the river Struma watershed and 200.545 km² - to the river Mesta watershed. Both watersheds cover relatively equal area- 50.44%- Struma, 49.56%- Mesta. The Park occupies 1.89% of the Struma river watershed and 7.25% of the Mesta watershed.

- *Rivers and river systems* - on the territory of Pirin NP 10 tributaries of Struma river and 10 tributaries of Mesta river occur and their springs are within the territory of the Park.
- *Hydrographic characteristics of the river watersheds in the stations of the basic hydrological network* - on the territory of Pirin NP only one station for supporting hydrological network is situated. In the close proximity to the boundaries of the Park are situated another 7 stations – 2 in the watershed of river Mesta and 5 in the watershed of river Struma.

Lakes

On the territory of Pirin NP are situated 118 lakes with permanent water surface. They are provisionally divided in 17 lake groups. The total area of the water surface in the conditions of average water levels is 2085 km². This area forms 0.51% of the Park territory. The areas of Popovi and Banderishki lakes are the largest ones. Popovo lake is the largest – 124 000 m² and the deepest one is Popovo lake from the group of Popovi lakes.

Flow characteristics

The results from the survey show that for Pirin NP the average annual flow is 355.6 million m³ of water. 188.5 million m³ of them go towards Struma River and 167.1 million m³ flow into Mesta river. Among the rivers, which flow into Struma the one with the greatest flow is Sandaska Bistritza River and among these ones, which flow into Mesta – it is Bjala reka River (East). With the largest in specific flow among the tributaries of Struma River is Mozgovitza River and among the tributaries of Mesta – it is Disilitza River. The flow from Pirin NP represents 40.5% of the flow of Pirin Mt, as the area of the Park is scarcely 17.9% of the territory of the mountain (Table 19). In comparison to the territory of the country the area of the Park is scarcely 0.36% but it gives 2.07% of the flow of the rivers in Bulgaria. The flow per unit of the Park area is 2.3 times greater than the average flow of Pirin Mountain and 5.6 times greater than this one from the territory of the country.

GIS- layers of the hydrographic network are created as follows: "line" for the river network; "polygone" for the lakes; "point" for the water sources.

Map 7 Hydrographic network and water flow, annexed to the Management Plan

Map 8 Rainfalls, annexed to the Management Plan

Water balance

The calculated rainfall and flow characteristics for the 1936-2000 period give favorable possibility for evaluation of the elements of the water balance of the basins of all principal rivers which begin in Pirin NP.

- The summary evaporation is 238 mm, which corresponds properly to the average altitude in the Park-

1214 m. Along the main basins the summarized evaporation is respectively 233 mm for the watershed of Struma river tributaries and 243 mm for Mesta river watershed. The average annual volume of evaporated water from the Park territory is 96.4 million m³ and it represents 0.19% of the evaporation from the country territory and 11.9% from the evaporated volume of Pirin Mountain.

- The rainfalls over a unit of Park area are 1.5 times greater in comparison to these ones over the territory of Pirin Mt and are 1.8 times greater than this one over the territory of the country.
- The flow from a unit of Park area is 2.3 times greater than this one from Pirin Mountain and 5.6 times greater than the flow from the territory of the country.

Water use

Drinking and households water supply:

A number of catchments installations for drinking and households water supply for local facilities – chalets, vacation homes, etc., are developed on the territory of the Park. The waters are used mainly on the territory of the Park. The irreversible water loss of the drinking and households water represent 8-12% of the waters caught. The used waters flow back in the river currents following surface and underground way and they don't represent considerable disturbance of the flow. Waters from the territory of the Park are also used for supplying small villages situated out of the Park. The caught waters flow back in the river network out of the Park territory. At present there is no sufficiently detailed survey of all the catchment installations with their characteristics, but if the small number of the population on the close proximity to the Park (less than 100 000 persons) is taken into account it could be evaluated that the annual volume of the drinking and households water doesn't exceed 2 million m³ which represents 0.56% of the surface flow from the territory of the Park and the irreversible loss is respectively about 0.06% of the flow, formed on the Park territory.

Hydro-energy

On the territory of Pirin NP are situated the facilities of the Sandanska Bistritza cascade. 8 catchments with built up water quantity of 6.48 m³/s are developed. The caught waters in an annual cross-section represent usually about 20% of the built up water quantity or 1.3 m³/s. The average perennial volume of the caught waters could be estimated of about 41 million m³ or of about 50% of Sandanska Bistritza river flow, which is formed on the Park territory. After processing of these waters in the water electric power station /WEPS/ Liljanovo they enter into a derivation where together with another caught waters they proceed to the WEPS Sandansky and after the processing they flow again into the Sandanska Bistritza river.

In SCROLL 1, Annex 2.2. are enclosed 20 tables representing the hydrographic characteristics of Pirin NP territory

1.10.2. Hydrochemistry

Subjects and strategy of the investigation:

- 9 rivers of the Mesta watershed - rivers Bela, Banderitza, Demjanitza, Disilitza, Bezbog, Retije, Kamenitza and Tufcha;
- 3 rivers of the Struma watershed - rivers Vlahinska, Mozgovitza and Demirkapijska
- Additionally, the small river Ikrishcha in the Shiligarnika place (right feeder of Banderitza river) is also investigated in August 2001. This river is used for drinking water supply for the Shiligarnika complex and at the same time is drainage for the waste water of the complex. The only water sample of fecal and household waste waters on the territory of the Park is taken from this river. This exception is made because of the significance of this small river for the tourist industry in the region of Bansko and the recorded pollution effects.
- 16 considerable lakes from the main lake groups in the Park in 2001 – Dalgo Banderishko, Ribno Banderishko, Dzhabeshko, Okoto, Tevno Vasilashko, Gorno Vasilashko, Ribno Vasilashko, Tevno, Golyamo Valiavishko, Bezbog, Popovo, Gorno Ribno, Dolno Kremensko, Sinanitza, Argirovo, Mitrovo.
- 13 lakes in 2002 – Dalgo Banderishko, Ribno Banderishko, Dzhabeshko, Okoto, Gorno Vasilashko, Ribno Vasilashko, Tevno, Lake under Tevno, Bezbog, Popovo, Sinanitza, Argirovo, Mitrovo.

Analysis of the results

The performed investigations of the water quality during 2001 and 2002 show the status of the surface waters on the territory of the Park during the most representative periods of the year – the one of low water level (August 2001) which shows the worst ecological conditions which could be seen from the physical, chemical and hydro-biological point of view during the years and the period of high water (June 2002) after the snow melting when the conditions in the water ecosystems are completely different (high opacity of the river waters and possibilities for so called secondary pollution/ load).

Table 16. Quality of the river waters on the territory of the Pirin NP in 2001 and 2002

Indicators	Period of low waters august 2001	Period of high waters June 2002
Hydro-chemistry		
Water temperature	11.69 °C varies between 9.8-14.3 °C	11.1 °C varies between 9.0-13.0 °C
Dissolved oxygen	8.7 mg/l and 95.08% varies between 7.44–11.35 mg/l; 81-119%	8.88 mg/l and 95% varies between 7.6–11.9 mg/l; 80-124%
PH	7.68 varies between 7,02 and 8,43	7.21 varies between 6,15 and 8,26
Conductivity	75.45 µS/cm varies between 42,4-219 µS/cm	38.82 µS/cm varies between 18.2-148 µS/cm
Dissolved substances	51.56 mg/l varies between 28-146 mg/l	26 mg/l varies between 12-98 mg/l
Irresolved substances and turbidity	1 mg/l vary between <1 and 5 mg/l	3.15 mg/l vary between 1 and 7 mg/l
Non-organic nitrogen forms (ammonia, nitrites, nitrates)	Non-organic nitrogen and phosphorus are practically absent from the waters, except of small quantities of ammoniac nitrogen in spring due to the washing of decaying coniferous cover (a natural process)	
Phosphates (PO₄-P):		
COD and BOD₅	Any organic loading of the river waters on the park territory is missing	
Hydro-biology		
Trophic Index RETI (TI):	80.46% (59 – 99 %);	value 85.73 % (47 – 95 %
Biotic Index (BI)	Corresponds to waters with the highest quality	

All rivers mentioned in the Investigation are characterized by clean waters of high quality.

In SCROLL 1, Annex 2.3. is enclosed an Analysis on indices comparing the period of dryness/ low water level in 2001 and the period of high water in 2002

Table 17. Quality of the lakes waters on the territory of the Pirin NP in 2001 and 2002

Indicators	Period of low waters august 2001	Period of high waters June 2002
Hydro-chemistry		
Water temperature	14.24 °C varies between 8.5-17.8 °C	11.58 °C varies between 4.6-22.9 °C
Dissolved oxygen	7.88 mg/l and 100.38% varies between 6.67–9.6 mg/l; 77.5-121%)	9.11 mg/l and 108.04% varies between 7.5–11.8 mg/l; 84-137%
PH	7.5 varies between 5,72 and 8,82	7.01 varies between 5,99 and 7,77
Conductivity	34.63 µS/cm (7,8-76,9 µS/cm	18.55 µS/cm 8,3-109,4 µS/cm
Dissolved substances	22.86 mg/l vary between 5,2-50,75 mg/l	12,43 mg/l vary between 5,6-73,3 mg/l
Irresolved substances and turbidity	<1 mg/l vary between <1 and 2 mg/l	32.62 mg/l vary between 1 and 6 mg/l
Non-organic nitrogen forms (ammonia, nitrites, nitrates)	Non-organic nitrogen and phosphorus are practically absent from the waters, except of small quantities of ammoniac nitrogen in spring due to the washing of decaying coniferous cover (a natural process)	
Phosphates (PO₄-P):		
COD and BOD₅	Any organic loading of the lake waters on the park territory is missing	
Hydro-biology		
Chlorophyll A	6.39 mg/m ³ varies between 2.79 –9.61 mg/m ³	1.31 mg/m ³ varies between 0.4– 3.49 mg/m ³
Phytoplankton	1816.37 cell numbers/l varies between 131 –7786 cell numbers/l	3636.62 cell numbers/l varies between 191– 10436 cell numbers/l

The quality of the lake waters is very high.

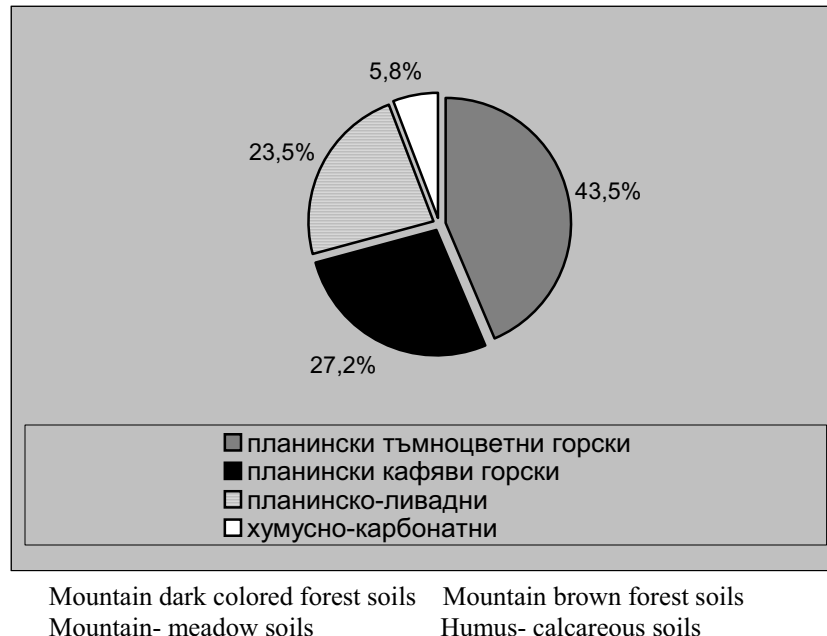
In SCROLL 1, Annex 2.4. is enclosed an Analysis on indices comparing the period of dryness/ low water level in 2001 and the period of high water in 2002 for Pirin glacial lakes.

In SCROLL 1, Annex 2.5. are enclosed tables from 1 to 14- Quality of waters- hydrochemistry and hydrobiology.

1.11. SOILS

1.11.1. Distribution and characteristics of the soils (according to the actual soil classification in Bulgaria)

Figure 3. Percentage distribution of the Park areas according to the soil types:



⇒ Mountain brown forest soils (Cambisols)

Distribution- in the middle mountain zone of beech and coniferous forests (800- 1800 m in altitude). There are represented also the three subtypes- dark, intermediate and light as following:

- Brown forest soil , dark (Humnic Cambisols) – 5315,3 ha (66,0%)
- Brown forest soil, intermediate(Eutric Cambisols) – 2598,6 ha (32,3%)
- Brown forest soil, light (Disric Cambisols) – 139,1ha (1,7%)

Totally: 8053,0 ha (100, 0%)

⇒ Mountain dark colored forest soils (Umbric Cambisols):

Distribution- in the middle mountain and to lesser extend in the high mountain forest zone of Pirin Mt. They are the relation to the mountain meadow soils over the upper border of the forest and the pine- scrub formations. The soil parent materials usually are granites carbonates free. The fertility of the soils is high. There are some of the best stands of *Pinus peuce* (over the skeleton soils) and *Picea abies*.

⇒ Mountain- meadow (humus- siliceous) soils (Rankers):

Distribution- almost entirely in the alpine part of the high mountain zone (over 2500 m) where they could be found often in a complex with rock and screes. In the sub alpine sub zone (up to 2500 m in altitude) they are in a complex with mountain forest dark colored soils. High- mountain grasslands are developed over these soils. The granite rock is the main soil parent material.

⇒ Humus- calcareous soils (Rendzinas):

Distribution- to the north- west of Banderitza River to the Predel place. Of the main importance for their development are the presence of hard calcareous rocks and the products of the wethering. Mainly *Pinus nigra*, *Pinus helderichii*, *Pinus mugo* and *Juniperus communis alpina* grow over these soils.

For characterization of the soils an information of the Soil Map of Republic of Bulgaria/ 2000 as well as data from 18 cross- sections made during previous survey of that object are used.

In SCROLL 1, Annex 2.6. are enclosed the soil cross sections and the results of the laboratory investigation.

1.11.2. Erosion processes

For evaluation of the erosion processes on the territory of Pirin NP topographic maps in a scale 1: 50000 and the available in the Directorate technical information are used. The object is investigated on terrain additionally during August- September 2001.

- ⇒ First to Third stage are eroded 102,3 ha or 0,6% of the wood producing area of the forests. The following sections and subsections have been affected by erosion: 52 “b”; 53 “b”; 39 “a”, “b”, “c”; 329 “a”; 419 “c”; 438 “a”. Now these subsections are occupied mainly by dense plantations /density- 0,6- 0,8/ which have good erosion control effect.
- ⇒ Data for active development of erosion processes or endangered by them with small exceptions are not recorded.
- ⇒ The forest erosion advances very slowly and does not cause practical damages.
- ⇒ New erosion processes
 - Along the ski- run Dobriniste (Bezbojka poljana) on close proximity to the middle lift station to the north on an area of 0,25 ha are executed excavation and embankment works for shaping the ski layout. The area is covered by sheet erosion as 20% of its surface are affected by formed streams and furrows with depth of 0,1- 0,4 m.
 - Along the ski- run “Balkaniada” in front of the lower lift station on an area of 0,3 ha the sod is affected by an anthropogenic overloading as the soil is exposed to water erosion. Along the layout of the ski-run there are some other patches like this one and each of them is with an area of 50- 70 m². Here the soil erosion develops faster because the slopes of the terrain are considerable (more than 35%).
 - As a result of passing of machineries along the “Starata pista” and Parkinga place wheel tracks are developed and as consequence- sheet erosion.
 - In the section 247 “g” (Bezbojka poljana place) along an old truck road and the adjacent terrain is developed a new one with length 600 m. The width of this road is 7- 9 m and the total width together with the excavations and embankments varies from 8 to 15 m. In the process of the road extension are affected about 0,5 ha of forests of *Pinus peuce*. The average slope longitude of the road is 14% and there is a danger for intensive development of erosion.
- ⇒ Erosion control equipment:
 - There are no developed large sized technical and strengthening installations as barrages and shoots in the hydrographic network.
 - Along Damjanitza river on the border between the section 148 and 186 is constructed a shore strengthening concrete wall on its left side against the current with length of about 30 m. Its function is bank protection from wash out and overflow. The wall is destroyed in some places and its height is not enough for shore protection if these processes are frequent. The wooden bridge built on its lower end has a small outlet and it is often the reason for clogging and primming, which cause damages of the bridge. The waters proceed towards Bansko and endanger the town with a flood. This part of the Park is one of the most visited and the bridge connects great number of holiday homes with the main road network.
 - Along the end branches of the hydrographic network a gully erosion is seen occasionally and that is the reason for development on the Park territory of some small sized installations for erosion control as well. Shoots of dry stony walling are built in an active gully (subsection 473- c) about 80 m³ and into gullies formed during transportation of wood (sections 435, 436 and 437) are made jams in an area of 250- 300 m². The developed fortifications strengthen and obstruct the gullies.

GIS- a layer of the soils of type “poligon” and the map 9 “Soils” are developed and are annexed to the Management Plan. All the eroded, eroding and endangered by erosion terrains are marked on the soil map.

BIOLOGICAL FEATURES

1.12. ECOSYSTEMS AND BIOTOPES

1.12.1. Description and mapping of the park ecosystems on the basis of the Classification of Palearctic habitats; CE; Nature and environment # 78/96.

/Considering some terminological differences the concepts “ecosystem” and “biotope” are provisionally made equal to the concept “habitat”/

The developed classification of the habitats in Pirin NP is on the base of the Order of MoEW and is in straight relation to the European classification. The partial modification is a result of the recommendations of the meeting in Bansko (2002) of the experts elaborating the MP. The aim is to present the habitat diversity in the most accessible way, to be used by the Park Directorate and the other concerned institutions.

The field studies include two model sections:

- In the surroundings of Bezbog chalet – around the peaks Bezbog, Polejan, Momin dvor, Ostretz and the lakes Popovo and Ribni;
- In the surroundings of Vihren chalet – peaks Vihren, Kazanite, Muratov and lakes Ribni and Banderishki.

Table 18. Habitats

#				Name	Area (ha) State 2002	Nomenclature code under the Palearctic classification
1				Waters	177.50	2
1	1			Running water	11.60	24
1	1	1		Rivers	11.60	24.1
				• Moraine type	-	-
				• Rock bed type	-	-
				• Bog (peat bog) type	-	-
				• Meadow type	-	-
				• Forest type	-	-
1	1	2		Waterfalls	-	24.17
1	2			Standing water	165.90	22
1	2	1		Permanent lakes	165.90	22.1
				• Moraine type	-	-
				• Dwarf pine or dwarf pine – meadow type	-	-
				• Macrophyte and peat-bog type	-	-
				• Lakes running dry	-	-
1	2	2		Standing temporary waters	-	22.2
2				Shrub and grassland	17812.30	3
2	1			Temperate heath and shrub	10321.90	31
2	1	1		<i>Pinus mugo</i> communities	6231.90	31.58
2	1	2		<i>Juniperus sibirica</i> communities	3563.40	-
2	1	3		<i>Chamaecytisus absinthioides</i> communities	285.30	31.4B2
2	1	4		Communities of small shrubs (<i>Vaccinium</i> , <i>Bruckenthalia</i> , <i>Salix</i> and <i>Dryas octopetala</i>)	241.30	31.4 (31.4A2, 31.461, 31.4917)

2	2			Grasslands	7490.40	-
2	2	1		Grassland vegetation in the forest zone	506.30	-
2	2	2		High-mountain grassland vegetation on siliceous soils	5873.60	36.39
2	2	3		High-mountain grassland vegetation on calcareous soils	1110.50	36.4172
3				Forests	17325.50	4
3	1			Temperate broad-leaved deciduous forests	1211.90	41
3	1	1		Beech forests	1186.20	41.1
3	1	1	1	Pure <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> forests	486.50	41.19221
3	1	1	2	Forests dominated by <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	699.70	41.19222
3	1	2		Aspen forests	21.10	-
3	1	3		Riverine alder forests	4.60	
3	2			Coniferous forests	13949.20	42
3	2	1		Fir forests	917.9	42.1
3	2	1	1	Pure <i>Abies alba</i> forests	172.30	42.1613
3	2	1	2	Forests dominated by <i>Abies alba</i>	745.60	-
3	2	2		Spruce forests	1654.40	42.2
3	2	2	1	Pure <i>Picea abies</i> forests	421.50	42.2412
3	2	2	2	Forests dominated by <i>Picea abies</i>	1232.90	-
3	2	3		Scots pine forests	4215.50	42.5
3	2	3	1	Pure <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> forests	2752.00	42.5C2
3	2	3	2	Forests dominated by <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	1463.50	-
3	2	4		Austrian pine forests	809.80	42.6
3	2	4	1	Pure <i>Pinus nigra</i> forests	440.70	42.6618
3	2	4	2	Forests dominated by <i>Pinus nigra</i>	369.10	-
3	2	5		Macedonian pine forests	5346.90	42.723
3	2	5	1	Pure <i>Pinus peuce</i> forests	3564.70	42.723
3	2	5	2	Forests dominated by <i>Pinus peuce</i>	1782.20	-
3	2	6		Bosnian pine forests	1004.70	42.716
3	2	6	1	Pure <i>Pinus heldreichii</i> forests	498.60	42.716
3	2	6	2	Forests dominated by <i>Pinus heldreichii</i>	506.10	-
3	3			Mixed forests	839.20	-
3	3	1		Mixed forests dominated by broad-leaved deciduous trees	26.90	-
3	3	2		Mixed forests dominated by coniferous trees	812.30	-
3	4			Tree plantations	1325.20	83.3
3	4	1		Coniferous plantations	1318.90	83.31
3	4	1	1	Silver fir (<i>Abies alba</i>) plantations	62.10	-
3	4	1	2	Scots pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>) plantations	910.50	-
3	4	1	3	Norway spruce (<i>Picea abies</i>) plantations	171.60	-
3	4	1	4	Macedonian pine (<i>Pinus peuce</i>) plantations	148.20	-
3	4	1	5	Austrian pine (<i>Pinus nigra</i>) plantations	22.10	-
3	4	1	6	Bosnian pine (<i>Pinus heldreichii</i>) plantations	2.70	-
3	4	1	7	Atlas cedar plantations	0.30	-
3	4	1	8	Douglas fir plantations	1.40	-
3	4	2		Plantations of broad-leaved deciduous trees	5.10	83.32
3	4	2	1	Poplar (<i>Populus</i>) plantations	0.70	83.321
3	4	2	2	Birch plantations	4.40	
3	4	2	2	Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) plantations	1.20	-
4				Bogs	-	5
4	1			Bogs in the forest zone	-	-
4	2			High-mountain bogs	-	-
5				Rocks, screes and caves	4866.60	6
5	1			Rocks	2988.30	62

5	1	1	Siliceous rocks	2011.90	62.252
5	1	2	Calcareous rocks	976.40	62.1A121
5	2		Scree	1878.30	61.1
5	2	1	Siliceous scree	1060.70	61.11
5	2	2	Calcareous scree	817.60	61.25
5	3		Caves	-	65
6			Anthropogenic habitats	174.10	8
6	1		Felling areas	66.00	-
6	2		Forest openings, yards, skiing runs, parking lots, roads, quarries	108.10	-

1.12.2. Specific for the Park's hydrological network river and lake habitats.

/They are additionally included in the table without hierarchical number/

⇒ *General types of river habitats registered on the territory of the Park:*

- Moraine type: rivers Retidje and Kamenitza;
- Rock bed type. This type is relatively rarely distributed in some canyon like river sections- Banderitza river below Banderitza chalet;
- Peat-bog type. Usually these are small rivers in the high-mountain lake regions – Damjanitza river in the section after the inflow of its left tributary Preslavaska river;
- Meadow type: widely distributed river habitat;
- Forest type: widely distributed habitat in the lower parts of Pirin NP.

⇒ *General types of lake habitats registered on the territory of the Park:*

- Moraine type: lakes Tevno, Vasilashko, Tevno Vasilashko, Goljamo Valjavishko, Kremenski, Argirovo, etc. They could be divided on: shallow and deep ones; with strongly varying water level (Sinantza); on siliceous and calcareous base and extremely various in shape.
- Pine-scrub and pine-scrub-meadow type: Ribno Vasilashko lake, Bezbog, Okoto etc. Both types are similar as the main difference between them is quantitative – the pine-scrub type is defined when more than 30% of the lakeside is covered by pine-scrub.
- Macrophyte and peat-bog type: Along the advanced stages of lake succession - Ribni lakes, the lake near the shelter Tevno ezero, some of the small Valjavishki lakes etc.
- Drying up lakes: last stage of lake succession. Typical example is Dautovo Lake.

Near the Gorno Vasilashko Lake there are simultaneously two habitats- moraine of greater part of the lake and swamp- peat- bog type in the region of the left flow.

The most characteristic features of all Pirin lake habitats are: existence of stony moraine material as bottom substrate, the weak overgrown of the lakesides by wood and other vegetation, exclusively high transparency of the water (till 20 m), low productivity of the ecosystem, very often considerable depth (more than 10 m) and very low concentration of hydro-carbonates in the water because of the snow feeding up.

1.12.3. Map of the habitats

The developed habitat map is an integral part of the existing analysis. The legend consists of 70 units of different hierarchical stage. The pointed on the map 45 map units comprise the lowest hierarchical levels of the previously chosen system. Without exhausting the general diversity of the existing habitats in the Park territory, in the developed volume they could be considered as answering the requirements of the Park Directorate and other users who could easily get an idea of the considerable habitat diversity. The data presented in this way are accessible even for non-specialists.

GIS - a layer of habitats of polygon type is developed as well as Map # 10 Habitats, annexed to the Management Plan.

1.12.4. Habitats requiring special conservation measures, included in the Annex I of the Resolution # 4 / 1996

- 22.31 Euro Siberian perennial amphibian complexes
- 31.1 European moist complexes with dominance of *Molinia coerulea*
- 31.46 Complexes with dominance of *Bruckenthalia spiculifolia*
- 35.7 Mediterranean- mountain complexes of *Nardus stricta*
- 42.16 South- Balkan fir forests
- 42.5C South- East European *Pinus sylvestris* forests
- 42.66 *Pinus nigra* forests
- 42.7 High mountain-Mediterranean *Pinus peuce* and *P. heldreichii* forests
- 54.12 Calcareous spring waters
- 65. Caves

In SCROLL I, Annex 3.1. is enclosed "Distribution of plant species of nature conservation value in the different habitats in Pirin NP".

1.13. VEGETATION

1.13.1. Classification of the vegetation

The inventory of the vegetation of Pirin National Park took place during the 2001-2002 period. Geobotanical descriptions of the vegetation in all units of the Park sectors have been made for this purpose. The description of plant communities (associations) was performed according to dominant method. This method is easier for application in the field and is sufficiently informative for the purposes of nature conservation, and is, therefore, convenient for implementation in relation to nature conservation activities in the national parks. Determining of the edicator species was related to their role and effect on the formation of the vegetation environment.

Additional information was collected regarding the level of conservation, degradation processes, presence of species of conservation importance in the communities etc. The mapping of phyto-cenoses was performed for each of the sections and sub-sections defined in the Park.

Pirin NP is distinguished in a separate Pirin district, due to well-expressed specificity of the flora and vegetation (Bondev, 1991).

The plant communities established could be classified into several main groups, according to *Table 18., p.1.12.:*

- 1) Communities around water basins;
- 2) Shrub communities in the sub-alpine zone;
- 3) Herbaceous and grass communities – forest meadows, sub-alpine and alpine pastures;
- 4) Forest plant communities;
- 5) Communities on rock habitats;
- 6) Secondary plant communities – result of anthropogenic activity.

1) Communities around water basins

The ecosystems depending on the presence of water are of azonal character. They could be found in all zones. The most typical of them are the hygrophyte and hydrophyte communities in the sub-alpine and alpine belts of the Park.

- ⇒ **The communities around the small streams and humid habitats** consist mainly of *Heracleum verticillatum* and *Cirsium appendiculatum*, rarely *Eriophorum latifolium*, *Cardamine rivularis*. Micro-groups of *Plantago gentianoides* and *Parnassia palustris* could be found in the surroundings, and on stony habitats – of *Saxifraga stellaris* and *Silene pusilla*.
- ⇒ **The communities around the small lakes and marshes** have different composition. The representatives of the genus *Carex* dominate here, like *Carex nigra* and *Carex distans*. *Trichophorum caespitosum* forms particular micro-cenoses.
- ⇒ The composition within the small mountain lakes is determined by *Ranunculus aquatilis*, *Sparganium angustifolium*, or by a combination of the two species. *Isoetes lacustris* and *Subularia aquatica* form also very interesting communities.
- ⇒ **The communities arising along the river streams** are composed by hygrophyllous species and are, as a rule, narrow belts along the small streams and rivers in the mountain. Their area is in most cases insignificant, and they are, therefore, included within the composition of the adjacent phytocoenoses. Predominant species are *Cirsium appendiculatum*, *Heracleum verticillatum*, *Doronicum hungaricum*, *Petasites albus*, *Parnassia palustris*, different species of the genus *Juncus*, and in the valley of Demyanitza river, on limestone terrains one could find the local endemic *Petasites kablickianus*. The willow formations along the rivers are practically lacking.

2) Shrub communities in the sub-alpine belt

- ⇒ **The communities of Dwarf Pine (*Pinus mugo*)** are situated between the alpine timber line and roughly 2500 m a.s.l. Twelve mono-edicator communities were established. Predominating species in the aboveground layer are the species of genus *Vaccinium*, *Luzula sylvatica* and often the Mosses are well represented. The higher elevations are characterized by increased ratio of cereals and sedges, like *Sesleria comosa* and *Nardus stricta*. The herbaceous layer in some communities is dominated by *Sesleria coerulans* and *Agrostis rupestris*, with *Carex curvula* being co-dominant.

- ⇒ **The communities of *Juniperus sibirica*** occupy large areas in the sub-alpine belt too. Their area increases through colonization of new territories. The most frequent dominant in the herbaceous layer are *Vaccinium myrtillus* and *V. uliginosum*, sometimes *Lerchenfeldia flexuosa* participates as a co-dominant. Some associations are dominated by *Festuca valida*, *Nardus stricta*, *Festuca nigrescens*, *Sesleria coerulans*, and *Sesleria comosa*. The association *Juniperus sibirica* - *Sesleria comosa* is the most representative for the Park territory, in comparison with the others mono-dominant associations.
- ⇒ **The communities of *Chamaecytisus absinthioides*** are of secondary character and they occupy new territories, especially after decreasing of pasture pressure, after windfalls, fires and other phenomena, leading to the changes in the environment. These communities occur in the sub-alpine belt and on some clear places within the forest formations. Five associations have been established. The herbaceous layer is dominated mostly by *Festuca nigrescens* and *Agrostis capillaris*.
- ⇒ **The communities dominated by low shrubs**, such as the species of genera *Vaccinium*, *Bruckenthalia*, *Dryas* and some others, are of limited importance in the formation of ecosystems.

3) Herbaceous plant communities

These communities are distributed mainly in the sub-alpine and alpine belt, rarely in the forest meadows. They are dominated mostly by cereals and sedges.

- ⇒ **Communities of *Sesleria comosa***. This species forms 10 associations, and one of them is mono-dominant. These associations occupy dry and open areas in the higher parts of the Park. This is the most widely distributed community of all herbaceous communities in the Park territory.
- ⇒ **Communities of *Nardus stricta***. These communities are in most cases of secondary origin and occupy territories of former *Pinus mugo* formations and coniferous forests. One mono-dominant and four poly-dominant associations have been recorded.
- ⇒ **The communities of *Festuca valida*** are interesting because of the endemic nature of edificator. They occupy small areas, mostly dispersed among the plant communities of *Juniperus sibirica*. Seven associations were established and one of them is mono-dominant.
- ⇒ **The communities of *Deschampsia caespitosa*** occupy limited area and are situated mostly around the peat-bog complexes, on moist meadows and along the small streams. Their distribution is regular and is closely related to the site conditions. Five associations were described, one of them being mono-dominant. In some places, mostly on humid sites, the communities are invaded by representatives of the genus *Carex*.
- ⇒ **The communities of *Festuca nigrescens*** occupy larger territories and fall both into the forest-less zone and in the forest area. Three associations were recorded and all of them have other species as co-dominants. The most widely distributed association is *Festuca nigrescens-Nardus stricta*. This community occupies large territories in the lower part of the sub-alpine belt and penetrates into the open and clear areas of the coniferous zone.
- ⇒ **The communities of *Agrostis capillaris*** occupy the meadows and the open areas in the forest ecosystems. The areas occupied by these communities are small and dispersed, and depend on the site characteristics. These communities are scattered mostly within the formations of Macedonian Pine, Scots Pine and Norway Spruce. Five associations have been described and one of them is mono-dominant.
- ⇒ **The communities of *Calamagrostis arundinacea*** cover limited and dispersed territories in the peripheral part of the forests. The most frequent dominant in the second layer is *Vaccinium myrtillus*.

4) Forest plant communities

The great diversity of the conditions in Pirin NP determined remarkable plant diversity. The plant communities established could serve as main units for mapping, management, directing of the processes and monitoring.

Communities dominated by the representatives of the genus *Pinus*

- ⇒ **The Austrian Pine (*Pinus nigra*) communities** cover the lowest part of the National Park and are situated mainly in the northern part (Bayuvi Dupki Park Region). They were established up to 1400 m a.s.l. The Austrian Pine is typical calciphyte and is growing well on limestone terrain. The species forms mesoxerophyllous communities, pure in most cases, but Scots Pine and Bosnian Pine (*Pinus heldreichii*), rarely Silver Fir, participate as co-edificators. The herbaceous layer in the Black Pine

communities consists of relatively drought resistant species, like *Festuca dalmatica*, *Brachypodium pinnatum* and some others. Three mono-edificator and 5 poly-edificator communities of the species have been described on the territory of the National Park.

- ⇒ **The Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) communities** cover mostly sunny exposition (southern or having southern component) and poorer sites. The associations described are 23 – 9 mono-dominant and 14 poly-dominant. The most widely distributed are *Pinus sylvestris-Vaccinium myrtillus* and *Pinus sylvestris-Calamagrostis arundinacea*. Other two mono-edificator associations are situated in the lower parts of the Park territory, mainly in the southwestern parts: *Pinus sylvestris - Brachypodium pinnatum + Calamagrostis arundinacea* and *Pinus sylvestris-Festuca heterophylla*. The association with mixed herbaceous belt (mixtoherbosa) occupies the southern border areas of the Park. Main co-edificators in the poly-edificator associations are *Pinus peuce* and *Picea abies*. The species dominating in the herbaceous layer are mostly *Vaccinium myrtillus* and *Luzula sylvatica*, while in the mixed communities with beech, such species is *Poa nemoralis*. Dominants in several associations could be hardly defined. The ground cover in these communities is relatively high and the floristic composition is rich. Most of these associations belong to mixtoherbosa type.
- ⇒ **The communities of Macedonian Pine (*Pinus peuce*)** are of particular interest from conservation point of view, because of the endemic nature of this pine and the species occurring in the communities. Thirty-six associations of *P. peuce* have been described in Pirin NP. Among them 13 are mono-edificator and frequently the second layer consists of *Pinus mugo* or *Juniperus sibirica*. The most frequent dominants in the herbaceous layer are the following species: *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Calamagrostis arundinacea* and *Luzula sylvatica*. The associations with *Picea abies* as a co-edificator predominate among the poly-edificator plant communities – 14 associations. Again *Vaccinium myrtillus* and *Calamagrostis arundinacea* are dominating species in the herbaceous coenoses. The communities with Scots Pine and Beech as co-edificators occur rarely, and they occupy the lower part of *P. peuce* complex. An interesting community with two endemic species was established: *Pinus peuce + Pinus heldreichii – Festuca penzesii*. It is situated on a limited area in the northern part of the Park.
- ⇒ **The communities of Bosnian Pine (*Pinus heldreichii*)** occupy mainly the limestone areas in Bayuvi Dupki Park Region. They grow on well-drained habitats, due in most cases to protruding sites and very steep slopes. Seven mono-edificator and 7 poly-edificator communities have been recorded. The mountain dwarf pine (*Pinus mugo*) participates in some of the mono-edificator associations, and the herbaceous belt physiognomy is determined by grasses, like *Calamagrostis arundinacea*, *Brachypodium pinnatum*, *Festuca penzesii* and some others. The predominant part of the communities has *Festuca penzesii* as dominant species in the herbaceous layer, while *Brachypodium pinnatum* and *Sesleria coerulans* being co-dominants. The most frequent satellites of *P. heldreichii* in the mono-edificator associations are *Pinus nigra* and *Pinus heldreichii*, and rarely – the Silver Fir and Norway Spruce. Dominant species in the herbaceous layer are mostly cereals, followed by *Vaccinium myrtillus* and *Geranium macrorrhizum*.

Mixed communities dominated by the Norway Spruce, Silver Fir and Common Beech

- ⇒ **The communities of Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*)** occupy humid sites, which fact concurs with the mesophyte nature of the species. Total 21 communities have been distinguished and four of them are mono-dominant. The dominant species in the herbaceous layer are *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Calamagrostis arundinacea* and *Luzula sylvatica*. The poly-dominant communities include Beech and Silver Fir as co-dominants. In these communities *Oxalis acetosella* and *Galium odoratum* dominate the herbaceous layer. The number of coenoses with *Pinus sylvestris* and *Pinus peuce* as co-dominants is smaller.
- ⇒ **The communities of Silver Fir (*Abies alba*)** resemble these of Norway Spruce. These communities represent another element of the coniferous phytosociological complex, even though limited in area, and of transitional character. One mono-edificator and 14 poly-edificator associations have been established. Main co-edificators are Norway Spruce and Beech. In most cases the species forming the herbaceous layer are similar to these in the Spruce coenoses. The poly-dominant communities with participation of the Scots Pine, Macedonian Pine and Black Pine are scarcely distributed.

- ⇒ **The communities of the Common Beech** (*Fagus sylvatica*) occupy relatively limited area in the Park. Six mono-edificator and 18 poly-edificator associations have been recorded. The most frequent dominant species in the herbaceous layer are *Luzula sylvatica* and *Poa nemoralis*, followed by *Luzula luzuloides* and *Festuca nigrescens*. Major part of the Beech communities had reached their climax phase, but some penetration of coniferous species could be also observed. Co-edificators in the Beech communities are the Silver Fir, Norway Spruce, and rarely Scots Pine and Macedonian Pine. The predominating species in the herbaceous layer are typical sciophytes – *Luzula sylvatica*, *Poa nemoralis*, *Calamagrostis arundinacea*, *Sanicula europaea*.
- ⇒ **Communities of the Aspen** (*Populus tremula*)
These communities have scarce distribution on limited areas in the Park.

5) Communities of rock habitats

These communities are distributed mainly in the alpine belt. There is a great diversity, sometimes on limited area, and therefore, these communities are classified as series. The series of communities allow enough clear representation of the diversity of micro-groups and their characteristics. Widely represented are, for example, the species of genus *Saxifraga*; some endemic species are typical representatives of the series, like *Thymus perinicus*, *Papaver degenii*, *Arabis ferdinandi-coburgii*, *Potentilla appenina ssp. Stojanovii*, *Dianthus microlepis*, some typical alpine species, like *Androsace villosa*, *Rhodax alpestris*, *Silene acaulis* and many others.

6) Anthropogenic communities

The secondary mobile species appear in most cases in the places affected by human influence. The so-called “pen” communities are typical for the Balkan Peninsula. They occupy usually relatively small areas and are a result of concentrated presence of domestic animals. These communities are situated mostly in the sub-alpine zone, but occur rarely in the lowermost zone of the alpine belt. There are some differences among them. In most cases these communities are dominated by *Verbascum longifolium ssp. pannosum* and *Rumex alpinus*. Co-dominants in some cases are *Veratrum album*, sometimes *Deschamptia caespitosa*. There are also micro-groups of *Polygonum arenastrum*, *Galeopsis bifida*, *Chenopodium bonus-henricus* and other mobile and ruderal species. The “pen” communities occupied larger areas in the past, but after decreasing the pasture use of the areas, these communities gradually decreased and have become invaded by the indigenous vegetation.

GIS – a layer of type “polygon” has been elaborated for the plant communities, and Map # 11 “Plant communities”, annexed to the Management Plan.

In SCROLL I, Annex 3.2., a list “Plant communities” is presented, which is an integral part of the map.

1.13.2. Characteristics of the forest tree vegetation

Distribution of the tree species in terms of area and their percentage ratio

The forested area of the Park, incl. the area of dwarf pine stands, is 23110,3 ha, or 57,3% of its total area, and includes coniferous forests, broad-leaved seed forests and off-shoot forests for transformation.

The non-forested area of the Park is 17222,1 ha, or 42,7% of its total area and includes:

- high-mountain pastures 6438,9 ha
- rocks 3071,5 ha
- open areas, unfavorable for forestation 2977,1 ha
- screes 2027,9 ha
- meadows 1591,5 ha
- areas, unfavorable for forestation 521,7 ha
- denuded terrain 172,4 ha
- lakes 148,8 ha
- felling clearings 78,6 ha, and others

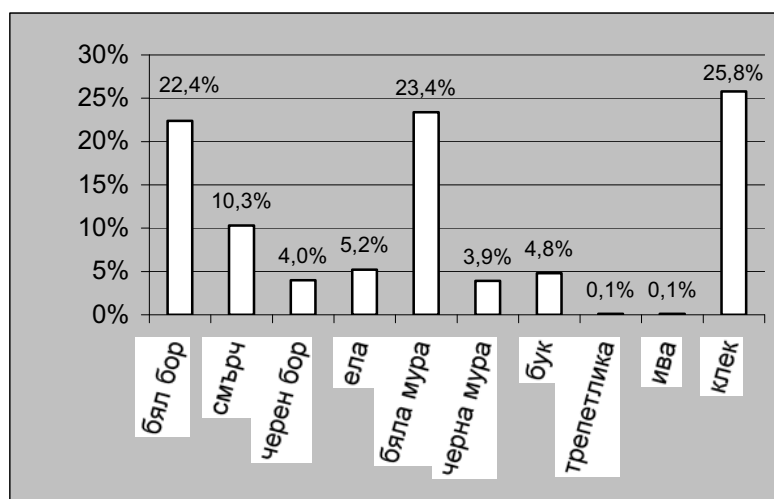
Figure 4. Percentage distribution of the park's forested area according to forest types



Text to the figure: coniferous forests; broad-leaved seed forests, off-shoot forests for transformation

A total of 16 species determine the main composition of the forests. The largest areas are occupied by dwarf pine – 5962,0 ha, followed by Macedonian pine – 5415,8 ha, Norway Spruce – 2379,2 ha, Common Beech – 1098,4 ha, Bosnian pine – 893,4 ha etc., and the lowest area is occupied by *Robinia pseudoacacia* – 0,7 ha and *Cedrus libani* – 0,3 ha. The areas of Macedonian and Bosnian pine in the Park are about 42% and 52% of their total area in Bulgaria.

Figure 5. Percentage distribution of the forested area in the Park by tree species



Text to the figure: Scots Pine, Norway Spruce, Austrian Pine, Silver Fir, Macedonian Pine, Bosnian Pine, Beech, Aspen, Goat Willow, Dwarf Pine

Distribution of the forests by tree species and age classes

The average age of the forests in Pirin NP is 85 years. The largest area is occupied by the forests of the eight-age class (over 140 years) – 34,3% of the total forest area, followed by these of the fifth age class (81-100 years) – 24,5% of the total forested area. The remaining age classes are represented by 5-6% of the total area. The eight-age class includes the stands of *Pinus mugo* that occupy 2/3 of the area of the class.

Distribution of the tree species by origin

Major part of the forest vegetation in the Park is represented by natural seed forests, typical to the region – 21749,3 ha, or 94,1% of the forest area, incl. *P. mugo*. The remaining part amounts to 1307,7 ha, or 5,7% artificial forest plantations, composed by local species and 48,0 ha, or 0,2% off-shoot forests.

Total 5.3 ha plantations of exotic tree species have been established on the Park territory: Hybrid Poplars – 2,9 ha; Douglas Fir – 1,4 ha; Robinia pseudoacacia – 0,7 ha and Cedrus libani – 0,3 ha. The plantations of exotic species are situated in the peripheral parts of the Park. Their total area in the Park is below 0,1 %.

GIS – layers of polygon type are elaborated for the forests, as well as Map # 12 Tree forest vegetation – by species and Map # 13 Forest tree vegetation – by age classes

SCROLL I, Annex 3.3., the following Tables about the biometrical characteristics of the forests in Pirin NP are presented:

Table 1 of the distribution of the total area in Pirin NP by land type and forest type

Table 2 of the distribution of the forested area and total growing stock in Pirin NP by age classes and sub-classes

Table 3 of the distribution of the forested area in Pirin NP by tree species and age classes

Table 4 of the distribution of the growing stock (without branches) in Pirin NP by tree species and age classes

Table 5 of the distribution of the forested area in Pirin NP by tree species and origin

Table 6 of the distribution of the forested area in Pirin NP by tree species and growth classes

1.14. FLORA

Pirin is among the most original Bulgarian mountains regarding its flora. It is characterized by exceptional plant diversity and high percentage of the endemic component. This is due to the very variable conditions determined by the combination of southern latitude and high altitude. Also the orography of the mountain and particularly of the National Park are very variable and allow for the existence of a great number of ecological niches that are habitats of many plant species. The type of the rock background is of crucial importance for the spatial distribution of the different species. Both silicate and limestone areas could be found on the Park territory, and the lakes and different water streams create wetter habitats of hygrophylous species.

1.14.1. Lower plants and fungi

1.14.1.1. Algae

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of nature conservation value	Species that must be subject of special measures	Knowledge gaps
165 species 13 orders, 25 families and 62 genera	very rare species – 1 species Endemic taxa - 2	the most important sites regarding the algae biodiversity are the lakes of Popovi and Kremenski, situated in the central part of the mountain	the less studied plant group in the Park. It is due to their great diversity and their laborious collecting and identification.

IN SCROLL 1, Annex 4.1. A list is presented of all algae species established and the species of nature conservation value

1.14.1.2. Mosses

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of nature conservation value	Knowledge gaps
329 species 4 classes 64 families 138 genera	1 species is included in the Appendix 1 of the Bern Convention 2 species are included in the Directive 92/43 of the Council of EU for the conservation of nature habitats of wild flora and fauna	The Bryoflora of Pirin NP was not studied in detail

IN SCROLL 1, Annex 4.2. A list of the established moss species is presented

1.14.1.3. Fungi (Macromycetes)

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of nature conservation value	Species that must be subject of special measures	Economically important species	Knowledge gaps
375 species 3 отдела, 3 classes 28 orders 67 families 152 genera	6 species presented in the Red List of the fungi in Bulgaria, preliminary European Red List of the threatened macromycetes and in Appendix 1 of the Bern Convention	Threatened species; Species of economic importance that are collected without control and this endangers their populations.	<i>Agaricus arvensis</i> , <i>A. silvaticus</i> , <i>Boletus edulis</i> , <i>B. pinophilus</i> , <i>Cantharellus cibarius</i> , <i>Lepista nuda</i> , <i>Macrolepiota procera</i> , <i>Marasmius oreades</i> etc.	Modern taxonomic basis about the macromycetes in the Park; Resource characteristics as a basis of long-term strategy for using of economically important species; Evaluation of the resource, the degree of anthropogenic pressure and the necessity of temporary prohibition of collecting or appropriate regulation.

During the current study, out of the established 375 species of macromycetes, 71 species (19%) are new for the mycota of Pirin.

The Annexes 4.3, 4.4. and 4.5 of the SCROLL 1 contain:
 4.3. Taxonomic structure of the macromycetes in the Pirin NP
 4.4. Threatened macromycetes in the Pirin NP
 4.5 New species for the Pirin NP

1.14.1.4. Lichens

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of nature conservation value	Species that must be subject of special measures	Economically important species	Knowledge gaps
367 species, this is about 52% of the species of Bulgarian lichen flora 101 genera 36 families 8 orders 209 species, or 52%, could be found in the coniferous forests belt 156 species occur mainly on siliceous substrate	25 rare species are listed in the National strategy for Biodiversity conservation	The fallen old trees and the old trees, especially in the beech forests must be conserved as habitats of a number of rare species.	<i>Cetraria islandica</i> (L.) Ach., - it accumulates heavy metals and radioactive isotopes and its collection from polluted areas is unacceptable <i>Pseudevernia furfuracea</i> (L.) Zopf., - is the most abundant between 1000 and 2200 m altitude, in the forests of beech, Spruce, Scots Pine and Silver Fir.	The great potential of lichens as indicators of environmental pollution was not used. They could be very useful in the study of atmosphere pollution, as well as of accumulation of heavy metals and radioactive isotopes.

SCROLL 1. Annex 4.6 contains list of the lichen species in Pirin NP

1.14.2. Vascular plants

Number of species and taxonomic richness

A total of 1315 species and intraspecific taxa have been established on the territory of Pirin NP. This number represents about one third of the Bulgarian flora as a whole.

The species belong to 484 genera and 94 families.

Large part of the genera and species of the respective families in Bulgaria are represented in Pirin NP. About half of the families is represented by 100% of the genera occurring in Bulgaria. Seventeen families are represented by all their species. It should be noted, however, that these are the families containing lower number of species, distributed mostly in the mountains (*Taxaceae*, *Adoxaceae*, *Monotropaceae* etc.).

The analysis of the floral elements shows that the plant taxa established belongs to 60 floristic centers and combinations between them. The sub-Mediterranean and Euro-Asiatic floristic elements participate almost equally. Also EuroMediterranean and Boreal floristic elements are widely represented. Another group would join the European, Euro-Siberian, Balkan and sub-Boreal floral geo-elements. The Mediterranean, Pontic-Mediterranean, cosmopolitan, Carpathian-Balkan elements and Bulgarian endemics share less than 2-3 % of the flora. The remaining elements are not well represented and 42 categories are below 1 % of participation ratio. The Arctic-Alpine floral geo-elements that are typical for the highest part of the mountain are not numerous. The ruderal species and weeds are relatively few in number.

This analysis shows that the flora of Pirin NP still keeps its natural character to a good extent.

Total number of vascular plants of nature conservation value

A total of 149 taxa among all established in Pirin NP do have some conservation importance. They could be divided into four groups. These groups are conditional and there is at least partial overlapping among them. Since some rare species are not subjects of the conservation legislation, and others, for example, protected species are not included in the Red Data Book etc., a special analysis is necessary for each group.

1) Species included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria, vol. I (1984)

A total of 114 species growing in Pirin NP are included in the Red Data Book. They belong to the categories “extinct” – one species (*Carex rupestris*), “threatened” – 15 species, and “rare” – 98 species. In fact the species marked as “extinct” was found on the Park territory.

2) Protected species

The total number of protected species is 54.

3) Endemic species

One of the most important speciation spots in Bulgaria is situated in Pirin. Here the endemic component is widely represented, and is the most abundant in the limestone part.

- Local (Pirin) endemics

According to the current knowledge fourteen species and four subspecies have their area of distribution only in Pirin.

- Bulgarian endemics

The Bulgarian endemics are 17 species. In fact, the local (Pirin) endemics are also Bulgarian endemics, but they are listed in the above category. If they are also considered, the total number of Bulgarian endemics is 35 taxa.

- Balkan endemics

Total number of the Balkan endemics is 86 species. Twenty-two among them have some conservation importance. Also three Balkan sub-endemics are noted. The remaining part of the endemics (more than 60 species) have wide areas of distribution and do not require strict conservation measures.

4) Species protected by International Conventions

- Species protected by the Bern Convention – four species

- Species included in the Red List of IUCN of 1997 – 21 species. Only one species – *Pinus peuce* Griseb., is included in the last version of this List.

- Species included in the Directive 92/43 – four species

- Species included in the CITES convention. Twenty-one species of these in Annex 6 are considered by this Convention. In fact all the species belonging to fam. *Orchidaceae* and *Amaryllidaceae* growing in the Park, are included in the Convention. The noted 21 species are considered as vulnerable and rarely occurring in Pirin NP and need measures for conservation.

Species, subject to special measures

The species listed in the *Scroll 1, Annex 4.10* should be subjected to special conservation measures. Some other species have to be included also, because of the status of their populations in the Park. They are not protected by the National legislation, because they are widely distributed in other parts of the country, or due to other reasons. In Pirin NP the following species should be mentioned: *Crataegus orientalis* Pall., *Sorbus chamaemespilus* Crantz, *Swertia perennis* L., *Geum coccineum* S. et S., *Alyssum orbelicum* Ancev et Uzunov, *Campanula jordanovii* Ancev et Kovanda and *Erysimum slavjankae* Ancev & Polatschek. The first two species are rare for the country as a whole. The other two species – *Swertia perennis* and *Geum coccineum* are vulnerable, being collected by the tourists as flowers, and the last three species have been described recently as new for the science, and are not, therefore, considered by the Bulgarian nature conservation legislation.

Economically important species

Many of the plants on the Park territory could be considered as economically important. Such species are most of the woody species, forest fruit species (berries of genus *Vaccinium*, strawberry, raspberry, rowan etc.) and all medicinal plants.

Knowledge gaps

In spite of the large number of species, listed in *Scroll 1, Annex 4.7.*, the full list of the Pirin NP flora cannot be considered as a final one. A detailed inventory could yield some new species for the Park, especially in the lowermost border area, where penetration of some heat-demanding and non-typical for the Park species is quite possible.

The populations of some rare and endangered species were not studied in details, especially in their localities close to tourist trails and centers. Critical decrease of the number of individuals is possible in such places and necessity of urgent measures could arise.

GIS – a layer of “point” type, and Map # 14 Habitats of vascular plants having conservation value have been elaborated

The SCROLL 1, Annexes 4.7. – 4.11. present:

4.7. Species of vascular flora established in Pirin NP

4.8. Number of genera and species in the plant families established on the territory of Pirin NP

4.9. Percentage ratio of the genera and species of the plant families established on the territory of Pirin NP, regarding the total number of genera and species of the respective families in Bulgaria

4.10. Plant species having conservation importance

4.11. Balkan endemics with wide distribution

1.14.3. Medicinal plants

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of nature conservation value	Species that must be subject of special measures	Economically important species	Knowledge gaps
182 species belonging to 59 families 1 species belonging to lower plants	2 species are endemics 1 species is relic, 10 species are included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria, 6 species are protected by the Medicinal Plants Act and 17 species are under special management regime 4 species are included in CITES list, 3 species are included in the list of endangered medicinal plants indicated by EU in the annex of Regulation (EC) # 338/97	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> L. Spreng <i>Gentiana lutea</i> <i>Rhodiola rosea</i> L. subjected to negative influence, resulting from illegal harvesting, erosion processes and other factors	<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i> L., <i>Thymus sp. diversa</i> <i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> complex. <i>Rumex alpinus</i> L., <i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i> L. и <i>Verbascum longifolium ssp panosum</i> .	The phytosociologic characteristic of the populations of medicinal plants is still poorly known, especially regarding their vertical and horizontal structure; Age structure of the populations of medicinal plants still remains to be studied. The same concerns the possibilities for their restoration and regeneration after harvesting; Lack of information regarding the effect of the forest management systems on the resource characteristics of medicinal plants.

Status, habitats and distribution of the medicinal plants.

1) Herbaceous plant communities in forest meadows, openings, forest edges, along the roads and other open areas near the lowermost border of the Park near Bansko, Razlog and Dobrinishte. Total 101 species occur in this zone, or 56 % of all medicinal plants in the Park. Most of these species are distributed across the whole country, and some of them are rarely used in the phytotherapy.

Mass species are *Trifolium pratense*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Belis perennis*, *Berberis vulgaris*, *Eryngium campestre*, *Genista tinctoria*, *Thymus* spp.

The protected species in this zone is *Galanthus nivalis*.

Popular species that are widely collected by the local people and tourists and attracting long-term interest of the users are the following ones: *Ononis spinosa* complex, *Centaurium erythraea* Rafin, *Hypericum perforatum* L., *Melissa officinalis* L., *Galega officinalis* L., *Origanum vulgare* L. ssp. *vulgare*, *Thymus sp. diversa*, *Plantago lanceolata* L., *Primula veris* L., *Agrimonia eupatoria* L., *Rosa canina* complex, *Crataegus monogina* Jacq., *Fragaria vesca* L., *Berberis vulgaris* L. and some others. This zone is subjected to the strongest pressure by the collectors and industrial users.

Three species are under *limited regime of use*.

2) Forest communities in the beech zone.

A total of 42 species that are typical of this zone have been established, which is 23 % of all medicinal species of the Park. Several species occupy relatively large areas. These species are dominants and co-dominants in the communities: *Sanicula europaea* L., *Galium odoratum* (L.) Scop. *Geranium macrorrhizum* L., *Dryopteris filix-mas* (L.) Schott and some others.

There are some other species typical only of this type of mesic forests, like *Atropa belladonna* L., *Phyllitis scolopendrium* (L.) Neum., *Allium ursinum* L., *Asarum europaeum* L., *Gentiana asclepiadea* L. and some others.

Only one species of this zone is included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria - *Atropa belladonna*. No protected species have been established.

Seven species are under special management regime and are, according to their ecological requirements, typical of this forest type only.

3) Herbaceous communities on forest meadows in the zone of beech and conifers

A total of 75 species, or 41 % of the total number of medicinal plants have been recorded. The most typical species are *Juniperus sibirica* L., *Juniperus communis* L., *Galium verum* L., *Achillea millefolium* complex, *Viola tricolor* L., *Hypericum perforatum* L., *Hypericum maculatum* L., *Plantago lanceolata* L., *Fragaria vesca* and some others. The highest number of species offering possibility for collection is concentrated in this zone.

Two species are included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria.

One species (*Gentiana lutea* L.) is protected and six species are under special management regime.

4) Forest communities in the coniferous zone

In the formations of Scots Pine, Black Pine and Bosnian Pine

The main resource species in this zone is *Vaccinium myrtillus*. Here it reaches maximum fruit productivity. Other species of economic importance are *Sorbus aucuparia* (fruits) and *Pteridium aquilinum*. Twenty-seven species have been established in this zone (15 % of medicinal species). One species is included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria and two species are under special management regime.

In the formations of the Norway Spruce and Silver Fir

Nineteen species have been established or 10 % of all medicinal species established. The following species are considered to be economically important: *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Geranium macrorrhizum*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Oxalis acetosella* and *Pteridium aquilinum*. Four species are under special management regime.

In the formations of Macedonian pine

This zone is one of the largest in the Park. Sixteen species (or 9% of all medicinal species) have been established. The species of economic importance are: *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Geranium macrorrhizum* and *Rubus idaeus*. Two species have nature conservation status.

Forest communities in the zone of Mountain Dwarf Pine

Twelve medicinal species have been established in this zone (7%). Only the leaves of *Vaccinium myrtillus* are considered as economically important, because species does not fructify regularly in this zone. However, collection of leaves is technically difficult. No species of nature conservation value have been established.

Herbaceous plant communities in the zone of Juniperus sibirica

Eight species (or 4% of all medicinal species) have been found in this zone. Only *Thymus* spp. has economic importance. No species having conservation value have been established.

Herbaceous communities in the sub-alpine and alpine pastures

Sixteen species (or 9 % of all medicinal species) have been found in this zone. Only *Thymus* spp. and *Euphrasia* spp. do have economic importance. One species is included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria, one species is protected and two species are under special management regime. The growing stocks of *Euphrasia* that have economic importance are concentrated in the region of Glavinitsa lakes. The populations of *Thymus perinicus* around Vihren and Sinanitza are important from conservation point of view.

5) Intrazonal communities in marches and along the rivers

The total number of species in this zone is 14, or 8% of all the medicinal plants. The following species are of economic importance: *Petasites* spp., *Tussilago farfara*, *Caltha palustris*, and *Geranium macrorrhizum*. Two species – *Angelica panicicii* and *Frangula alnus* deserve conservation attention. The latter species is not considered for protection.

These are species of limited (4-6 floristic regions) or local distribution (1-3 floristic regions) (Hardalova et al., 1994).

6) Intrazonal ruderal (“pen”) communities

These communities are of anthropogenic character and are at different stages of their development and structuring, depending on the period of acting of the factor causing their occurrence. Eleven species (or 6%) have been established here, and each species could be a subject of collection and use. The main resource species are *Rumex alpinus* and *Verbascum longifolium* ssp. *pannosum*. No species of nature conservation value have been found.

7) Intrazonal communities on rock habitats

Fourteen species, or 8% of all medicinal species have been found on such habitats. No species of economic importance have been identified. Three species are included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria, two species are protected and three are under special management regime. In this zone special attention deserve the populations of *Rhodiola rosea* L.

State of the resources

- ⇒ Species that are widely distributed in the whole country, and especially around the settlements, which were seldom found on the Park territory – about 70%. Such species are: *Plantago* spp., *Tilia* spp., *Chelidonium majus*, *Achillea* spp. complex, *Artemissia* spp., *Clematis vitalba*, *Coryllus avellana*, *Malva* spp. and some others. These species are subjected only to weak anthropogenic pressure on the Park territory, due to the lack of interest of the industrial users. They are collected mostly in small quantities by tourists and are used in the traditional phytotherapy and homeopathy.
- ⇒ Species distributed in the forests of Pirin, as well as in all the forests of the country – about 20 % of the medicinal plants. For example, characteristic species for the beech forests are: *Asarum europaeum*, *Sanicula europaea*, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*, *Cetraria islandica*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Polypodium vulgare* etc.
- ⇒ Species, typical for the sub-alpine parts of the Park and occurring in the other high mountains of the country. Examples are *Thymus* sp. *diversa*, *Euphrasia* sp. *diversa*, *Juniperus sibirica* and some others. These species are of particular interest because they form large and compact massifs on the Park territory. They are subjected to moderate anthropogenic pressure.
- ⇒ Characteristic species for the Park, which are rare in the other Bulgarian mountains (distributed mostly in Rila and Central Balkan National Parks). Here we include almost all species under special management regime or under protection.
- ⇒ Species, typical for the ruderal “pen” communities. Their list includes *Rumex alpinus*, *Chenopodium bonus-henricus* and *Verbascum longifolium* ssp. *pannosum*.

The evaluation of potential of the localities allows distinguishing of the following groups:

- Species under limited regime of use.
- Species having high potential productivity and forming compact massifs on the Park territory. These are *Juniperus sibirica*, *Thymus* spp., *Primula veris*, *Euphrasia* spp., *Hypericum perforatum*, *Hypericum maculatum*, and the species typical of the “pen” communities.
- Species of diffusion (do not form compact massifs) on the Park territory. Examples are: *Solidago virga-aurea*, *Gentiana asclepiadea*, *Geranium macrorrhizum*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Scrophularia nodosa*, *Veronica officinalis*, *Cornus mas* and some others.
- Species of rare distribution or concentrated in one part only. These are the species typical of the beech forests: *Allium ursinum*, *Atropa bella-donna*, *Sanicula europaea*, *Origanum vulgare*, *Geum coccineum* and some others.

GIS – a layer of polygon and point type for the species and localities of medicinal plants has been developed, as well as a Map # 15 Medicinal Plants

SCROLL 1, Annexes 5.1. to 5.4. present:

5.1. List of medicinal plants established in Pirin NP

5.2. List of medicinal plants having conservation value

5.3. Description of the natural localities of the medicinal plants

5.4. Medicinal plants established, classified by zones of distribution

1.15. FAUNA

1.15.1. Invertebrate animals

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of conservation value	Economically important species	Knowledge gaps
2091 species and subspecies 6 classes, 15 orders, and 205 families	294 rare species, 216 endemics, 176 relicts and 15 species from European and World conservation lists. <i>Helix pomatia</i> is included in ESC, BC-III, HD-V and CORINE	Two species of land snails from the genus <i>Helix</i> are subjects of trading in Bulgaria <i>Helix pomatia</i> and <i>Helix lucorum</i> . In the months of April - May the breeding specimens contain eggs and their collection will strongly diminish the reproductive abilities of the populations. The two species of resource land snails are widely distributed in Pirin National Park.	The number of the established species is about 40 % of the expected 4500 species for this region; The collected data on phenology, behavior and habitat demands of the species from these groups are scarce and cannot be used for assessment; There are no enough data on the quantity and quality of the parameters of the main populations of the relict and endemic rare species; There are no enough data on the anthropological influence on the biodiversity of the mountain.

⇒ Invertebrate animal species, typical of the territory of the park:

Araneae – 321 species from 28 families, which is 35% of the species in Bulgaria. The richest of species are the following families: *Liniphiidae* – 80 (25 %), *Lycosidae* – 33 (10,28%), *Gnaphosidae* – 26 (8%), and the genus: *Leptyphantes* (18), *Pardosa* (16), *Philodromus* (10), *Clubiona*, *Zelotes*, and *Xysticus* – 9 species.

The distribution of the spiders in different parts of the Park shows that they prefer mainly northeastern slopes of the silicate and calcareous parts. The richest of species is the coniferous zone of the Park.

Myriapoda – 36 species and subspecies from 10 families and 8 orders (*Chilopoda* – 21 species and subspecies from 5 families and 3 orders; *Diplopoda* – 15 species and subspecies from 7 families and 6 orders). This is about 20% of the species found in Bulgaria.

The species of this group are distributed mainly in the woodland parts of the Park and less in the alpine and sub-alpine zones of the mountain.

Ephemeroptera – 2 species from one family, which is about 2% from the species established in Bulgaria.

Odonata – The territory of Pirin National Park is not well investigated regarding its dragon-flies fauna. The implemented investigations show that the dragonflies reach some glacial lakes placed in a high altitude such as Belemetsko lake (2400 m), Dolno Todorino lake (2400 m) and Tavno lake (2512 m).

Orthoptera – 63 species (Orthoptera – 60, Blattaria – 3), which is about 30% of the species in Bulgaria. The richest of species are the valleys of the rivers Banderitza and Damjanitza. Representatives of this group are found from the lower border of the Park to the highest peaks of the mountain (2850 m) and they inhabit all plant zones of the territory. The richest of species is the coniferous zone, but most of them are not connected with the coniferous trees and inhabit wood glades. The territory of the Park is the only one in Bulgaria in which on the highest altitude for the group (2850 m) a complex from four species can be found: *Anterastes serbicus*, *Bohemanella frigida*, *Gomphocerus sibiricus* and *Aeropedellus variegates*. These are the relict species of the Park.

Plecoptera – 40 species from 6 families, or 40% of the species found in Bulgaria. The richest of species are two families – *Nemouridae* (16 species) and *Leuctridae* (10 species).

The distribution of the plecopters is connected with the waters of the Park. For this reason they are least distributed horizontally in the arid calcareous terrains of the northwestern part of the Park. Richest of species and most numerous are the zones between 1500-1600 to 2000 m altitude.

Heteroptera – 323 species from 28 families include 7 rare species, 6 endemics, 67 relict species. This is about 32% of the species found in Bulgaria. The richest of species is the Northern part of the Park in the region of Bayovi dupki–Dzhindzhiritza Reserve that is the best-investigated part of the Pirin National Park. With the increasing of altitude there's an impoverishment in biodiversity.

Coleoptera – 639 species and subspecies (195 from *Adephaga* and 444 from *Polyphaga*) from 37 families. The richest of species are the families *Carabidae* (137), *Chrysomelidae* (55), *Staphylinidae* (35) and *Curculionidae* (32). The best examined groups, with over 50 % of the species in the region are *Carabidae*, *Dytiscidae* and *Silphidae*. Probably, the territory of the Pirin National Park is inhabited by 1800 – 1900 species and subspecies belonging to at least 50 families of *Coleoptera*.

Neuropterida – 25 species (*Neuroptera* – 22, *Raphidioptera* – 1 species, *Megaloptera* - 2 species), which is 20% of the species in Bulgaria. Relatively rich of species families in the group of Lacewings are *Hemerobiidae*, with 9 species and *Chrysopidae* with 7 species. The richest of species is genus *Hemerobius* – 5 species.

Most species are known from the valleys of the Banderitza and Damjanitza rivers. The preferred habitats are the beech, spruce and Bosnian pine forests.

Hymenoptera – 36 species from 11 families. The richest of species is *Ichneumonidae* with 17 species contained in 16 genera. On the second place is *Formicidae* with 4 genus and 6 species.

A peculiarity for the horizontal distribution of the order is the occurring of its representatives in the adjacent zones of the park, equally from all geographic directions. As a function of this, the vertical distribution of the group is characterized by the largest number of species in the lower parts of the park at an altitude up to 1500-1700 m.

Trichoptera – 59 species of 9 families, which is 24% of the species found in Bulgaria.

The distribution of the Caddy flies in Pirin depends on the existence of the suitable habitats. As typical water insects they spend most of their life cycle in fresh water – lakes, the system of springs connecting them and the main rivers and their tributaries. The territory of the Park is abundant in suitable habitats and the horizontal distribution is more or less regular, excluding the NW part (Baiuvi Dupki-Djindjirica Reserve), where carbonate terrain is prevailing and the water system is highly reduced.

Lepidoptera – 449 species (116 species of butterflies and 333 species of moths) from 24 families. The level of the investigation of this group in the Park is about 40%. The group of butterflies is distributed in all plant zones and habitats in Pirin National Park. With the increasing of the altitude the number of species decreases. The group inhabits mainly open lands without being bound to any zone.

Mollusca – 89 species contained in two classes, 4 orders and 27 families. The established taxa are 27,3% of the species (without marine) in Bulgaria. Considering that Pirin hasn't got suitable habitats for most of the freshwater mollusks this percent taken to the terrestrial species (82 species) is considerably higher – 34,7%. Freshwater mollusks are represented in all plant zones of Pirin but the terrestrial forms prevail.

⇒ Cave fauna

The limited areas of distribution, the low numbers of the populations, the high vulnerability of the trogliphilous and troglionts forms in case of destruction of the habitats or changing the conditions in them, make this group of animals of higher conservation importance. Some caves are investigated in the territory of the Pirin National Park, situated mainly in the cirques Baiuvi dupki, Kamenititza, Banski suhodol and Razlojki suhodol.

Typical cave inhabitant is the spider *Anthrohyphantes rhodopensis* known only from the highland caves in Pirin, Rila and Rhodopes mountains.

Six species of snails (2 trogliphilous и 4 troglone forms) are known from the investigated territory. They are a typical element of the cave communities and so they are under protection. They are also in the list of species with conservation importance.

GIS – a layer of the polygon type is generated and Map # 16 Habitats of animal species of conservation value is elaborated

In SCROLL I, Annexes 6. 1. – 6.3. are presented:

6.1. Faunal richness and level of knowledge of the groups studied in Bulgaria and in Pirin NP

6.2. Summarized data on the reviewed invertebrate groups in the Pirin national park

6.3. Invertebrate taxa of conservation significance, characteristic of Pirin NP

1.15.2. Fish

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of nature conservation value	Species that must be subject of special measures	Economically important species	Knowledge gaps
6 species 3 families, 3 orders – only about 5 % of the freshwater ichtiofauna in Bulgaria	6 species are of conservation value 2 species are glacial relicts, 1 species is in Red Data Book of Bulgaria as a threatened species 1 is included in Appendix III of the Bern Convention and Annex II of Directive 92/43	<i>Leuciscus souffia</i> and the relict populations of brown trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	<i>Salmo trutta</i> , <i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i> and <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> are subject of freshwater angling and they are important for the development of the angling tourism	Poorly investigated are Kremenski lakes – the only location of blageon (<i>Leuciscus souffia</i>) in Bulgaria. Poorly investigated are also the adjacent group of lakes – Kamenishki, Kornishki and Breznishki and other lakes situated far from the tourist infrastructure – Malenkoto, Kuklenoto, Pleshkoto, Pleshivoto and Strajishki lakes. Researches up to now are insufficient to determinate the local (relict) populations of Brown trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)

⇒ Fish species characteristic of the territory of the Park:

- Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) – introduced North American species
- Brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) - introduced North American species
- The European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) – considered to be extinct
- Balkan trout (*Salmo trutta*) – glacial relict
- Common minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*)

In SCROLL I, Annex 2. 4. are presented: Vertebrate animals in Pirin NP – species composition and conservation value

1.15.3. Amphibians and Reptiles

Number of species and taxonomic richness	Species of nature conservation value	Knowledge gaps
Class <i>Amphibia</i> 8 species 2 orders 5 families Class <i>Reptilia</i> : 11 species	3 species are glacial relicts 1 Balkan endemic subspecies	The available data (until 2002) refer only to certain localities; Incomplete data about the species composition and the distribution of the herpetofauna in the park, about the population parameters of all species, present in the park, about the daily and seasonal activity of the different animals and their nutritious spectre; On the Balkans, Alpine Newt (<i>Triturus alpestris</i>), reaches Greece to the south, and occurs in most of the high mountains of Bulgaria. The only place that seems to provide favorable conditions for this species, but has not yielded it yet, is the Pirin mountain. Future investigations could possibly prove this species in Pirin too.

There is one species from Caudata – *Salamandra salamandra* from the family Salamandridae, which is 25% of the species diversity in the country. Order Anura is represented by 7 species from 4 families (*Discoglossidae*, *Bufo**nidae*, *Ranidae*, *Hylidae*), which is 58,3% of the species in Bulgaria.

In SCROLL I, Annex 6. 4. are presented: Vertebrate animals in Pirin NP – species composition and conservation value

1.15.4. Birds

Number of species and richness of taxa

The established 159 species of birds are about 40% of the species diversity in class Aves in Bulgaria, which is represented by 399 species (Nankinov, 1992).

The established species belong to 16 orders and 38 families, as follows:

Order	Family	Number of species
<i>Podicipediformes</i>	<i>Podicepidae</i>	1
<i>Pelecaniformes</i>	<i>Phalacrocoracidae</i>	1
<i>Ciconiformes</i>	<i>Ardeidae</i>	3
<i>Anseriformes</i>	<i>Anatidae</i>	2
<i>Falconiformes</i>	<i>Accipitridae</i>	16
	<i>Falconidae</i>	6
<i>Galiformes</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>	5
<i>Gruiformes</i>	<i>Rallidae</i>	2
<i>Charadriiformes</i>	<i>Charadriidae</i>	1
	<i>Scolopacidae</i>	2
	<i>Laridae</i>	1
<i>Columbiformes</i>	<i>Columbidae</i>	4
<i>Cuculiformes</i>	<i>Cuculidae</i>	1
<i>Caprimulgiformes</i>	<i>Caprimulgidae</i>	1
<i>Strigiformes</i>	<i>Strigidae</i>	6

<i>Apodiformes</i>	<i>Apodidae</i>	3
<i>Coraciiformes</i>	<i>Meropidae</i>	1
	<i>Upupidae</i>	1
	<i>Picidae</i>	11
<i>Piciformes</i>	<i>Alaudidae</i>	3
	<i>Hirundinidae</i>	4
	<i>Motacillidae</i>	7
<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Lanidae</i>	4
	<i>Cinclidae</i>	1
	<i>Troglodytidae</i>	1
	<i>Prunellidae</i>	2
	<i>Bombicillidae</i>	1
	<i>Muscicapidae</i>	26
	<i>Aegithalidae</i>	1
	<i>Paridae</i>	7
	<i>Sittidae</i>	3
	<i>Certhidae</i>	2
	<i>Emberizidae</i>	5
	<i>Fringilidae</i>	12
	<i>Sturnidae</i>	2
	<i>Oriolidae</i>	1
	<i>Ploceidae</i>	3
<i>Corvidae</i>	6	

Order *Passeriformes* is the most represented order in the Park with 19 families, which is 50% of all 38 families. This order is also the richest of species – 91 species, which is 57% of all 159 species established in the studied area.

Number of species of conservation value or of conservation interest.

⇒ Relicts

Three species are glacial relicts – Tengmalm’s owl, white-backed woodpecker and three-toed woodpecker.

⇒ Endemics

There are 5 Balkan endemic subspecies of white-backed woodpecker, shore lark, alpine accentor, crested tit and rock nuthatch.

⇒ Species of conservation value

The conservation status (according to Bulgarian and International legislation and criteria) of the 159 species of birds found in the Park is as follows:

Species protected by NPA	143 species
Red Data Book of Bulgaria	31 species
Threatened species	22 species
IUCN Red List	2 species
BONN	54 species
BERN	148 species
CITES	29 species
DIR 79/409	40 species
EMERALD	37 species

GIS – a layer of the polygon type is generated and Map # 16 Habitats of animal species of conservation value is elaborated

In SCROLL I, Annex 6. 4. are presented: Vertebrate animals in Pirin NP – species composition and conservation value

Species, which should be a subject of special measures and reasons for this.

Lesser spotted eagle (*Aquila pomarina*)

There is information from last few years for one breeding pair. Probably it nests in the adjacent territories. Literature data show that after 1960 the species has never been presented with more than 1 –2 pairs in the Park.

Conservation measures:

- Localization of its territories and stricter guarding of the respective forest sections, which appear to be the species nesting habitats;
- Poaching control;
- Control of the use of different chemicals in the open agricultural areas near the park borders; This is necessary because of the fact that several times birds hunting in the fields to the east and west of Bansko have been recorded. These are birds, breeding on the territory of the Pirin NP and looking for food in the adjacent regions.

Booted eagle (*Hieraaetus pennatus*)

On the 23rd of April 2002, one bird was observed on the territory of Pirin NP, above the village of Dobrinishte. This specimen is probably a spring migrant but the possibility of nesting should not be discounted. Simeonov (1986) established the breeding of Booted Eagle in Pirin.

Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

The species is in critical condition. It is rarely seen in small numbers in the breeding period. There is a clear tendency of decreasing of the pairs nesting in Pirin NP during the last 2-3 decades. In the near past 3-4 pairs were nesting in the Park and other 3-4 pairs were nesting near the Park. During the present investigation the Golden Eagle was found in two regions of the Pirin NP's territory where probably two pairs are nesting (Baiuvi dupki-Djindjiritza Reserve and Julen Reserve) and probably 3 other pairs are nesting in the adjacent territories (above the village of Vlahi, Kresna, Southern Pirin).

Conservation measures:

- Clarifying the reasons for the decreasing of the species in the park;
- Strict protection of the territories, occupied by nesting pairs; including these territories in zones with strict regimes;
- Poaching and bird stuffing control;

Short-toed eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*)

It is a very rare species in the Park. During the breeding period one pair has been observed below the Vasilashki lakes (Kolchagov data) and one near the Park (between Kresna and Sinanitza chalet).

Conservation measures: same as for the Lesser-spotted eagle.

Saker (*Falco cherrug*)

S. Simeonov reported the presence of this species in the areas of Goliamo spano pole and Donchovi karauli in the period of 1966 – 1972. Now the species was found in the same areas too. The species is under extinction in Pirin NP and Bulgaria. The saker and Peregrine are birds of prey, which are often subject of poaching.

Conservation measures:

- Proving the species' nesting and localizing its nesting territory; declaring a very strict regime on this territory without mentioning the exact nesting locations. The practice shows that the poachers of raptors use the scientific literature and other information sources, listing the nesting locations of the rare species from order *Falconiformes*.
- Permanent guarding of the nest during the nesting season;
- Poaching control.

Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*)

There are about 3 breeding pairs in the Park. The species can be also observed during the breeding period in the adjacent territories of the Park where the nesting of another 4-5 pairs is possible. This species inhabits

mainly the middle and lower zones of Pirin Mountain. The information from the past about this species is very scarce. It is under extinction in some parts of its area. It is observed that in Bulgaria during the 90's of XX century this species increases its number. If this tendency remains constant, some increase of the number of the nesting pairs can be expected.

Conservation measures:

- As for the Saker falcon;
- Designating different protected territories in the species' nesting regions near the park or including some of these territories in the Pirin NP.

Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*)

In 2002 it was a priority species in the field studies. After collecting some information from local people, who spend most of the time of the year on the territory of Pirin NP (employees of the Park, foresters, shepherds, etc.) a preliminary information was received about 15 localities, in which capercaillies were found in the last two years. In three of them 72 capercaillies were registered. According to the literature and the last census made by foresters it becomes clear that the number of the capercaillie decreases compare to the middle years of the last century but maintains steady for the last ten years.

Conservation measures:

- All the display and feeding places of the capercaillie, most of which are well known, should be declared as zones with special regime and the access to them should be limited to the maximum. All activities, which may disturb the capercaillies should be stopped or limited to the maximum;
- The poaching control and the checks of the bird stuffers in the settlements around the Pirin NP, made by RIEW and the other controlling bodies should be increased;
- The human pressure in its different forms has led to the disappearance of the capercaillie in the Central Balkan and Vitosha. Negative tendencies are observed in the Pirin as well – illegal felling, poaching, increased human presence, construction of the “Bansko ski zone”, etc. This results in the gradual decrease and disappearing of the capercaillie in big areas of the Pirin NP and the whole mountain because of the isolation and the constantly depleting genetic fund of the species;
- Poaching control;
- Removing of the stray dogs;
- Banning, limiting and controlling the different activities in the months of May and June, when the species broods and hatches.

Hazel grouse (*Tetrastes bonasia*)

The number of this species in Pirin NP as well as everywhere in Bulgaria is not very clear. The data from the local people, the literature data and our observations show that the population of the species in Pirin Mountain is stable. The number of the species is not high.

Conservation measures:

- Poaching control;
- Removing the stray dogs;
- Banning, limiting and controlling the different activities in the months of May and June, when the species broods and hatches.

Rock partridge (*Alectoris graeca*)

In the last years there is an abrupt decrease of the number of this species in Bulgaria. This also refers to Pirin NP. It is distributed in separate, remote nesting territories in alpine and sub-alpine zones mainly in N and NW parts of the Park.

Conservation measures:

- Controlling, limiting or stopping the grazing of big cattle in the regions, inhabited by rock partridges. A negative example is the area of Spano pole, where in 2001 big plots dug up by the dozens of unattended grazing animals were established. This reflects adversely not only on the Rock partridge, but on all ground nesting species there, as this is the biggest open area in the zone, covered with high-mountain grass associations. The region is also an important feeding ground for the birds of prey in this part of the Pirin NP; it hosts some of the most considerable parts of the populations of the Balkan lark, the Mountain pipit, etc.
- Poaching control;
- Removing the stray dogs;

Corncrake (*Crex crex*)

Globally threatened species – category SPEC 1! During the field surveys this species was recorded once on 25th of June 2002 at about 1700 m altitude on the southern slopes of Sharalia peak (2172 m). According to Delov (in press) this species has been found twice in Pirin Mountain between 2000 and 2500 m altitude in the months of July and August. This author shows that birds from this species reach the highest parts of the mountains at the end of the breeding period.

Conservation measures:

- Studying and clarifying the status, distribution and nature of stay of the Corncrake. This would clarify the importance of the Pirin NP for this globally threatened species.

Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*)

The population of this species decreases in the whole part of the country and now it is rare as a breeding species. It was found during the autumn of 2001 in Julen Reserve. During 2002 it was found a breeding of this species on the territory of Pirin NP above Jane Sandansky chalet in the destination to Kamenitza chalet. This is an interesting find because there is no information for the breeding of this species for more than 50 years. This is one of the southern points of nesting for this species in Europe and the first evidence for the nesting of the woodcock in Pirin.

Conservation measures:

- Removing of the stray dogs (from chalets, hotels, etc.) and the shepherd dogs, coming from the adjacent settlements;
- Carrying out a separate detailed study on the species in the NP and the adjacent territories in the Pirin; clarifying the reasons for the species' decline.

Stock dove (*Columba oenas*)

In many parts of the country this species is already extinct. On the territory of Pirin this species has become very rare too. It is not established in the area of the Park, but only in the adjacent territories without sure evidence for nesting. According to the local employees this species still inhabits the forests of the Park, but it is very rare.

Conservation measures:

- Stopping the sanitary and any other felling in the old forests in and around the park, suitable for the species' nesting;
- Poaching control.

Tengmalm's owl (*Aegolius funereus*)

There is only one piece of information of finding this species in Pirin mountain (Baumgart, 1987). It was in the year of 1971 without information about the exact locality. The data from 2001 shows that the Tengmalm's Owl is distributed with high numbers in almost all of the proper for this species forests in NE slopes of Pirin from the area of Malka Djindjiritza to Bezbog chalet. In 2002 the species was found in some regions in the SW and S parts of the NP- in the regions of the Pirin and Kamenitza chalets. It is most common in the regions of Banderishka poliana and Yavorov and Pirin chalets.

Conservation measures: same as for the Stock dove (*Columba oenas*).

White-backed woodpecker (*Dendrocopus leucotos lilfordi*)

Rare, endemic subspecies for the Balcan peninsula. The number of this species in Pirin is too low. It inhabits beech and some coniferous forests mainly in N and NE parts of the Park – above Predela and Yavorov chalet.

Conservation measures: same as for the Stock dove (*Columba oenas*).

Three-toed woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*)

This species is very rare in Bulgaria. Glacial relict. In Pirin NP it is very rare and under extinction. It is established in the forests below Banderitza chalet and in Baiuvi dupki Reserve. This species used to be numerous in the past (Simeonov, 1971; Simeonov, 1986).

Conservation measures: same as for the Stock dove (*Columba oenas*).

Knowledge gaps

- ⇒ The field research has accidental character but not systematic
- ⇒ The changes in the populations are not investigated in the time. Some of the regions in the Park are frequently visited by the researchers, but others are almost uninvestigated.
- ⇒ Data about migration activity of the species in the regions with well-developed migration routes and points for resting are low (or totally lacking).
- ⇒ Investigations on the synopsis and number of populations of the nocturnal raptors are not implemented.
- ⇒ The investigations on the birds in Pirin are quite irregular. The main survey was implemented by Simeonov (1986) – the information was collected in the period – 1964-1983. This is the main work on birds in Pirin Mountain.
- ⇒ Gaps in surveys carried out in 2001-2002
 - The data from 2002 are only from the first part of the breeding period and do not include the months of July and August.
 - The period between 1 and 15th of July, which is quite important for the nesting, was not investigated.
 - For the surveys on the long-term trends in population dynamics of the birds in the Park a minimum of 3 years are needed.

1.15.5. Mammals

Number of species and richness of taxa

According to the literature and the implemented field surveys during the years of 2001 and 2002, 45 species of mammals were established on the territory of Pirin NP. This is about 50 % of the terrestrial mammals in Bulgaria, without including the introduced and the twin-species.

Order	Family	Number of species
Insectivora	Talpidae	5
	Soricidae	
Chiroptera	Rhinolophidae	3
	Vespertilionidae	13
Lagomorpha	Sciuridae	1
	Gliridae	2
Rodentia	Muridae	2
	Arvicolidae	5
Carnivora	Mustelidae	5
	Felidae	1
	Canidae	2
	Ursidae	1
Artiodactyla	Suidae	1
	Cervidae	2
	Bovidae	1

The present research gives information about the presence of 12 bat species in the researched region for the first time.

Number of species of conservation value:

- ⇒ Relicts
 - One species is glacial relict – the snow vole.
- ⇒ Endemics

There are two Balkan endemic subspecies – Bank vole (*Clethrionomys glareolus pirinus*) and Balkan chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra balcanica*).

⇒ Species of conservation value

The conservation status (according to Bulgarian and International legislation and criteria) of the mammals found in the Park is as follows:

Protected by PAA	- 19 species
Red Data Book of Bulgaria	- 5 species
Threatened species	-3 species
IUCN Red List	- 12 species
BONN	- 14 species
BERN	- 37 species
CITES	- 3 species
DIR 79/409	- 24 species
EMERALD	will be further specified

Species, which should be a subject of special measures and reasons for this.

Pine marten (*Martes martes*)

Included in Bulgarian Red Data Book as an endangered species. As a whole, deforestation has an extremely negative influence on this species. The main part of the local population (including the employers in the Park security) does not make the difference between pine-marten and beech-marten. The absence of recognition between the two species is a threat for the pine-marten it can be mistaken with the beech-marten which is a subject of hunting outside the Park territory.

Wild cat (*Felis silvestris*)

The data about the presence of the wild cat on the territory of Pirin NP are extremely scarce. It was considered as a “pest” and hunted for many years. During the spring census of 2002 8 specimens were established. The species is extremely rare. Footprints of wild cat are observed only in locations rarely visited by people and never in the tourist regions. Relatively highest frequency of findings of footprints was established in the western part of the Park (and outside) in the region of Sinanitza which is one of the rarely visited by tourists in the Park. The increasing of the illegal felling in Pirin Mountain during the last years has an extremely negative influence on the habitats of the species.

A serious threat for the species in Pirin is hybridization with domestic cats. In some of the chalets domestic cats are often kept and they inhabit the forests around, which is a serious treat for the protection of the genetic purity of the species in Bulgaria.

Wolf (*Canis lupus*)

The wolf is globally threatened species! It inhabits the Park’s territory permanently. The data about the numbers of the wolf in the different years are incomplete. Since 1992 its presence becomes more evident by the seen trails, animals and fur from eaten deer, wild boars and chamois. In 1995 the official data mention 47 wolves, after which this number decreases and in 2002 they are again the same number.

In the winter it goes down in the lower parts of the mountain following undulates and the domestic animals. The leaving of the Park in the winter just in the hunting period makes it vulnerable. Bulgaria is one of the few European countries with stable populations of the species.

Wolf attacks on flocks are frequent in the summer and in many cases – successful. The reason for this is lack of reliable methods of protection (lack of massive, steady buildings for animals and shepherd dogs). This situation stimulates the local people to use forbidden methods against the wolf.

There are no data about damages on domestic animals on the park's territory.

Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*)

The species is strongly connected with its habitats. For its nutrition the species needs old forests with many wild-berries and acorns. No scientific research on the Pirin sub-population of the Brown bear has been done until now. The data about it have been received by employees of the NP, the SFB or accidental sightings by tourists, people collecting mushrooms or forest fruits, fishermen, cattle-keepers and bee-keepers. Regardless of the fact, that it is a protected species its numbers have not increased since 1992. The sharp decline from 94 to 57 individuals in 1993 and 1994 respectively is due to the over-estimated number in PR Kamenitsa. Since then the species number keeps about 60 until 2002.

For the time being there are no records of bear attacks on people. The cases of attacks on domestic animals are very rare, but the bears on the park's territory do not miss the chance to feed on dead horses, cows or sheep. In summer they use to strip the bark of the Bosnian pines in the base to feed. They do not cause damages on the forest this way, since only individual trees die. There are no records of bear visits to waste bins with food remains near the chalets, neither for artificial feeding of bears.

There are data about bears, which have become victims of poachers. There are some cases of setting poisonous lures.

Wild boar (*Sus scrofa*)

It occurs all-year-round in the protected area. During the year its numbers increase in the April-May period, because it moves from the territories, adjacent to the Park to the upper forest line and the dwarf pine belt. In June 2002 a mother with 5-6 piglets was established in Kamentsa PR in the Konski Plostad site, 4-5 mothers with some 25 yearling were established in Sinanitsa PR by the Sinanitsa shelter, a male and a female with 4 piglets were established along the upper stream of Byala Reka river and a mother with yearling was established in the Yulen reserve.

Their number decreases three times from 1992 to 1995, after which gradually begins to rise. The reasons have been the poaching, the increased wolf population and the wrong hunting practices in the territories out of the park.

Red Deer (*Cervus elaphus*)

Despite that it is not disturbed in the NP, this species occurs rarely. The feeding conditions in the park do not allow for the increase of its numbers. It is most often occurring in the beech forests of Bayuvi Dupki PR. In summer individual specimens were observed along the upper forest line of the Yulen and Bayuvi Dupki-Djindjiritsa reserves. In May 1993 the park employees discovered fur and part of the hoof of two red deer, at a distance of 50 m from each other, that were eaten by wolves on the trail to the Malka Djindjiritsa site.

Roe-deer (*Capreolus capreolus*)

It occurs commonly, except in the alpine zone. Its numbers have decreased almost twice compared to the year 1992. In the last 10 years dozens of roe deer eaten by wolves were discovered, especially in winter and spring /April 2002 - 3 specimens found in Kalyov Borikatch site /. It has been the main target for poaching in the park regions of Bayuvi Dupki, Vihren and Bezbog and less often in Kamentsa PR around Pirin chalet, predominantly in October and November. On the territory of Pirin NP the species is rare and needs of special measures for conservation. The hunting outside the Park and poaching are the main factors influencing the number of roe-deer.

Chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*)

The chamois in Pirin is representative of the local for the S part of Balkan Peninsula sub-species – *R. r. balcanica*. If the mortality caused by man is reduced the population of the species would increase its number (Tufectchiev, 1983).

In his doctoral thesis Studies on the chamois in the region of Pirin mountain, Ph.D. Angel Tufekchiev in 1978 had used the data from the census carried out in the Blagoevgrad RFB in 8 local forestry boards for the period between 1966 and 1976. For 1969 number was 794, after this it has decreased to 315 for 1970, while for the year 1971 it reached 237specimen, for the years 1975 and 1976 the chamois numbers were respectively 235 and 255.

In October 1991 eng. Rumen Kolchagov made a complete census in the region from Pirin Peak to the Todorova Ployana and the number of the animals spotted was 316. The cases of observing herds of more than 30 animals were not rare. The male/ female correlation was 1: 2.

The census data of 1992 are comparatively correct and indicate for a constant reduction of the species numbers till the year 1999. The most precise are the data of 1998, which were received with the participation of more than 40 people in the census for one day. The participants were preliminarily instructed on the methodology and the organization of this activity. In the following years the numbers were increasing, which is a result of the above-mentioned mistakes in the carrying out of the census – in 2002 the officially reported number is 277 and after the census in June it turned out that the chamois were 157.

The main threat for this species is poaching. Parallel to this, the numbers of the wolf increase, stray dogs around the chalets are frequent, and the dogs accompanying the livestock herds in the highland pastures are without clogs.

The losses due to avalanches and diseases are comparatively small. According to eng. A. Obretenov (1993), the chamois number could increase to 600 without damaging the upper forest line when getting together in winter.

The control is weak and ineffective because of shortage of resources, equipment and guarding staff.

The procedure is often an obstacle for applying the legal measures against the poachers.

Economically valuable species

Economically valuable are the species of large mammals, which are attractive to the eco-tourism. These are the brown bear and wolf, which are extinct in many parts of Europe. In the neighboring countries these species attract a great number of tourists and bring proven economic benefit in the regions where this kind of tourism is well developed.

The chamois, as a typical species in Pirin Mountain also is attractive for observation. Reducing the human pressure over these species will increase the chances for their successful use in the sphere of eco-tourism.

Knowledge gaps

⇒ Small mammals

- The available data concern only separate localities. The main part of the information concerns the regions near the chalets of Vihren and Banderitza and investigations on many other places are missing
- There are no data about the distribution of the species in their habitats, about the relative number of the species, about the factors determining the distribution of the species in Pirin NP.
- Some species, which should be found here, are not established, such as the mole rat – a species of IUCN Red list (VU).
- There are no enough data about many species with specific ecological requirements which would be useful as bio-indicators and for monitoring – water shrew, snow vole and others.
- Some comparative investigations are necessary about the condition of the populations and communities of small mammals in the regions of high level of human pressure and in those of reserve regime.

⇒ Bats

- Irregularly investigated area.
- There are no data about the presence of the breeding colonies within the borders of the Park.
- There are almost no data about the synopsis of the species and the distribution of the bats in the alpine zone (above 2200 m altitude).
- According to the reports of a cave-diver, who was working in the caves of Banski suhodol and Razlojki Suhodol, “there are a lot of bats, flying in the nights” but up to now a concrete data about them is missing.

⇒ **Large mammals**

- There is no actual and detailed information about the vertical and horizontal distribution, as well as information about the population density of the species.

GIS – a layer of the polygon type is generated and Map # 16 Habitats of animal species of conservation value is elaborated

In SCROLL I, Annex 6. 4. are presented: Vertebrate animals in Pirin NP –species composition and conservation value

CULTURAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

1.16. USE OF THE PARK AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS

1.16.1. Kinds of activities currently implemented in the Park /according to data of NPD of 2002/

- ⇒ Conservation and maintenance, restaurant and hotel-keeping, facility maintenance, ski-wardrobes, trade;
- ⇒ The implementation of these activities involves 136 persons, who are employed throughout the year, and 91 persons, employed on a seasonal basis.

IN SCROLL I, Annex 7.1. the Kinds of activities currently implemented in the Park are presented by regions and the following information is provided: the site name, location, manager, telephone and number of employees.

1.16.2. Settlements

There is not a developed settlement network in the Park.

1.16.3. Technical infrastructure, built areas and buildings

1.16.3.1. Available Technical Infrastructure

Electrification.

The electric transmission network in the region – 220, 110, 20 kW – consists mainly of overhead power lines.

⇒ *Razlog Municipality:*

Predela power line (PL) of 20 kW supplies consumers in the National Park and the contact zone.

⇒ *Bansko Municipality:*

This municipality is power-supplied by 110/20 kW sub-station and the key station near the park area, supplying also sub-sites within the park.

Vihren chalet has a separate small hydroelectric power station (HEPS). Bunderitsa chalet has an emergency power source consisting of a water turbine and a diesel aggregate. Damianitsa chalet is not power-supplied. Its consumption with installed capacity of about 40 kWh is covered by a dynamo and a diesel aggregate.

Remains of a former wind power station, currently non-functioning, are to be found on the bank of the Demyanitsa river at 1200 m altitude.

⇒ *Gotse Delchev Municipality:*

This area is supplied by Gotse Delchev sub-station (110/20 kW).

⇒ *Sandanski Municipality:*

This municipality is supplied by five operational power stations.

Pirin chalet and Spano Pole bungalows are not power-supplied. The chalet uses electricity supplied by a small local hydroelectric station and a diesel aggregate of 18 kWh. A restaurant is built next to the chalet, which is also not power-supplied.

⇒ *Kresna Municipality:*

Sinanitsa chalet is not power-supplied due to its remoteness. The site uses electricity supplied by an aggregate.

⇒ *Simitli Municipality:*

The area is power-supplied by 20 kW overhead power-lines from Simitli sub-station of 110/20 kW, with installed capacity of 2x25 MW.

Water Supply.

Water Sources

The cold and clear Pirin waters – springs and rivers – provide the water supply for the chalets, hotels, and rest houses within the park and its contact zone. Spring waters are captured in the following areas:

- Kalugeritsa locality to supply Razlog;

- The springs of Tsigansko Kladenche, Pelevi Izvori, Usina, and drainage catchments and drilling wells to supply Bansko;
- A spring near Bunderitsa river to supply Akademika rest house and Bunderitsa chalet;
- The springs of Kruntiata, Studenia Chuchur, Shiroka Poliana, to supply Obidim and Mesta villages;
- The springs of Perlesh and Shulai to supply Dobrinishte village;
- Springs near Melnishka river below Stefanov peak to supply Sugarevo village and Melnik;
- Springs at Sinanishka river in Mandrata locality, Studenata Voda spring at Razkolska river and Chernata Voda spring at Vlahina river to supply Kresna;
- Local catchments to supply the chalets of Yavorov, Pirin, Vihren, etc.;
- River catchments at Struzhka river and Valevitsa river to supply Simitli;
- Alexova river catchment to supply Predela locality and Razlog.

The waters of Sandanska Bistritsa River – its larger tributaries like Bashliiska river (collecting the waters of Bashliitsa, Chaira, Beklemeto and Begovishka circuses), Surchaliitsa river (collecting the waters of Goliamo Spano Pole and Malko Spano Pole circuses), and other smaller tributaries – are captured into the Sandanska Bistritsa hydro-power cascade (Popina Luka HEPS, Lilianovo HEPS and Sandanski HEPS). The catchments at Mozgovitsa, Kriva Reka, Razslankovitsa and Tremoshtnitsa rivers are also connected to this cascade. After the Sandanski HEPS, these waters are used to supply the town of Sandanski.

Water Supply Networks and Facilities

⇒ Razlog Municipality:

A pipeline of 200 mm in diameter takes the water from a captured spring at 1200 meters of altitude in Kalugeritsa locality to a 50,000 m³ dam located below Suhodolskoto Lake to supply Razlog. The same water supply system delivers water to the Council of Ministers' rest house in the park region, and the facilities in the surrounding contact zone. The water supply for the Predela resort complex and Kulinoto recreation area is provided by catchments in Zaseko locality and at Alexova River.

Yavorov chalet is supplied by a local water source from Stupalata locality.

⇒ Bansko Municipality:

The springs of Karamanitsa, Usipa, Tsigansko Kladenche, Pelevi Izvori are captured to supply the town of Bansko. A drainage catchment and drilling wells have been established in the Damianishka river basin. A pipeline of 200 mm in diameter takes the waters to a 5000 m³ reservoir, from where they are supplied to the town and the rest houses in the lower park region. A new water main was established in Usipo locality for additional supply of Bansko. Its designation is to provide additional amounts of potable water (Q=30 l/sec) to Bansko and the rest houses.

- Vihren chalet is supplied by its own water sources – a catchment located above the chalet.
- Bunderitsa chalet and the campsite are supplied by a catchment located at Bunderitsa River prior to Vihren chalet. Pipelines and a reservoir are installed.
- Damianitsa chalet is supplied through a catchment from the Vasilashkite lakes. For that purpose, a dam was built after the junction of Vasilashka, Strazhishka and Valiavitsa rivers.
- Bezbog chalet is supplied by a captured spring in Dushevandika locality.

⇒ Sandanski Municipality:

The springs of Melnishka River (which is formed by the junction of Sugarevska and Biala Reka rivers) are caught below Stefanov peak, and supply water to Sugarevo and Karlanovo villages and Melnik through a pipeline. Popina Luka has local supply established, but the trend is to start taking its water from Sandanski-Tremoshtnitsa river group. The exurb areas of Lilianovo, Sandanski, Fourth Kilometer, and Tenth Kilometer, Popina Luka and Turichka Cherkva localities, and Yane Sandanski and Kamenitsa chalets are also part of Sandanski group.

Catchments are established on the rivers of Spanopolska, Glavnitsa, Mozgovitsa, Kozya Reka, Kriva Reka, and Razslankovitsa. A collector channel takes the waters into a water tower from where they are directed to Popina Luka HEPS and Lilianovo HEPS. A catchment is also established on Tremoshtnitsa river with a massive dam, and side catchments exist on Mozgovitsa river at Popina Luka HEPS, on Razslankovitsa and Bozhdovska rivers.

Pirin chalet is water supplied by a pipeline of 80 mm in diameter and a catchment on a spring located at about 2 km above the chalet, in Bash Mandra locality.

⇒ Kresna Municipality:

The water supply of Kresna is provided by captured springs located within Pirin NP: 3 springs in Studena Voda locality near Razkolska river, 2 springs in Mandrata locality on Sinanishka river, Chernata Voda spring on Vlahinska river (about 10 km to the east from Kresna).

Sinanitsa chalet is supplied by a water source of its own.

Sewerage.

The establishment of a centralized sewerage is obstructed by the fact that the sites are scattered and far from each other. There are two forms of treating the waste waters from the sites:

- Grouping the sites into a common sewerage (in a given area) – ViK Rest House, Ribarnika villa, DZI Rest House, Izvorite Hotel, PSS Rest House (Vihren PR);
- All the rest buildings within the park are serviced by septic pits, which are in poor condition.

IN SCROLL 1, Annex 7.2. the available treatment facilities by settlements are presented, with details about their discard location, capacity and condition.

Telephone Lines

Razlog Telecommunications Co covers four municipalities from the region – Razlog, Bansko, Belitsa and Yakoruda (a total of 18 automatic telephone stations with 17,700 users).

Local units from the nearby villages have provided lines to some regions within the park, and the buildings in Vihren PR are equipped with telephone communications, although scarcely.

Radio Connections and Telecommunication Equipment

Radio stations are established in the tourist sites and the Mountain Rescue Service centers, including the chalets, managed by the Bulgarian Tourist Union.

There is a satellite communication at the hotels located in Chalin Valog locality and at the Council of Ministers' Rest House.

1.16.3.2. Available Transport Infrastructure

The studied transport infrastructure covers the Pirin NP territory and the region between the Park boundary and the ring of roads connecting the settlements of Razlog, Bansko, Dobrinishte, Mesta, Gotse Delchev, Katuntsi, Sandanski, Kresna, and Simitli.

⇒ Automobile Roads:

State Road Network

Road Number	Section	Length in Kilometers
Road # 84041	Bansko – Vihren chalet	16.8 km
Road # 10075	Branch of road N 1 – Popina Luka locality	20.3 km

Only Road # 84041 with a total length of 16.8 km enters into the park, and Road # 10075 ends at the park border.

⇒ Forest Road Network and Roads of Other Organizations:

The forest road network density within the park is 3.96 m/ha. Forest roads dominate, while the roads built by other agencies are just single sections – the road to Marble Quarries (Ilindentsi-Murata) and those built for energetic purposes in the region of Pirin village, Popina Luka and Turichka Cherkva localities. The forest road dimensions are as follows:

- 4-5 m width for the dirt roads and
- 3-3.5 m width for the macadam and asphalt roads.

The relatively large longitudinal inclinations prevail, and the horizontal curve radiuses seldom exceed 60 meters.

There are no restrictions on use and passing along the forest roads on the territory of the park.

⇒ Parking lots:

The parking in the ski-area above Bansko is organized on three slots:

- The road fork to Bunderishka Poliana with a capacity of up to 100 cars;
- The road fork to Bunderitsa chalet with a capacity of about 40 cars;
- The slot at the ski-run start/finish with a capacity of about 20 cars.

The remaining part of the tourist vehicle flow relies on parking along the road. Local parking areas are established at the chalets of Vihren, Bunderitsa, Pirin, Begovitsa, and Yavorov, as well as at the hotels and rest houses in Shiligarnika and Chalin Valog localities. These parking areas are with capacity of 5-10 cars each, or a total of 80-100 cars.

The total capacity of the parking sites within the park is 260-270 cars.

⇒ **Rope-ways:**

Table 19. Existing rope-ways

Type, locality	Length m	Denivalat ion m	Capacity persons per hour	Purpose
Three-seat chair lift “Todorka” Ikrishte- Todorka peak	2336	700	800, can be increased to 1800 persons per hour by adding extra seats	Services Todorka and Balkaniada ski-runs and Platoto ski-run and tow- lift
Two-seat chair lift “Lednika” Bunderishka Poliana locality- Tsrna Mogila peak	2412	887	500	Services Tsrna Mogila ski-run and Academika student rest house
Platoto tow-lift Ovchi Kladenets locality- Todorka peak	13,400	320	900	Services Platoto ski-run
Chalin Valog tow-lift DZI Rest House-Rashkov Chukar locality	1290	320	700	Services the ski-runs in Chalin Valog locality
Starata Pista tow-lift near the parking at the road fork to Bunderishka Poliana				
Two-seat chair lift Gotse Delchev chalet – Bezbog chalet	2530	640	500	Services Bezbog ski-run and Bezbog chalet
Portable junior tow-lifts – three in Ikrishte locality; two at Bezbog chalet; one at each of the chalets of Bunderitsa, Kamenitsa and Yavorov, and one at the Council of Ministers’ Rest House				

Table 20. Number, Type and Capacity of the New Sites and Facilities Planned for Construction in the Park according to Approved Plans and Projects

TYPE	Capacity persons per hour
Gondola lift from the town of Bansko to Bunderishka Poliana locality	1500
Chair lift from Shiligarnika locality to Bunderishka Poliana locality	500
Chair lift Shiligarnika – Platoto	900
Ski-run Platoto - Shiligarnika	427
Tow-lift “Balkaniada”	800
Extension to the Starata Pista ski-run	the capacity is increased by 20 skiers and becomes 243 skiers in total
Tow-lift “Platoto”	900
Ski-run “Platoto”	235
Junior ski-run and tow-lift in Shiligarnika locality	319
Ski-run “Todorka peak – Bunderishka Poliana”	

⇒ **Hiking Tourist Trails**

- Main trails – 13 routes are developed, one of which is part of the E-4 International route (the Pyrenees–the Alps–Rila–Pirin–Pelopones). The trails are marked in accordance with the Bulgarian Tourist Union standards;
- Secondary trails – 17 routes are developed under the Park Development Project. Those trails facilitate the access to the Park area from the surrounding settlements. They are not marked.
- Guided routes – cross the reserves of Bayuvi Dupki-Djindjiritsa and Julen. Guides are required and the groups should not exceed 10-15 people.

In point 1.16.7., Table 26, the most frequently used main tourist trails on the Pirin NP’s territory are described

⇒ **Connections with different kinds of transport means out of the Park /transport accessibility/:**

- automobile – through all roads to the settlements in the region;
- bus – only to the towns from the contact zone;
- minivan – organized by private companies (to the ski-zone above Bansko);
- railways – Sofia–Sandanski;
- narrow-gauge railroad – Dobrinishte village – Septemvri.

Built-Up Areas and Buildings

⇒ There are 1837 beds within the Pirin NP area, which are distributed as follows:

- chalets - 885 beds;
 - hotels - 214 beds;
 - bungalows - 123 beds;
 - company rest facilities - 615 beds (of these, 163 beds are in bungalows).
- ⇒ At Bunderishka Poliana near Yavorov, Pirin and Kamenitsa chalets, there are regulated tent camps with a total capacity of 160 tents;
- ⇒ The dining facilities are represented by 11 independent diners, 6 hotel restaurants and 2 rest house restaurants. They are concentrated in Vihren PR;
- ⇒ The Central Office of the Mountain Rescue Service is located in Bansko. There are 9 MRS stations within Pirin NP: Vihren chalet, Demianitsa chalet, Tevno Ezero shelter, Bezbog chalet, Kamenitsa chalet, Yavorov chalet, two stations in Shiligarnika locality and one at the main entrance to the park from Bansko;
- ⇒ According to data from 2001, Pirin NPD information stations exist in the following locations:
- Bansko headquarters (a solid building);
 - The main entrance to the park from Bansko (a solid building);
 - Information office in Dobrinishte village;
 - Information and guard section at Vihren chalet (a bungalow);
 - Information and guard section at Demianitsa chalet (a bungalow);
 - Information and guard section at Yavorov chalet (a bungalow);
 - Guard section at Gotse Delchev chalet (a caravan);
 - Information and guard section at Pirin chalet (a bungalow);
 - Information and guard section at Kamenitsa chalet (a bungalow);
 - Sandanski Office (a solid building);
 - Office in Kresna ;
 - Information and guard station in Vurbite locality (a bungalow).

GIS – a line and spot layers were developed, as well as Map # 17 “Buildings and Infrastructure”

IN SCROLL 1, Annex # 7.3. a list of buildings within the Park is presented, with indication of building location, ownership, use, number of floors, built-up area, number of beds, structure, availability of power supply, water supply, sewerage, telephone, etc.

1.16.4. Agriculture

1.16.4.1. The spatial distribution of the agricultural lands in the park by municipalities and settlements is presented in Section I, p. 1. 2.

In the boundaries of Pirin NP/as in 2002/ the territories designated for grazing are 9300.8 ha, of which 5029.1 ha belong to the agricultural and 4271.7 ha areas belong to the forested areas. All the grazing regions are located in territories of traditional regime of agriculture use, and have been divided in 5 park regions.

1.16.4.2. Correlation between the carrying capacity of the pastures and the actual number of the domestic animals

The carrying capacity of pastures was calculated on the basis of the pastures' productiveness, the daily need of nutritive substance (in fodder units) and the continuity of the grazing period.

The data in table 21 show that in the period 1995 – 2001 the number of animals, which have grazed in pastures of the park's different regions has been smaller than the pastures' capacity, which is an indicator that the park's pastures have not been overloaded. Certain, but not excessive overloading of the pasture territories has been registered only in Vihren PR in the period 1995 - 1998, where more animals have grazed than the pasture capacity allows. In the following years in the region of Kamenitsa, which has the biggest capacity, the actual number of grazing animals has been 3-4 times smaller than the pasture's capacity allows. This is an indicator that a future increase of the number of animals using this territory is not likely to disturb the plant diversity.

Table 21. Actual number of livestock, which used the territories for grazing by park regions for the 1995-2001 period

Park region	Bayuvi Dupki		Vihren		Bezbog		Sinanitsa		Kamentsa		Total number	
	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit	Animal unit
Year	1*	2**	1*	2**	1*	2**	1*	2**	1*	2**	1*	2**
1995	40	40	302	175	225	247	456	614	610	1878	1633	2954
1996	40	40	262	175	239	247	348	614	582	1878	2360	2954
1997	30	40	211	175	234	247	536	614	359	1878	1370	2954
1998	30	40	152	175	210	247	434	614	538	1878	1364	2954
1999	34	40	120	175	203	247	284	614	521	1878	1162	2954
2000	30	40	116	175	198	247	417	614	516	1878	1277	2954
2001	-	40	76	175	193	247	541	614	457	1878	1267	2954

*Real number of animal units (R)

**Potential number of animal units (P)

The number of animals, which have really used the pastures, has been calculated in conditional animal units / big cattle

* 1 animal unit = cow with 500 kg weight and daily need of 60 kg of green mass (nutrient)

1 animal unit = 5 sheep; 0.8 horses

Table 22

Ratio between the real number of animals, which have used the pastures and the pastures' capacities

Park region	Bayuvi Dupki	Vihren	Bez bog	Sinanitsa	Kamentsa	Total number
Year	R:P	R:P	R:P	R:P	R:P	R:P
1995	1:1	1:1.72	1:0.91	1:0.74	1:0.32	1:0.55
1996	1:1	1:1.49	1:0.96	1:0.56	1:0.30	1:0.79
1997	1:0.75	1:1.2	1:0.94	1:0.78	1:0.19	1:0.46
1998	1:0.75	1:0.86	1:0.85	1:0.70	1:0.28	1:0.46
1999	1:0.85	1:0.68	1:0.82	1:0.46	1:0.27	1:0.39
2000	1:0.75	1:0.66	1:0.80	1:0.67	1:0.27	1:0.43
2001	-	1:0.43	1:0.78	1:0.88	1:0.24	1:0.42

No special regime of pasture use is applied in the park regions, which means that the free (non-systematic) grazing is practiced – the animals are left grazing from spring to autumn, almost without control. Regardless of the fact that the herds are accompanied by shepherds, no consecutiveness in the grazing in different habitats is observed, since the animals move unrestricted and choose the most valuable grasses and parts of them. The type *Nardus stricta* ensures the most abundant grazing because of the presence of species well accepted by the animals – *Agrostis vulgaris* With., *Festuca valida* Uechtr.Penzes, *Poa usrina* Velen, *Festuca nigrescens* L, *Poa alpina* L, *Festuca fallax* Thnil, *Phleum alpinum* L, *Deschampsia caespitosa* (L.)P.B. The grazing in this type of pastures lasts longest. Since the grazing is not regulated, there is no requirement for the territory, used by the herd for one day. This territory depends on the grass-stand's productiveness and whether the daily needs of the animals for green mass are satisfied. The using of the pasture territories starts from the lowest parts and gradually continues upwards, depending on the state of the grass cover. In autumn the herds move back.

1.16.4.3. Use of the agricultural lands

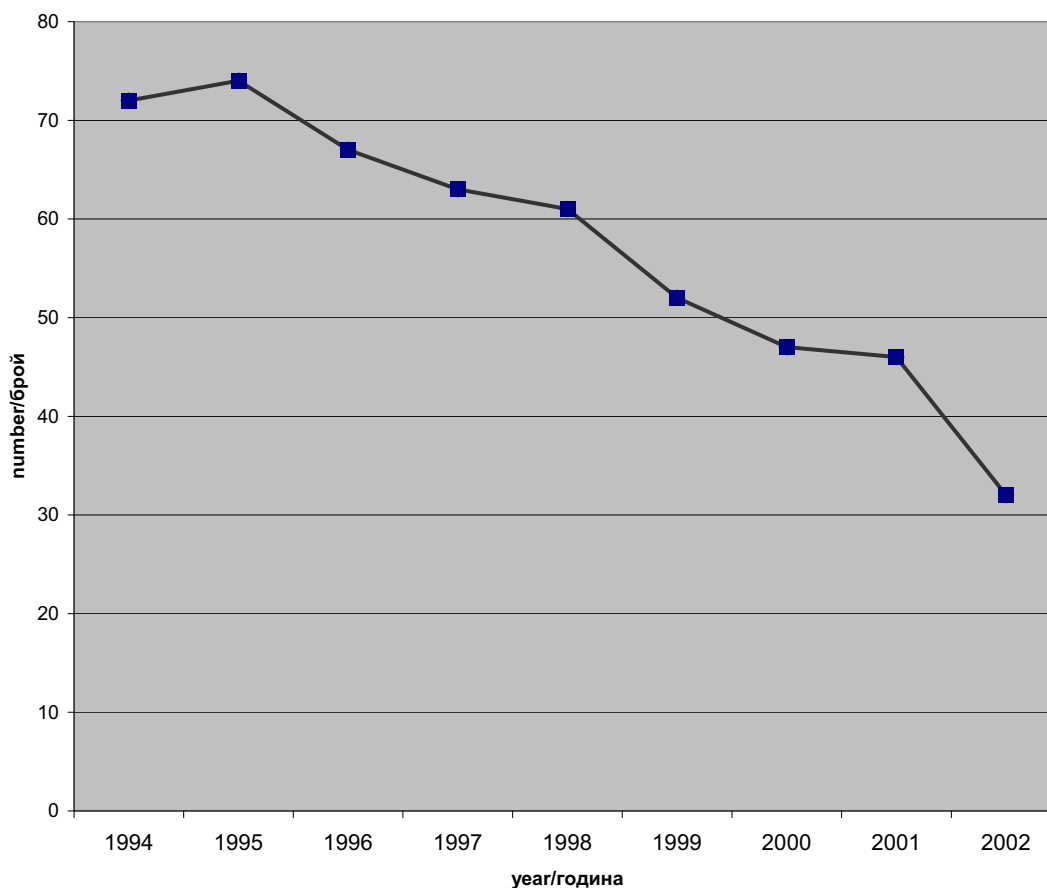
There is no information on the green mass yield during the last years and because of this it is impossible to determine the general productivity.

A trend for reduction of the livestock is registered and therefore there is no serious danger of overloading the grazing areas.

Table 23. Fees for 1 animal by years

Domestic animals type	Fees for 1 animal by years (in levs):		
	1994-1998	1999	200-2003
	Cattle	10	1,50
Horses	8	0,80	0,40
Sheep	5	0,30	0,15

Fig. 6. Number of grazing permits given by years:



1.16.4.4. Available facilities connected to the agriculture

No permanent shelters and watering places for animals are established in the Park. Temporary shelters, which are in fact pens fenced by stones or branches, exist in the regions where the sheep are grazing.

1.16.4.5. Violations registered in the last years

In the 1993-2000 period 63 cases of violations – illegal grazing were registered.

The largest number of violations was registered in the Sinanitsa PR, followed by Kamentsa PR and Vihren PR – 3 cases each.

No infringements were established on the territory of Bayuvi Dupki PR and Bezbog PR. The reasons for the penalty tickets issued are mostly the grazing at regions not specified in the permit and for setting of shelters at sites, which are not suitable for this. No tickets were issued in 2001.

1.16.4.6. Rare and threatened native livestock breeds bred in the Park – present

The following local breeds and races were identified by the field studies in Pirin NP and its adjacent territories:

Cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>):	local grey cattle
Water buffalo (<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>):	local Water buffalo
Sheep (<i>Ovis musimon f. aries</i>):	Karakachan sheep local race of tsakel sheep
Goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>):	local mountain goat
Horse (<i>Equus caballus</i>):	Karakachan horse local mountain horse
Dog (<i>Canis lupus f. familiaris</i>):	Karakachan dog Barachesto shepherd dog Barak beagle Three-colored beagle

A total of 11 native breeds and races are bred in the Pirin NP and the adjacent territories. Of them 7 are included in the “Red Register of the native forms of livestock” Y. Danchev (1994) published in the “National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy”; four breeds are classified in the category “Forms in extinction”, two are in the category “Threatened forms” and one is in the category “Potentially threatened forms”. Of the total of eleven Pirin breeds and races, three have found their place in the World Watch List for domestic animal diversity of FAO (2000). There the local gray cattle and the Karakachan horse are determined as having a risk status of critical and the Karakachan sheep – threatened.

In SCROLL 1, Annex 7. 4. are represented The present status and distribution of the local breeds on the territory of Pirin NP.

1.16.5. Forestry

1.16.5.1. Results of the field checks on the status of the forests

Out of the total of 73 forests sub-sections in the Park where forest management activities were implemented in 2001 15 sub-sections or 21% were checked.

⇒ The following types of felling were accomplished:

- landscape formation /selective felling or thinning/ felling was accomplished in 67 forests sub-sections;
- only in five forests sub-sections was accomplished landscape-regeneration felling;
- sanitation felling was accomplished in four sub-sections;
- planning felling was accomplished in one forests sub-section;

⇒ A total of 93014 m³ of timber /standing volume/ was extracted from the Park, which is 5679 m³ more than the planned. Compared to the previous period /1980-1992/ a decrease of the general use of the timber by 26% is registered. In both periods instead of carrying out selective and regeneration felling predominantly dry and fallen timber was collected.

⇒ The reforestation in the Park was carried out on 52,3 ha instead of on the 100,2 ha envisaged by the maintenance project.

Table 24. Results of the comparative analysis of the envisaged and implemented landscape-management

activities in Pirin NP, by type and volume for the 1993-2000 period.

# by order	Landscape-management Activity	According to the 1993 technical plan		Accomplishment till December 2000		Difference in the accomplishment "+” or ”-“	
		Area (ha) /	Envisaged felling m ³ /	Area (ha) /	Logged m ³ /	Area (ha) /	Logged m ³ /
1.	Landscape forming felling	2500,6	58705	490,1	6660	-2010,5	-52066
2.	Landscape regeneration felling	257,7	17830	34,1	2009	-223,6	-15621
3.	Sanitation felling	410,7	10800	42,1	1310	-368,6	-9490
4.	Selective felling	663,7	-	115,1	9676	-549,0	+9697
5.	Planning felling	-	-	5,1	159	+5,1	+159
6.	Collection of dry and fallen timber	-	-	4498,9	73200	+4498,9	+73200
	TOTAL	3832,7	87335	5185,4	93014		+5679
7.	Reforestation	100,2		52,3		-47,9	

- ⇒ Stands and forest plantations of accomplished planned activities:
- In most cases the thinning are carried out with reduced intensity and are from 25 to 50% less than the envisaged;
 - The planned thinning felling is exceeded in 91-b by 77%, 95-z by 32%, 433-a by 145% and 433-b by 100%;
 - In 433-a and b it was concluded that the increase of the use is a result of the sanitation character of the felling – the logged timber is dry or damaged by wind-throw;
 - Subsections 201-a, b, g; 243-b; 244-a; 378-a, b; 244-a, etc, were not thinned below the forests density of 0,7 and have optimal protection, water-preserving and recreational indicators;
 - In some of the forests sections and sub-sections /433-a, etc./ classical thinning was carried out, which despite of the low intensity has brought to the formation of stands of the same age, stands dominated by one tree species;
 - The cutting down of the trees that have grown taller, of the crooked, of the double, of triple and whisk-like branching out trees has resulted in decline in the intraspecific biological diversity of the tolerated species;
 - In the accomplishment of the landscape-regeneration felling /group-selective/, because of the worsened sanitary state, the use exceeds the planned only in the forests sub-section 240-b by some 40%;
 - In the stands that were checked the use is much less than the planned one, as the offspring were not seriously damaged during the logging and have eventually increased their forests density;
 - Sanitation felling of intensity lesser than the planned were carried out in forests sub-section 367-a, g.
- ⇒ Stands and forest plantations of unaccomplished planned activities:
- In some of the stands and plantations – 200-k; 371-e, etc., of forests density above 0,9 cases of snow-break were registered;
 - In the section 138 the planned group-selection felling was not carried out, but in view of its location on a bank, in case of necessity only the maintenance activities should be carried out.
- ⇒ Forest plantations of alien and non-typical to the Park tree species:
- The birch, inventoried in 1989 in some forest plantations with a total area of 4,3 ha, is a tree species non-typical to the region of the Park, as far as it is not described for the composition of the natural stands. Given the high reproductive potential of the birch it is necessary to undertake measures to eliminate the exiting plantations.
 - According the park development project a poplar (Euro-American) plantation is described on an area of 0,6 ha into the forests sub-section 147-b. In fact it covers less than 0,1 ha and drying is registered in 30%.

- Plantation of a cedar of Lebanon with an area of 0,3 ha has been established on a wind-throw site 433-b/section/ in 1998, individual Atlas cedars are also part of its composition. Irregularly on groups or individually seedlings of Scots pine and spruce settle among the cedars.

In SCROLL I, Annex 7.5. is presented the list of the forest sub-sections with the planned and accomplished forestry activities, as well as the checks in the field

1.16.5.2. Reforestation and regeneration

A total of 52,3 ha of new forests were planted in the 1993-2000 period.

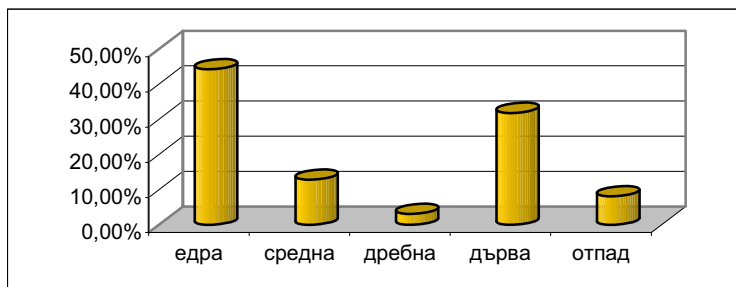
- ⇒ Predominate the territories reforested by Scots pine - 54,7% and spruce - 27,5%, etc. Limited was the reforestation by beech, fir, Macedonian pine and cedar.
- ⇒ The most reforestation activities were carried out in 1997 (31,5% of the total reforested area), after clearing the areas from the wind-thrown trees. Characteristic of the reforestation after wind throws is that in most plantations, seedlings from the neighboring stands have settled. Thus forming stands of mixed origin.
- ⇒ In the preliminary processes hand-made terraces 40-50/35 cm were used, in rare cases only the grass cover was removed.
- ⇒ An average of 500 seedlings per dekar were planted.

In SCROLL I, Annex 7. 5. is presented Table 1 on the distribution of the artificially planted areas for the 1993-2000 period by years and tree species.

1.16.5.3. Timber extracted in the 1993-2000 period.

- ⇒ A total of 93014 m³ of standing volume were extracted. The larger section (87%) was extracted after 1997. This has mostly been the collected fallen tree-mass from the wind-thrown territories formed by the tornado in the Sinanitsa PR, in the same year;
- ⇒ The extracted construction timber from the forests of the Park is 55883 m³ (60,1% of the standing tree volume), including: large-sized timber – 41080 m³, average-sized timber - 11933 m³ and small-sized timber 2870 m³;
- ⇒ In addition, 29601 m³ (31,8% of the standing tree volume) of fire wood were extracted;
- ⇒ Out of the timber extracted in the Park, 8777 m³ (9,4% of the standing tree volume) were made available to the local population, including: large-sized 1117 m³, average-sized 715 m³, small-sized 4333 m³ and fire wood - 4702 m³;
- ⇒ For specific needs of the Park administration in 2000 a total of 87 m³ of the standing tree volume were made available, including: large-sized 40 m³, average-sized 23 m³, small-sized 1 m³ and fire wood - 3 m³;

Figure 7. Percentage distribution of the extracted timber by sort types in the 1993-2000 period



Text to the figure: large-sized, average-sized, small-sized, firewood, waste

In SCROLL I, Annex 7. 5. is presented Table 2 on the distribution of the areas of the landscape felling carried out and the extracted timber by sort types for the 1993-2000 period

1.16.5.4. Timber Transporting Technologies.

- ⇒ The logging in the park was carried out by cable lines, tractors, and trucks for the region of Kresna, by tractors and horses for the region of Bansko and predominantly by animal power for the other regions.
- ⇒ Use of tractors for the wood extraction in forest sections # 435, 436 and 437 has activated the erosion processes, as a result of which furrows and ditches were formed. In part of the anti-erosion measures were taken – filling up
- ⇒ Usually the old road network has been used for the timber extraction. New one with a length of around 400 m has been built in section 196.

1.16.5.5. Diseases and Pests in Forests.

- ⇒ Results of previous studies

The complex studies on the health status of the forests in Pirin NP carried out in the 1989-1990 period by expert team lead by prof. Boyan Rosnev, have proven that some 40,4% are not damaged and another 33,0% of the forests stands are in a very good state (with 1 to 10% damaged trees of the total).

The main phyto-sanitary problems are due to the root fungus (*Heterobasidium annosum*, *Armillaria mellea*, *Viscum album*, and on the Macedonian pine of *Phaeolus Schweinitzii*, *Ar. mellea*, *Het. annosum*, *Stereum sp.*, etc.).

Of the insect species the most damaging seem to be the representatives of Ipsidae (*Ips typographus* – typograph, *Pityogenes chalcographus* – chalcograph, on the spruce *Pityogenes curvidens* and *P. spinidens* on the fir, the large pine bark beetle *Blastophagus piniperda* L., the lesser bark beetle *Bl. minor* L. and *Ips acuminatus* Gyll. on the pine).

In the lowest sections of the Park and mostly in the region of Razlog the European processionary moth occurs (*Thaumtopoea pityocampa* Schiff.). During the last years it has been established at elevations of 1500 m. In case of massive occurrence of the pest treatment by ultra-small volume of the biological compound Forey 48B dozed 150 ml/ dka is applied to fight it.

- ⇒ Results of the studies carried out in August 2002:

A special attention was paid to the damages on trees cut down for the tracing of the new skiing runs and skiing lifts. These facilities cut through forest sections: 120-b; 1216-e; 130-a,b,d,e,j; 132-d; 133-v,g,d,z; 139-a,b,z; 149-a; 148-v,d,j; 147-k,i,j; 186-a,v,g,d and form a serious threat to their health status.

- ⇒ Health status of the forests stands and plantations:

- At certain sites were found individual trees and whole groups affected by bark beetles, which is an evidence of the weakening of the forest stands;
- No visible damages by insect pests were registered on the Macedonian and Bosnian pine;
- In the forest stands where the fir is the dominant species were established strong invasions of the semi-parasite bush *Viscum album*;
- Almost 100% of the forests affected by natural calamities are of a high forests density and are very seriously affected by the root fungus and are in the high age classes, i.e. there are natural succession processes undergoing in them;
- At the more accessible places around the wind-throws and the snow throws the bark beetle affected trees are regularly extracted and this has brought to a natural regeneration of the open basins.
- The health status of the poplar plantations is very bad because of the unfavorable for the poplar ecological conditions;
- The plantations of Lebanon cedar established on an area of 0,3 ha (section 433-b) are in a good condition.

In SCROLL I, Annex 7. 5. is represented Table 6 on the health status of the forest stands and plantations

1.16.5.6. Forest Fires.

- ⇒ A total of 11 fires were registered in the last 9 years and a total of 205,0 dka were burned down.
- ⇒ In 2000 6 fires were kindled as well as 2 low fires.
- ⇒ The most frequent causes for the fires are the lightning and the disregarding of the fire prevention regulations. According to the data of the Directorate cases of intentional kindling of fires are also

registered. The Administration had difficulties in finding people to put down the fires and in transporting the people to the higher sections of the Park.

- ⇒ In 2000 in the region of the Park were built 2 km of new mineralized ditches, 22 km of exiting ditches were maintained, 12 fire-fighting facilities were equipped and 8 fire monitoring stations were established.

In SCROLL I, Annex 7. 5. is presented Table 3 on the distribution of the fires by types and area for the 1993-2000 period by years

Table 4 on the distribution of the road network by park regions

1.16.5.7. Violations.

- ⇒ The violations registered in the 1993-2000 period are 500.
 ⇒ The main part of them is connected with illegal logging – 286 (57,2% of the total number) as the largest has been the number of such violations in 1997 /123/.
 ⇒ The second in terms of number for the 1993-2000 period comes the illegal grazing - 63 cases of 12,6%.
 ⇒ The violations like illegal hunting, fishing, kindling of fire, illegal construction, etc., are 1-4,2%.

Table 25. Distribution, kind and number of registered violations in the Pirin NP for the period 1993-2000

Violation	Year									%
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total	
	Number									
Illegal hunting	7	5	-	-	3	2	-	-	17	3,4
Illegal fishing	-	7	-	-	14	-	-	-	21	4,2
Illegal felling	34	31	15	-	123	13	-	70	286	57,2
Illegal grazing	36	13	2	-	5	2	-	5	63	12,6
Pollution	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	2,0
Damaged soil	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	1,0
Cultivated areas	-	2	-	-	8	-	-	-	10	2,0
Lighting fires	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1,2
Violations of the NPA	-	-	-	-	11	1	-	-	12	2,4
Illegal construction	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	6	8	1,6
Illegal trade activity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	13	2,6
Others	1	10	5	-	32	1	-	-	49	9,8
TOTAL	92	70	24	-	198	19	-	97	500	100,0
%	18,4	14,0	4,8	-	39,6	3,8	-	19,4	100,0	

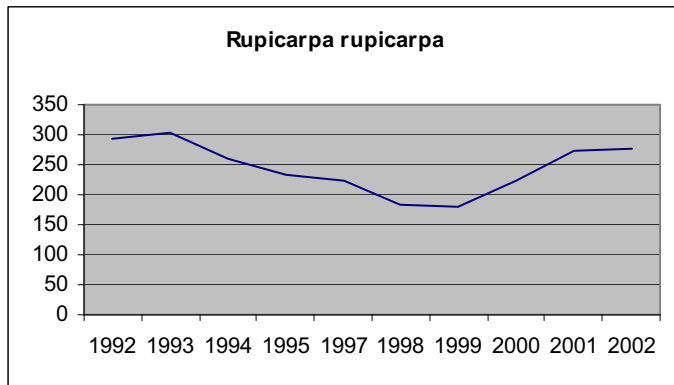
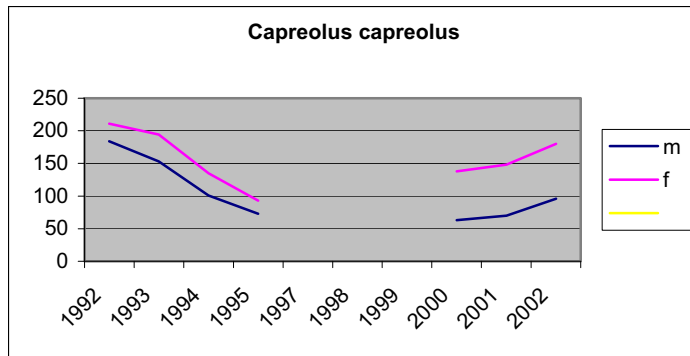
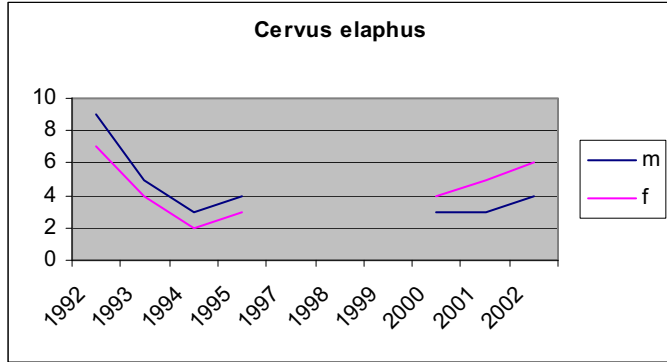
Note: There are no data available about established violations in the Pirin NP for the period 1996- 1999.

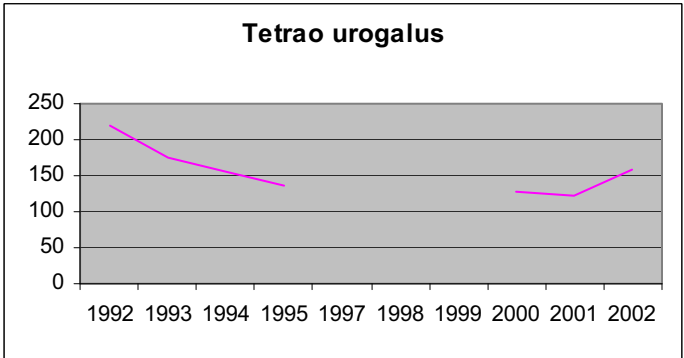
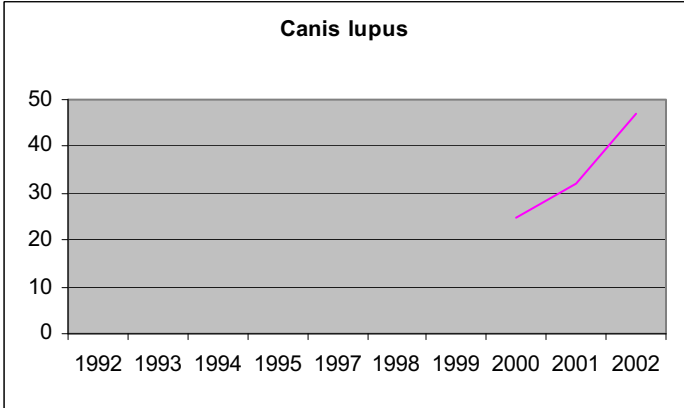
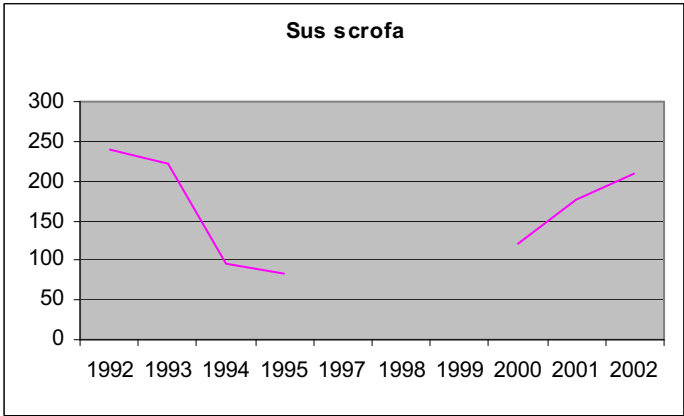
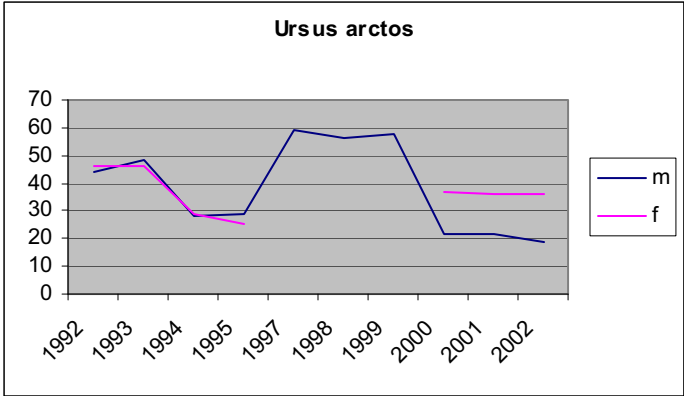
1.16.6. Hunting and fishing

1.16.6.1. Number and dynamics of the game populations for the last 10 years

The territory of the Pirin NP is inhabited by 17 mammals and birds that represent a hunting object according to the enforcement of the article 5 paragraph 2 p. 1 and paragraph 5 of the Hunting and Game Protection Act. Despite that the hunting on the territory of the NP has been forbidden for dozens of years the stock of main game species has not increased.

Fig. 8. Dynamics of the game populations for the last 10 years





1.16.6.2. Violations registered.

Roe deer – Poaching with beagles and by stalking behind trees;

Chamois – poaching is the main factor for the decreasing of this species;

Wild boar – poaching and illegal hunting out of the park territory;

Bear - Bears are shot on the territory of the park in cases of hunters poaching on deer or wild boar. There are cases when a shepherd calls a hunter to wait for the bear near a dead animal. Sometimes poisonous baits are set in the eastern and southeastern parts of the mountain. In 2000 a poisoned female bear and her two cubs were found near the village of Koprivlen. In the beginning of June 2002 a bear was killed over the village of Obidim (near the “Gotse Delchev” chalet). A male bear was caught and killed in a snare set by poachers from the village of Breznitsa.

Capercaillie – poached and stuffed by people from Bansko and Dobrinishte;

Small game – poaching is practiced with the help of beagles and by stalking in the lowest parts of Vihren PR.

1.16.6.3. Angling on the territory of Pirin NP.

⇒ Fish stocking

There has been angling within the present territories of Pirin NP since the beginning of last century. As of 2001 the fishermen visiting the mountain are around one thousand. To satisfy the increasing demand of this group of people, artificial stocking with fish of rivers and lakes begun.

In some of the lakes there was no fish in the past. Such are the lakes of Strijko, Todorini Ochi, Gorno Prevalsko, Kremenski, Tevno Ezero, Okoto, etc.

One of the first stocking with fish in the end of the fifties was carried out with rainbow trout in the Strijko Lake. Latter on, in the end of the seventies the brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) was massively introduced in the lakes and European grayling (*Thymallus thymallus*) was introduced in the Muratovo Lake.

Some 15 years ago, the common minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*) appeared in the lakes. Preliminarily caught in the lower currents of the rivers it was used as living bait. The remaining living fishes from the buckets were released in the water basins.

⇒ Fish species, subject to amateur fishing

The water basins fall within the trout zone. There are trout fish in 39 lakes. In 32 of them Balkan trout has been established, brook trout was established in 17 and rainbow trout – in one; brook trout and Balkan trout together – in 10; brook trout and rainbow trout together – in one.

The common minnow has been established in 29 lakes, and the European grayling in 1.

Of the rivers of Pirin NP in 21 Balkan trout occurs, as in the Demyanishka brook trout and rainbow trout were also established. The last was also registered in the Ikrishka River.

⇒ Use of the water basins

Tourist trails are located in proximity to all the rivers and lakes and their banks are tramped by the fishermen.

The most intensively used for amateur fishing are the rivers of Demyanishka, Banderishka, Byala river, Chernata Voda, Retidje, Begovitsa, Demirkapyiska, Spanopolska, Mozgovitsa, Kozyata river. Because of the greater water flow in them the fish stock is higher than in the rest of the rivers.

Of the lakes the most visited are the lakes of Ribnoto, Muratovo, Vlahini, Georgiiski, Kurkumski, Dolnoto Vasilashko, Prevalskite, Valyavishkite, Popovo, Ribni lakes, Kremenski, Chairski, Spanopolskite, Todorini Ochi and Bezbojko.

The main exits for the fishermen are the chalets Vihren, Banderitsa, Damyanitsa, Bezbog, Pirin, Begovitsa. Less used are the Sinanitsa chalet, the resort area of Popina Luka, the bungalows of the Bulgarian Tourist Union in Malko Spano Pole and the Tevno Ezero shelter. Usually they make one-day excursions and come to spend the night in the tourist sites, but in individual cases they remain to camp by the lakes.

1.16.6.4. Violations registered.

⇒ The most often occurring violations in terms of fishing in the park is the catching of small-sized fish, fishing without a permit, permit which is not marked for the present excursion, exceeding the norms of 8 fish or 2 kg, fishing in the Ribnoto Vasilashko lake, falling within Yulen reserve, pollution by household litter around the lakes and kindling fires.

⇒ Lesser but of a greater negative effect on the ecosystems and the fishing stock are violations of the type of – fishing during the spawning period of the trout in the lakes, catching by nets, stocking with fish with inappropriate species and without document on the health conditions and origin of the stocking material, fishing in the Pleshkoto lake, also falling within the Yulen reserve.

In SCROLL 1, Annex 7. 6. is presented Table with data on the type of the water basin and the fish species

1.16.7. Tourism, Recreation, Sports and Services

Table 26. Main tourist trails used within the Pirin NP according to data from 2001

TRAIL	Duration of the hiking in hours
Predel chalet – Yavorov chalet	6.00
The town of Razlog– Yavorov chalet	4.00
Yavorov chalet – Vihren chalet	9.00
The town of Bansko – Bunderishka river – Bunderitsa chalet – Vihren chalet	4.00
Vihren chalet – Demianitsa chalet through Todorina Porta	4.30
The town of Bansko – Karierata locality - Demianitsa chalet	4.00
Vihren chalet – Bunderishka Porta – Sinanitsa chalet	4.00
Vihren chalet – Bunderishka Porta – Yane Sandanski chalet	5.30-6.00
Vihren chalet – Tipitsite – Tevno Lake shelter	5.30
Vihren chalet – Vihren peak – the passage between Vihren and Kutelo peaks – Bunderitsa chalet	5.30
Demianitsa chalet – Tevno Lake shelter	3.00
Demianitsa chalet – Samodivska Porta – Bezbog chalet	4.30
Gotse Delchev chalet – Bezbog chalet	by a lift - 30 minutes
Dobrinishte village – Gotse Delchev chalet	2.30
Bezbog chalet – Pirin chalet	6.00
Bezbog chalet – Tevno Ezero shelter	3.30
Tevno Ezero shelter – Pirin chalet	3.30
Tevno Ezero shelter – Kamenitsa chalet	3.00
Tevno Ezero shelter – Spano Pole shelter	2.30
Sinanitsa chalet – Spano Pole shelter – Kamenitsa chalet	3.30
Sinanitsa chalet – Yane Sandanski chalet	3.00
Kresna – Peshterata locality - Sinanitsa chalet	8.00
Kamenitsa chalet – Sandanski	5.00
Kamenitsa chalet – Solishteto site – Starata Mandra– Pirin chalet	5.00
Pirin chalet – Rozhen village	5.00
Pirin chalet – Malina chalet	2.00
Pirin chalet – Pirin village	4.00
Malina chalet – Popovi Livadi chalet	6.00
Popovi Livadi chalet – Delchevo village - Gotse Delchev	3.30

In SCROLL I, Annex 7.7. A List of Existing Tourist Routes is presented with the following information: start and end location; category; walking time; availability of chalets or shelters along the route; dangerous sections and safety measures; information tools (marking, etc.)

1.16.7.2. Capacity of Sites and Facilities.

- ⇒ The capacity of the chalets in Pirin is estimated at about 1800 beds, most of which are in unsatisfactory condition with regard to the modern requirements for hygiene and comfort;
- ⇒ The accommodation capacity of the Sandanski-Melnik tourism center is also part of the Pirin product. The tourists coming to the region also visit the mountain, mainly during the summer months;
- ⇒ Campsites – in Pirin there are no campsites corresponding to the European standards. Most sites are simply glades that are appropriate for tenting, with a source of drinking water nearby and fireplaces. No proper lavatories are established near them. Such sites are the campground near Bunderitsa chalet and the one below Demianitsa chalet.
- ⇒ The lifts and tow-lifts within the Park are described under item 1.16.3.2. Rope Lines

In SCROLL I, Annex 7.8., The List of Chalets and Shelters within Pirin NP is presented with the following information: contacts with the chalet and chalet-keeper, opening time of the chalet, possibilities for catering and buying package food, services offered by the chalet, number of beds and rooms, occupation during the different seasons, prices for accommodation, state of the toilets and bathrooms, state of the waste deposit site, availability of water supply, number of foreign tourists, proposals of the chalet-keeper.

1.16.7.3. Information about the Dynamics of the Number of Nights Spent in the Park, by type of Facilities.

Bunderitsa chalet

- 2000 total – 2628 nights, of these – 55 foreigners;
- Between November and April – 189 nights; between May and October – 2439 nights;
- Tourist nationality – Germany, Czech Republic, Belgium, Poland, France, Great Britain.

Vihren chalet

- 2000 total – 2904 nights, of these – 270 foreigners;
- Between November and April – 77 nights; between May and October – 2827 nights;
- Tourist nationality – Germany, Czech Republic, Belgium, Poland, France, Great Britain.

Demianitsa chalet

- 2000 total – 2274 nights, of these – 65 foreigners;
- Between the November and April – 32 nights; between May and October – 2242 nights;
- Tourist nationality – Germany, Czech Republic, Belgium, Poland, France, Great Britain.

Tevno Ezero shelter

- 2000 total – 1755 nights, of these – 75 foreigners;
- Tourist nationality – Germany, Czech Republic, Belgium, Poland, France, Great Britain.

Sinanitsa chalet

- 2000 total – 1650 nights, of these – 1322 BTU members, 321 not members of BTU, 7 foreigners

Popovi Livadi chalet

- 2000 total – 500 nights;
- Peak months: May – 40 people, June – 30 people, July – 170 people, August – 100 people, January – 40 people;
- In 2001 the chalet was visited by 440 people;
- The period after 1990 is typical for the constant decrease of the number of chalet visitors.

Pirin chalet

- 1994 – nights/Bulgarians – 2997, nights/foreigners – 1013.
- 1995 – nights/Bulgarians – 4865, nights/foreigners – 421.
- 1996 – nights/Bulgarians – 4212, nights/foreigners – 306.

- 1997 – nights/Bulgarians – 3305, nights/foreigners – 326.
- 1998 – nights/Bulgarians – 2956, nights/foreigners – 789.
- 1999 – nights/Bulgarians – 4261, nights/foreigners – 923.
- 2000 – nights/Bulgarians – 3946, nights/foreigners – 791.
- By September 30, 2001 – nights/Bulgarians – 1227, nights/foreigners – 231.

Yavorov chalet

- From 28.01.2000 to 30.12.2000 – 150 nights; on 31.12.2000 and 01.01.2001 – 66 nights;
- In 2001 – January – 39 nights, February – 10 nights, June – 35 nights, July – 377 nights, and by August 19 – 307 nights.

Malina chalet

- 2000 total – 250 nights, in 2001 – 275 nights/Bulgarians, 20 nights/foreigners.

Yane Sandanski chalet

- 2000 total – 1300 nights, in 2001 – 950 nights.

Begovitsa chalet

- 2000 total – 2750 nights, in 2001 – 2655 nights.

Spano Pole shelter

- 2000 total – 175 nights, in 2002 – 170 nights.

Fourth Kilometer campsite

- 2000 total – 525 nights, in 2001 – 430 nights.

In 2001, a total of 150 foreigners were registered, who spent the night at the chalets of Malina, Yane Sandanski, Begovitsa, Spano Pole shelter and Fourth Kilometer campsite.

1.16.7.4. Types of Sports that can be practiced in the Park.

In the winter: skiing occupies more than 95% of the programs involving stay of up to 7 days. In its capacity of a ski center, Bansko holds over 90% of the total volume of tourists and turnover.

In the summer: there is much larger number of trips – more than 70% of all trips and nights in Pirin and the NP. Unlike in the winter, mostly the main tourist services are used in this season.

⇒ *Hiking*

The most common type of tourism. It is practiced by more than 70% of all visitors to Pirin Mountain and the NP. Over 95% of the visits are conducted during the summer months. The following types of walking tourism exist:

- Trail walking (from one chalet to another, or from a certain starting point to a settlement);
- One-day roundabout tours, staying overnight outside the Park;
- Educational/topical trails: watching plant and animal species in their natural habitats; the brown bear watching is especially attractive;
- Combined trails and programs of up to one week dedicated to wine, crafts, traditional folklore;
- Artists' sessions;
- Festivals and fairs;

⇒ *Winter trails*

Accessible only to the most experienced and physically fit mountaineers and alpinists, people equipped with snow-cars and ski with hinges, who are familiar with the terrain and the avalanches.

⇒ *Mountaineering*

A limited number of appropriately equipped and secure tours and trails exist. Winter and summer alpine traversing is organized in the localities of Strazhite, Kamenitsa-Yalovarnika, Koteskia Chal, Donchovi Karauli. The skiing tours, using alpine equipment, are also part of the tourist services, offered in Pirin. The first routes in Pirin NP, professionally equipped with cotters, were designed by Borislav Dimitrov (the organizer of expeditions to the Himalayas). These are several tours along the Northern face of Vihren peak and along the face of Atmegdan peak. The most prospective and preferred for climbing are the peaks of Vihren, Atmegdan, Samodivski, Razlozhki Suhodol, etc.

⇒ *Cave-Diving*

With regard to their accessibility, the caves can be divided into two major groups:

- For general tourist visits – caves, which do not require special training and equipment;

- For specialized visits – caves that are only accessible to people with speleological training and specialized equipment.

In view of their significant size and complex morphology, several Pirin caves can be the focus of organized sport expeditions (hobby tourism):

- Bunderitsa precipice (-125 m)
- Vihren precipice (-170 m)
- Banski Suhodol # 30 precipice (25 anniversary of Akademik Sport Club) – (118 m)
- Banski Suhodol # 9 precipice - (-170 m)
- Kamenititsa # 14 precipice (-103 m)
- Chelyustnitsa # 17 precipice (Bayuvi Dupki circus) - (-103 m)
- Aleko precipice (Sinanitsa sub-region) - (-130 m)

⇒ *Biking and Horseback Riding Tourism*

These types of tourism can only be practiced in the park periphery and in the adjacent areas, due to the characteristics of the relief and trails – too stony and risky. The forest and dirt roads are very appropriate, since they form an almost complete circle at an altitude of 1000-1400 meters, and connect chalets and villages. Usually the horseback riding trails are also fit for mountain bikes. Biking can be practiced along the asphalt roads around Pirin and those reaching some of the chalets (Vihren, Gitse Delchev, Yane Sandanski).

⇒ *Topical/Educational Tourism*

It is limited to the watching of birds and animals, tourist trails for getting acquainted with the flora, forests, hydrobiology, and geology of the region. The old wine trail can also be restored, which used to connect Bansko and Melnik through the Demianishka river valley.

⇒ *Opportunities for Practicing other Forms of Alternative Tourism*

Such opportunities exist in the villages at the foot of Pirin. Developing this type of tourism only within the Park lacks perspective and it is not justified either with respect to the settlements capacity, or with regard to the tourism market. The regions' strength is in the large concentration of various resources, including cultural and historic sites in the settlements, traditions, fairs, festivals, new alternative accommodation and animation facilities.

1.16.7.5. Sites for Practicing of Specific Types of Sports, Tourism, etc.

⇒ *Rock-Climbing Sites:*

Equipped climbing trails were developed on the northern face of Vihren peak, on the faces of Samodivski and Glavnishki Chukar peaks. Climbing trails exist below Razlozhki Suhodol peak (in Bayuvi Dupki – Djindjiritsa reserve), at Stupalata rock formation, on the faces of Sinanitsa, Georgiitsa, and Dautov peaks (in Bayuvi Dupki – Djindjiritsa reserve).

⇒ *Cave-Diving Sites:*

Cave-diving is mainly practiced in the caves at the Banski Suhodol circus. They can be reached through the shortcut from Bansko to Bunderitsa chalet. Other sites visited by speleologists are the caves at Kamenititsa and Bayuvi Dupki circuses. There are no trails leading to them. The deepest cave is Vihrenska cave on the eastern slope of Vihren peak. Bunderitsa is a very famous cave, which is located at the river below the chalet of the same name. There are several accessible sites in the region of Betalovoto (point 1.9.3.).

⇒ *Organized Educational Tourism:*

Such tourism is only offered by several Bulgarian tourism agencies that do not employ local people. They organize mainly groups of foreigners (and Bulgarian groups as well), and the guides provide information about the biological diversity of the mountain, and about historic events in the region.

⇒ *Biking Routes:*

- Kresna – Vurbite locality – Ilindentsi village
- Dobrinishte village – Gotse Delchev chalet – Breznitsa and/or Kornitsa village
- Sandanski – Lilianovo village – Popina Luka locality – Kamenitsa chalet
- Sandanski – Tremoshnitsa locality – Govedarnika locality – Ploski village
- Kresna – Vlahi village – Oshtava village – Stara Kresna village – Kresnenski gorge – Kresna
- Brezhani village – Mechkul village – Senokos village – Stara Kresna village
- Pirin village – Pirin chalet
- Gotse Delchev – Popovi Livadi locality – Pirin village

Of all biking routes offered, only several kilometers of the sections before Kamenitsa and Pirin chalets fall within the National Park.

⇒ *Horseback Riding Routes:*

- Kresna – Vurbite locality – Ilindentsi village
- Dobrinishte village – Gotse Delchev chalet – Breznitsa and/or Kornitsa village
- Kresna – Vlahi village – Oshtava village – Stara Kresna village – Kresnenski gorge – Kresna
- Yane Sandanski chalet – Begovitsa chalet – Tevno Ezero shelter – Vinarska Porta – Demianitsa chalet – Bansko (another option is to go directly through Spano Pole-Vinarska Porta)
- Pirin village – Malina chalet – Pirin chalet – Rozhen village – Zlatolist village – Melnik.

1.16.8. Industry

There is no industry on the territory of the park

1.16.9. Public knowledge of the site and attitude to it

In February 2002 a sociological research of the public opinion was conducted in 7 settlements – municipality centers in park Pirin. The sample is representative for the region. The number of interviewed is as follows: Bansko 56, Kresna 24, Goce Delchev 128, Razlog 80, Sandanski 176, Simitli 56, Strumiani 8 - total 528 people. Of them 21 are students, 127 pensioners, 36 unemployed, 246 on a full work day, 79 partially employed and 19 housewives. As an educational structure are interviewed – 84 with academic degree, 25 semi-academic degree, 286 with high-school education and 132 with elementary education or lower.

In SCROLLI, Annex # 7.9. is given the questionnaire used in the sociological research carried out.

⇒ **Awareness of the activity of the park's administration.**

The number of people unaware of the location of the parks' administration is almost equal to the number of those who know that it is situated in Bansko. The level of awareness of the institution depends on the settlement. People from Bansko are more acquainted with the activity of the park's administration. There is a strong interest toward a Visitor-information center. Relatively small part of the interviewed knows an employee of the park's administration.

⇒ **Awareness of the Management Plan for Pirin National Park.**

Media:

One third of the interviewed have acquired information about the Management Plan from the media. Media stand on a first place among the institutions for which the interviewed claim to pay enough attention for the preservation of the environment. For this reason in July 2002 a seminar was conducted presenting to the media the results from the questionnaire.

The trust toward electronic media is higher than that toward printed media – this is because live broadcasting reduces opportunities for mischief with opinions and their manipulative usage.

People's activity is very low. Only 1,7% would report to the media in case of violations regarding nature.

Ecological associations:

Negative attitudes toward ecological associations are lower as compared to those toward the media. Cumulatively with highest trust and lowest values of distrust are researchers and ecologists.

⇒ **Responsibility of institutions in environmental conservation.**

On first place is the municipality, followed by the government, by people's efforts, and on the last place are employers and firms and companies owners. The activity of the employers is determined as the most insufficient with regards to the environment. Higher positive evaluation is given to the representatives of the local authorities above that given to the government.

That is and the tendency of change, getting the opportunities for decision and actions closer to the single settlement and individual.

⇒ **The passive behavioral attitude.**

People are not that much uninformed as they are not ready to do something themselves. The forms of activity from the past are more popular than those borne in the last years – speaking with a parliament member, initiating petition, etc.

⇒ **Risks for the Pirin region.**

The ordering is: *Cutting down trees, Water pollution, Fires in the forests, ineffective legislature.*

The greatest mass concern is toward the *cutting down of the trees*. Extinction of plants and animals is realized as extremely insignificant.

Negligible is the part of people who doesn't have opinion on the alternative "conservation of forests – wood industry as a means of living". Today, in comparison with the beginning of the change, twice as many are the interviewed that support the introduction of prohibition in the park, since violations are increasingly larger and striking. In the same time twice less are the people supporting restrictions of the wood industry in the whole mountain. This is explained by the fact that wood industry in the past period has turned itself as a means of living for the population in the region. Today, the opinions for putting restrictions only in the park are three times more. The extremely low number of people who think that no restrictions should be put has remained the same and the share of people who doesn't have opinion has decreased almost three times.

The last fact gives evidence that the problem with wood industry sharpens and that it engages large part of the population.

Another conflict point is the building of resorts for elite ski-sport. Almost half of the interviewed are for keeping up with the norms and restrictions that follow from the status of national park Pirin. The people who oppose the restrictions that are for the building of ski-resorts in the whole mountain is among the high, with large income groups; men; university graduates. There are considerable differences between the settlements in terms of their attitude toward continuing the buildings of equipment for elite ski-sport in Pirin. The opinion for continuing the building in the whole mountain is shared by 48.2% of the interviewed in Bansko, but from 15% in Razlog, 11.4% in Sandanski, 12.5% in Strumiani, and 9.4% in Goce Delchev.

⇒ **Regional identity.**

Results show high level of *involvement in the region*.

Local people expect development programs for the small and family business and more significant relation between the settlements from the region and the already established resort centers such as Sandanski and Bansko. Among the young and educated people can be found the adherents to the way of life close to nature, its preservers respectively. People with higher education are more concerned about the environment in the concrete settlement. Among the university graduates there are less people that do not have opinion or cannot determine the future development of nature's condition. Among the university graduates there is the highest share of people who would look for the cooperation of ecological associations in order to protect the nature in their settlement.

⇒ **Direct use of nature.**

It increases drastically with the presence of places for buying up herbs and mushrooms. Those who know about such place and in the same time are aware of the prices are one third of the interviewed. Men are twice as many as women. Most of them are fully employed – nearly half of them. This means that they use the gathering of herbs and mushrooms for complementing their earnings. The second significant category is pensioners followed by people with partial and temporary employment.

Places for buying up herbs and mushrooms are more popular where people rely more on the income from gathering healing plants, herbs and mushrooms. 100% from the interviewed in Kresna are aware of such places. 83.9% from the living in Bansko, 81.3% from the people in Goce Delchev, 66.3% from the interviewed in Razlog, 55.1% from those in Sandanski, 48.2% of the interviewed in Simitli, and none from the people living in Strumiani.

⇒ **Differences between the municipalities.**

The differences between the municipalities are differences between the local people. Incomes from tourist activities are unequally distributed. The greatest share of people who form their income from such kind of

activity is from Bansko. In the rest of the 6 settlements this percentage is four times lower. Kresna is in fact completely excluded from forming an income from tourist activity.

A brochure "About the people and the nature of the Pirin region", showing the results of the public opinion poll, is annexed to the Management Plan.

1.17. CURRENT USE OF THE ADJACENT TERRITORIES

1.17.1. Population and demographic features

/According to data from UNDP, United Nations Development Program, 2001./

Ranking the seven municipalities according to the total index of human development is between 11 for Goce Delchev and 94 for Strumiani in a total of 262 municipalities in Bulgaria. The lowest position of Strumiani is due to the lower, in comparison to the other 6 municipalities, life expectancy, lower literacy rate, lower GDP per capita, and the presence of Roma population. The greatest share of Roma population has Razlog 3.9%, lowest is in Kresna – 0.8%. The greatest amount of Turk population is concentrated in Goce Delchev – 22.5%.

⇒ Population growth and migration.

The population in the region of Pirin continuously decreases, due to aging and migration

- From the 7 municipalities adjacent to the park, 6 are characterized with a negative population growth - the number of lively borne is less than that of the death. In 1999 only in Goce Delchev municipality there is a positive population growth (15).
- The mechanical movement of the population has negative value in most of the settlements. The greatest settlements are registered in Sandanski municipality – 140 people. The strongest emigration stream is from Strumiani municipality – 131. The mechanical movement relates more to towns rather than villages.

⇒ Work Resources.

Aging of the population:

The working people are forced to provide for directly – in their own household, or indirectly – through taxes a large number of people that are in the age under or above the age of the active population. The distribution of the population with age above and under the working active age has worse indicators in the villages. In the Bansko municipality the population living in villages in working active age is 820 people against 7 341 people under and above this age.

Unemployment:

The unemployment coefficient for Blagoevgrad district in November 1999 is 16.9%. It varies significantly depending on the variables town-village. Its value in towns is 19.7% and in villages – 13%. Aging in the villages is a hard social and demographic problem. For the towns the insufficiency of working places is a problem.

In the category of the unemployment there is a tendency of increase in comparison with the years 1999 and 2000. This are the most mobile parts of the population who if unable to organize their lives most easily leave the settlement. In the same time these two characteristics are described as typical for eco-bio-optimists or the local people who appreciate the nature. Their behavior is most significant with respect to the stable development of the natural environment. For the year 2002 the number of unemployed university graduates has increased by 34 people in Bansko and by 60 people in Sandanski.

Employment:

The number of private firms is twice as large as the number of governmental and municipality firms. The number of employed in the private and public sector is almost equal in Bansko. In Gotse Delchev and Razlog there is a slight majority of the employed in private firms. The number of the announced working places is negligible in all municipalities except Sandanski.

⇒ **Industry related to direct use of nature**

The number of people employed in the sectors: hunting, fishing, and wood industry has an immediate effect to the direct usage of the nature.

- The data for the employed in the sectors hunting and fishing show the people employed in the governmental inspections that must execute the policies of environmental preservation.
- The data only for the wood industry is clearer for analysis – it is only private firms that use nature for business purposes. This process requires efficient and continuous control from the nature preserving institutions.
- Building is another industry branch with large contribution to the employment of the local population and with direct relation to the nature preserving. This branch is characterized with a quick growth in the last 10 years. Only the firms in Bansko grow from 2 in 1990 to 42 in 1999. At present this branch provides 100 working places in the town.
- Tourism has strategic significance for the economic and social development of Bansko municipality. Bansko has the highest intensity of private investment in tourism in Bulgaria. This fact has to be taken into consideration from the nature preservers. From the data of sector “Trade and Tourism” in Bansko municipality 900 people form more than 80% of their incomes from tourism. For them the problems of preserving the natural environment shift to the serious enough problems related with the tourist business:
 - o The lack of modern infrastructure, including lack of gondola lift;
 - o Insufficient number of ski-runs for the tourists
 - o Low solvent demand from the Bulgarian population who are the major consumer segment.

⇒ **Incomes:**

- In the municipalities – in the incomes of the municipality budget majority have taxes from individuals and the national budget.
- Average salary – the average salary in the seven municipalities is significantly lower than the average salary in Blagoevgrad. There are significant differences between the seven municipalities as well. The highest average salary is in Simitly 198.75lv. The lowest is in Kresna 141.08lv.

⇒ **Consumer Segment.**

The data for Goce Delchev is as follows: Bulgarians 85%, foreigners 15%; families – 60%, couples – 30%, single visitors – 10%; reason of visit: closeness – 50%, calm environment and undisturbed nature – 40%, business –10%; duration of the visit: 3 days – 30%, 7 days – 60%, 14 days – 10%; seasonality – I –III – 30%, IV – VI – 15%, VII –IX – 40%, X-XI I- 15%; average year employment – 40%.

For Bansko the total number of visitors in 1999 is 51 924 people. The indicators for the consumer segment of the tourism are as follows: Bulgarians- 41 784 or approximately 80%, followed by tourist groups from the neighbor countries – Greece, Macedonia, Yugoslavia. Germany and Russia participate with almost equal shares of approximately 1200 people.

In SCROLL1, Annex # 7.10. “Population and demographic features” are presented:

Table 1 *Marriages, divorces, lively borne, death and natural growth of the population in 1999 by municipalities, NSI (National Statistical Institute)*

Table 2 *Natural and Mechanical migration of the population in 2000 by settlements*

Table 3 *Population in under and above the working age by municipalities until 31.12.2000, NSI*

Table 4 *Population at the age of 15 and more according to economic activity. Economic activity, employment and unemployment in 1999 according to place of living for Blagoevgrad district*

Table 5 *Coefficient of economic activity, employment and unemployment in 1999*

Table 6 *Unemployed people according to education in seven municipalities in Blagoevgrad district until 31.12.2000*

Table 7 Unemployment according to age groups in Blagoevgrad district until 31.12.2000
Table 8 Active subjects included in BULSTAT until 31.12.2000
Table 9 Employment and unemployment by municipalities and gender until 31.12.1999
Table 10 Number of economic units, of employed and hired in the year 2000 in the wood industry, hunting, and fishing
Table 11 Number of economic units, of employed and hired in the year 2000 in the woodworking industry
Table 12 Relationships between the central national budget and the municipalities' budgets in 1998, NSI
Table 13 Employed people and average working salary by municipality in the year 1999
Table 14 Order of the municipalities according to the Total index of human development /TIHD/
Table 15 Components and compositional indexes of the index of human development

1.17.2. Agriculture

In the areas right next to the park there are no agricultural practices established, related to plant and animal breeding, that may be a threat to the achievement of the management objectives with respect to the park's adjacent territories.

1.17.3. Forestry

There are very few cases of planting with untypical, including foreign wood species registered in a close proximity to the park.

1.17.4. Hunting and fishing

1.17.4.1. Hunting.

The number of the animal populations on the territory of the park is to a very large extend dependant on the hunting and the traditions in the territories around the park.

In the settlements around the park from last year there have been more than 1200 hunters registered and with the newly accepted hunters this year they will exceed 1500.

⇒ *Game breeding:*

The game in the national park's adjacent areas is managed by the State Game Station /SGS/ in the town of Razlog and by the hunting associations.

The Dobrinishte Forestry Board has a fenced area in the Harami bunar countryside for game breeding where there are about 60 wild boars and 4-5 deer. There is a continuous veterinary control and the health of the animals is checked by the staff.

At the moment there is no breeding of foreign game species for introducing them in the mountain. Along the valley of Struma river there is a tradition of periodically releasing of Thracian quails by the hunting associations in Kresna and Sandanski which gives opportunities for its mixing with the Balkan one.

⇒ *Major hunting methods:*

Single or in groups with the use of dogs - beagles. A very small percentage uses dogs for bird hunting. Very often the method of awaiting is used.

⇒ *Violations:*

The most common violations that influence the number of the game are:

- Violating the hunting time periods;
- Killing of female wild boars used for breeding;
- Hunting of deer with beagles.

Although rarely, sometimes there is poaching of rabbits during the night with cars suitable for high terrains-predominantly around Bansko, Kresna and Dobriniste.

Everywhere the dogs guarding the herds are without clogs.

The increase in the weapons in the hunters makes the interest toward the chamois stronger. Precondition for poaching is the presence of places where animals can be stuffed in the settlements around the national park,

where trophies from chamois, deer, fur from bear, capercaillie, and protected wild birds can be found. There are cases of killed bears that attack apiaries. In the menus of some of the places for public food in Bansko game meat, very often without certificate for origin, can be found

The increased number of violations in Vihren PR is based on the fact that the hunting group from Bansko has small area – 382,0 hectares forest and 1619,8 hectares land area. On the other hand, no measures have been taken for increasing the number of the game in those areas and also there are hunting traditions in some parts of the territories of the national park.

1.17.4. 2. Fishing and aquatic cultures

⇒ *Fish breeding:*

Struma and Mesta with their numerous tributaries are among the three conditional regions – of the trout, barbell, and carp. There are artificial water places such as rubble excavations, reservoirs for irrigation, and technical reservoirs, in which fish is breed and are used for amateur fishing.

The registered fishers around the territory of the park until the end of June are over 900 and it is expected that their number will exceed 1000 in 2002. Major part of them does not have fishing ticket. People from other parts of the country very often fish in the region. At the foot of the mountain there are three places specialized in industrial fishing (breeding ponds) with rainbow trout, two of them being potential producers of material for multiplying fish – near Sandasnki and near Razlog. Genetic material is produced in the breeding ponds near Bachevo village and Biala Mesta near Yakoruda.

⇒ Violations that influence the park:

- There is no breed pond in the region that produces material for multiplying the Balkan trout. For this reason some people willfully and without any choice let only rainbow trout in the mountain's rivers, sometimes in the national park as well.
- On the rivers Sandaska Bistrica, Pirinska Bistrica, Retize, and Valdahina Water Power Plants are built where below the water catchment areas the flow of the rivers reaches the allowed minimum during the summer and autumn period. This has negative impact on the fish reserves. The same impact has also the diverting of the water in the lower flows of the rivers for watering agricultural crops.
- Along the Mesta River exploding materials, nets and electricity are used for catching greater amount of fish. In the artificial reservoirs multiplying of fish is rarely done, either due to financial reasons or due to insecurity of preserving the fish.
- In some restaurants Balkan trout is bought up which is a precondition for catching greater amounts predominantly from the national park.
- During the banned period for carp fishes many of the fishermen go to the Protected Area during the spring-summer season.

1.17.5. Tourism, sports and services

For the purposes of the current Management plan as “territories of the park” concerning tourism, sport, and services are scrutinized parts of the municipalities Razlog, Bansko, Gotse Delchev, Sandasnki, Strumiani, Kresna, Simitli, and Hadjidimovo, where development of tourism has direct or indirect influence on the Park and vice versa. Included are territories and settlements that are near to Middle and South Pirin because of the potential opportunity for enlargement of the park southward and due to the fact that Pirin mountain is perceived and should be perceived as one whole.

1.17.5.1. Types of tourism practiced at the moment

⇒ Ski tourism – Kulinoto countryside (Predela countryside).

⇒ Spa resorts – developed mostly in Sandasnki. With potential are Dobrinishte village (there are problems with the pools – awaiting for concessionaire), Bania Village in the Razlog municipality. There are mineral waters – underused or with small baths of local importance built near the villages Ostava and Dolna Gradestnica, in the Kresna municipality as well as the municipal centers Bansko and Simitli.

- ⇒ Culture-discovering tourism – places included in the round trips around Bulgaria. These are Bansko and Sandanski-Melnik. Most of the cultural monuments are not maintained as tourist sightseeing; the potential of the museum is used under 20%.
- ⇒ Village tourism – there are attempts in Delchevo village (Goce Delchev municipality), Bania village (Razlog municipality) and others. From one year the Pirin Tourism Forum /PTF/ works on the program “28 weekends in a village” for development of the village tourism in the whole district. The first tourist product is expected in 2002-2003.
- ⇒ Eco-tourism - it is practiced sporadically as a part of other tourist products – village and holiday. PTF has developed a program “Eco-routes along the southwestern border”, which will begin in 2003.
- ⇒ Hobby tourism – there are single attempts for taking foreign groups in place like Bansko for learning Bulgarian folklore – songs, dances, instruments. Usually this is related to the assembly “Pirin sings”, that is held on every two years in the Predela countryside. The next one will be in 2003.
- ⇒ Summer holiday tourism – Bansko, Sandanski, Melnik; with local importance are the resort country sides Predela, Popovi livadi, Popina laka, Sinanica, and others.
- ⇒ Summer walking tourism – an encouraging tendency is the coming back of hikers from the ex-socialist block. A big problem is the condition of the mountain chalets and shelters and the fact that the Bulgarian Tourist Union does not exercise any control over their maintenance.
- ⇒ Congress tourism – in Sandanski and Bansko.

The tourism that has future in the settlements is a combination between village, ecological, cultural-cognitive, hobby, and etc – in other words not a narrowly specialized product but rather such that can attract wilder market segments.

1.17.5.2. Major tourist services.

The major tourist services – accommodation, food and transport are much better developed than the additional services. On one side this is connected to the essence of the available supply in the region but on the other side it is connected with the notion of tourism that exists among the larger part of the population – namely tourism as a well arranged sleeping places.

This leads to:

- ⇒ Monotony and repetition of the tourist product, which at the end becomes non-competitive.
- ⇒ Excessive enlargement of the accommodation base to such extent that demand is much larger than the supply.
- ⇒ Seasonality of the tourism is clearly seen, low percentage of base fulfillment, and disloyal rivalry in Bansko – the biggest tourist center in the Pirin region.

1.17.5.3. Total capacity of the tourist bases in the settlements.

The total bed capacity of the accommodation bases on the territories to the north of the national park /Predel-Razlog-Bansko-Dobriniste/ is no more than 7000 beds. These beds are divided into different categories with more than 1/3 of them being private lodgings or small family boarding houses, part of which /over 400 work in the gray economy only during the holidays at the end of the year/.

- ⇒ Problems in the management and the offering of this base
 - Seasonal orientation suggesting lack of ideas for profitability;
 - Lack of trained personnel and lack of motivated staff, major part of which works in Bansko only for 3-4 months.
 - Shortage of tap water and the undetermined question with waste waters

The development of the tourist infrastructure and of the major tourist services is concentrated in Bansko-Dobriniste, Sandanski-Melnik, and Goce Delchev. With the purpose of recreational tourism are used the bases in Bansko, Dobriniste, Melnik and partly Sandanski. Many of the visitors of the bases in Sandanski and Goce Delchev come for business purposes or particularly in Sandanski for shopping. With the exception of Dobriniste, in the villages around national park Pirin in fact there isn't categorized bed accommodation base. There are predominantly houses and rooms for guests.

Table 27. Capacity of accommodation bases by settlements according to data of PTF of 2002

Type of base:	Number of bases	Total number of beds
BANSKO		
Four star hotels	5	444
Three star hotels	5	391
Two star hotels	3	115
One star hotels	3	117
Two star family hotels	14	309
Three star family hotles	5	250
One star private lodgings	16	90
Two star private lodgings	38	299
Tourist bedroom	1	62
DOBRINISTE – data from Bansko municipality		
“Rodina” hotel with three stars	1	95
BDZ holiday home	1	80
Three stars private lodgings	9	85
GOCE DELCHEV		
2-3 stars family hotels	3	50
SANDANSKI		
Four star hotels and family hotels	1	596
Three star hotels and family hotels	1	160
Two star hotels and family hotels	12	314
Two star motels	3	54
MELNIK		
Two star hotels and family hotels	6	160
POLENITSA village		
Four star hotels and family hotels	2	60

Above Bansko, on the territory of the National park, there are around 10 bases with total capacity of approximately 630 beds but major part of them has undetermined ownership status.

During the time of holidays – 8 of December, Christmas, New Year, the number of beds in Bansko and Dobriniste increases with approximately 1000 in private houses that are not categorized.

In Sandanski there are two accommodation information offices.

Restaurants and other:

The number of places for food is much higher than the number of the accommodation bases. They are concentrated in tourist centers such as Bansko, Sandanski, Melnik and in the centers of the municipalities. The categorized restaurants in the Sandanski Municipality are 200.

Sports:

In general on the territories of the Pirin National Park there are very good natural conditions for active rest that includes opportunities for practicing specific sport. The problem is that the infrastructure available is highly insufficient and in not very good condition.

- In Bansko the public sport equipments (besides the ski) are limited to the towns stadium. There are swimming pools in the hotels “Bansko”, “Glazne”, “Balgaria”, “Pirin”, “Tane”, “Karol”, holiday village “Piri”; big hotels have fitness equipment and sauna have almost all hotels including the family ones.
- In Sandanski there is a city complex with outdoor swimming pools, the Sport boarding school and the “Sveti Vrach” hotel have indoor pools and “Sandanski” hotel has indoor and outdoor pool. There is a stadium with abilities for athletics, tennis courts and outdoor sport places.
- In Goce Delchev since 2001 there is also a swimming pool.
- In the villages the stadiums and sport places left are usable.

Transportation service in the region:

There is regular, comfortable, predominantly private transport between the major lines – Sofia-Blagoevgrad-Kulata and Sofia-Blagoevgrad-Bansko-Goce Delchev. The public transport that makes the connection between the villages is uncomfortable and not regular. In the municipality centers there are private taxis but their prices by rule are higher than those in Sofia or Blagoevgrad. After the electrification of the railway road Dupnica-Kulata, Sandanski can be reached relatively quickly and by railway transport but the trains are old and the hygiene is not on a very good level. For these reasons most tourists in the region arrive with their own transport or use (when they are a group) the hotels' transport – all larger hotels have their own vans.

1.17.5.4. Total capacity of the tourist bases outside the settlements.

In areas near Pirin National Park there is an accommodation base in several resort places with local significance: Predel, Popovi livadi, Popina laka, Turichka cherkva. The bases are predominantly property of certain administration and part of them are abandoned and are not used. The others take tourists but illegally because they do not have hotel license and are not categorized in the Ministry of Economy.

Table 28. Recreation and tourist places in the Pirin NP's adjacent territories:

Recreation and tourism places	Type of bases	Capacity	Peculiarities
Predel – comprises the localities of Kulinoto, Betolovoto, Charkovete and Boikov Rid and Shepoka rest sites.	80 recreation facilities, 14 rest houses, 160 bungalows, and 230 villas	2200 beds	The general urban project envisages increasing this number to 4810 beds.
Dobrinishte village – Gotse Delchev chalet	There are mainly bungalows owned by various companies	580 beds	Of these, only about 160 beds can be used.
Popovi Livadi – the town of Gotse Delchev	1 base in Popovi Livadi locality, private villas and bungalows	1014 beds	The final draft of the general urban project for this zone envisages another 1300 beds in hotels, rest houses, resort village, youth stations, campgrounds, etc.
Popina Luka – Turichka Cherkva		1120 beds	
Vurbite exurb area	Company-owned and private villas	100 beds	
Predel chalet Gotse Delchev chalet Malina chalet Yane Sandanski chalet Minior chalet	Chalets	35 beds 70 beds 40 beds 70 beds 40 beds	

In SCROLL I, Annex # 7.11. are presented Total capacities of the tourist sites in the park's adjacent territories with data for type of base, location and etc.

1.17.5.5. Additional tourist services.

The diversity and quality of the additional services becomes more and more important in respect to the preservation of the nature and the cultural-historical heritage, as well as in respect to the social functions of

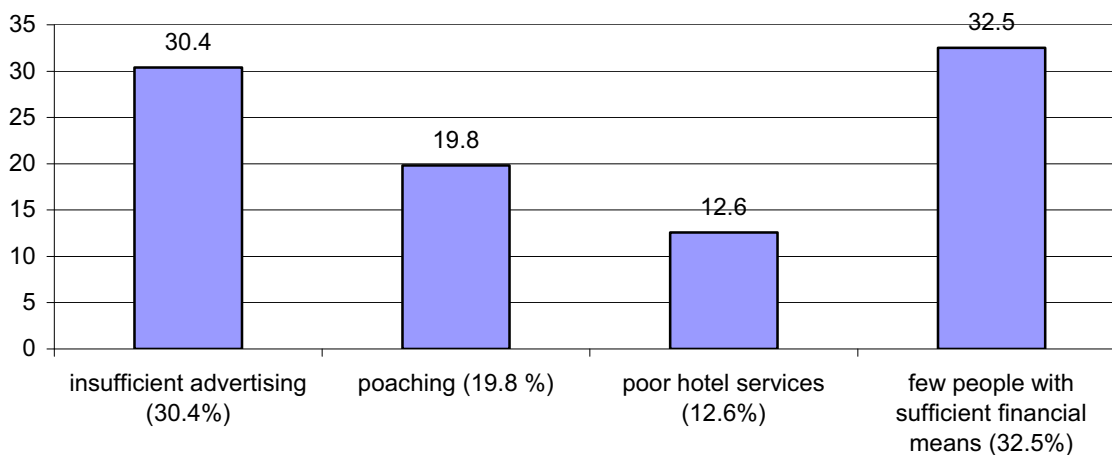
the alternative forms of tourism – this type of tourism is among the few alternatives for economic revival of the village regions in Bulgaria.

The major economic resources on the territories of the Pirin National Park are the Park and the mountain.

⇒ There is an increase in the interest toward additional tourist services that include:

- Visiting the local church, monastery, chapel, consecrated ground, sacred places (or even those in the neighboring village); information about the history of the place, legends related to it;
- Walks to close natural sightseeings – centuries-old trees, waterfalls, rock phenomena and etc, walking, riding horse or a cart;
- Short or long walking routes along the beautiful countryside;
- Riding horse/cart to more distant countryside where herbs, mushrooms, or forest fruits can be gathered; for the guest it will be a pleasure if they can have as a desert a homemade yogurt with fruits that they have picked up themselves;
- Picnic in the countryside – if there are rivers/artificial pools with fish in that area, the lunch can be with fish caught by the tourists themselves.
- Visiting traditional local holyday (it may be out of the village) – celebration of the days of different saints with boiled mutton and folklore program or more specific holidays such as the Mummer games on Easter in the Eleshnitsa village;
- Demonstrations of how local foods/drinks are prepared – “trying out” home recipes, distilling rakia, grape picking and making of wine;
- Demonstration of local crafts – pottery making, wood-carving, weaving and etc; the attraction for the foreigners is an opportunity for them to make a small souvenir by themselves;
- Demonstration of the local folklore – songs, dances, rituals, tales and legends.

Fig. 9 Obstacles for Tourism Development in the Pirin Region



1.17.5.6. Attitude of the people living in the Pirin National Park’s adjacent territories towards the tourism and enterprise in general and towards the alternative forms of tourism in particular.

Three major types of attitudes are observed:

- ⇒ *Over-commercial* (Bansko, Dobriniste, Melnik): people who have some experience with tourism and relate it with the idea of quick profit. Great attention is paid to the basic tourist services with a strong tendency of putting unrealistically high prices. It is considered that the tourist offering should be enlarged not by diversifying of the product and developing means of attractive and unique additional tourist services and increasing the quality of service but rather by enlarging the volume of the basic tourist services.

- ⇒ *Commercial* (usually places near the upper tourist centers): there is no considerable experience in tourism but there is the idea of the quick and easy profit from it. Following the example of the tourist centers next to them attention is paid only to the basic tourist services and there is a regret that the same price level cannot be reached.
- ⇒ *Vague* (relatively isolated places without experience in tourism): the people have vague idea of the tourism in general as a means of basic tourist services but not as something that may happen in their village. The attitudes vary from skepticism to pure pessimism and lack of enterprise spirit. There is not only a lack of clear notion of price making but also there is the understanding “how am I going to ask money from people who are guests in my house?”.

1.18. CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERRITAGE

The cultural and historical heritage (CHH) is a major prerequisite and resource for the development of educational tourism, which becomes increasingly popular. This Plan describes those CHH sites in the municipalities of Razlog, Bansko, Gotse Delchev, Sandanski, Strumiani, Kresna, Simitli, and Hadjidimovo, which in combination with the unique natural resources can significantly influence the sustainable development of Pirin region.

Two types of the ancient Bulgarian crafts are preserved:

- ⇒ Those needed to support the life in the small villages from the zone around the park (curriers, blacksmiths, farriers, carpenters, etc.) - relatively modernized, but still close to the tradition;
- ⇒ Those related to the development of tourism in the larger tourist centers (wood-carvers, coppersmiths, goldsmiths, icon-painters, craftsmen, etc.) – very modernized and commercialized

Traditional holidays and customs are still alive. In most cases, especially in the towns, they are modernized and modified, but even so they attract significant amount of interest and are considerable tourist resource

In the smaller villages, the traditions are closer to their roots; the holidays are more authentic and spontaneous. The big problem in these areas is the depopulation because traditions disappear together with the people.

IN SCROLL I, Annex 7.12 brief information is presented about the CHH sites by municipalities, comprising, including:

- ⇒ *Churches and monasteries;*
- ⇒ *Archeological sites and localities;*
- ⇒ *Ethnographic sites and museums;*
- ⇒ *Traditional holidays and customs;*
- ⇒ *Traditional crafts.*

1.19. LANDSCAPE

1.19.1. Landscape Structure.

The systematic landscape structure of the National Park comprises 5 types of landscape:

- ⇒ Forest Landscapes
 - Coniferous forest landscapes of natural forests;
 - Coniferous forest landscapes of artificial forests;
 - Deciduous forest landscapes of natural forests;
 - Deciduous forest landscapes of natural off-shoot forests;
 - Forest landscapes of dwarf pine scrub forests;
- ⇒ Meadow Landscapes – represented mainly by the high-mountain pastures
 - Landscapes of scattered vegetation and high-mountain grass communities;
 - Landscapes of high-mountain grass communities.

- ⇒ Aquatic Landscapes
 - Lake landscapes – single lakes and lake groups are present, which form extremely impressive landscapes. There are 164 lakes within the Pirin NP. They are located between 2100 and 2500 meters of altitude, in the spring areas of Bunderitsa, Demianitsa, Begovitsa, Vlahinska, Tufcha, Sandanska Bistritsa, and Pirinska Bistritsa rivers;
 - River-valley landscapes – the valleys of Bunderitsa, Demianitsa, Vlahinska and Biala Reka rivers are the deepest and the most picturesque ones.
- ⇒ Rock Landscapes – comprise rock landscapes of magma rocks and rock landscapes of metamorphic rocks. The following types of rock landscapes were identified depending upon their geomorphological structure:
 - Landscapes of denudation ridge plains;
 - Landscapes of ridges consisting of rock peaks, carlings, etc.;
 - Landscapes of circus walls;
 - Landscapes of circus beds;
 - Landscapes of screes, avalanche cones, ditches, forest openings;
 - Landscapes of stone-rivers.
- ⇒ Anthropogenic Landscapes
 - Comprise landscapes of built-up areas and linear sites of the recreation and technical infrastructure.

The Pirin NP landscapes differ in structure and can be divided into elevation belts depending upon the altitude and the adopted Forest Vegetation Zoning of the Republic of Bulgaria, developed specifically for Pirin Mountain. The following types of landscape can be identified:

- Lower-Mountain Landscapes – the belt between 800 and 1500 m;
- Medium-Mountain Landscapes – the belt between 1500 and 1900 m;
- Upper-Mountain Landscapes – the belt between 1900 and 2200 m;
- High-Mountain Landscapes – the belt between 2200 and 2500 m;
- Sub-Alpine Landscapes – the belt between 2500 and 2700 m;
- Alpine Landscapes – the belt above 2700 m.

There are 32 landscape groups, marked with an outline on the National Park Landscape Map, scale 1:25 000. The calculated landscape diversity index (Ldi) shows the relatively high value of 0.41.

In SCROLL I, Annex 7.13. Lists of Landscapes within the Pirin NP are presented, according to the Regional Landscape Zoning of Bulgaria, and in compliance with the Typological Landscape Zoning of the Country.

1.19.2. Aesthetic qualities

The term “Landscape Scene” means the external look of nature and landscape, which people perceive. It comprises all people’s rational perceptions of nature. This look is the key moment of the visual contact, especially in the perception of large areas. This term also comprises nature and landscape diversity, uniqueness, and beauty, which are significant factors for ensuring lasting impression upon people during their vacation.

In a distant perspective, the rich landscape structure with the typical and unique Pirin views, comprises countless panoramas, small and large translucent forest and scattered vegetation views, circus valleys, and peaks hiding lake waters.

In a close perspective, green and blossoming meadows stand out, with numerous forest massive outlinings, screes, stone-rivers, and rock walls, designed by nature in varying color, light and shadow, depending upon the season, altitude, relief, rock substrate, and the time of the day.

- ⇒ Excellent mark is assigned to all preserved landscapes, with none or insignificant human impact that does not affect the landscape. These are landscapes at more than 1900 meters, where the impact is only demonstrated by the existing shelters and the tracks of tourists along the traditional routes;
- ⇒ Average mark is assigned to anthropogenic landscapes in areas, where single constructions are built with appropriately, environmentally-friendly designed surroundings – rest houses, some chalets, hotels, etc.;

⇒ Poor aesthetic mark is assigned to regions of excessive urbanized impact on the natural complex and mountain features, with consecutive environment degradation and visible negative perceptions by the visitors. These marks apply to the seasons without snow cover, and affect negatively the summer tourism.

⇒ Places of special aesthetic features:

- *sites*: Malko Spano Pole, Tevnoto lake, Bezbozhkoto lake, Todorini Ochi lakes, Vasilashkite lakes, Muratovoto lake, Georgiiskite lakes circus, Sinanishkoto lake, Sinanitsa peak, Sinanitsa shelter, Demianishka meadow, Yavorova meadow, Julenski Skok waterfall, etc.
- *overview sites*: Pogledets in Bayuvi Dupki-Djindjiritsa reserve, Maluk Pogledets along the route to Yavorov chalet, Razlozhki Zavoi, Bunderitsa river valley from Vihren chalet, from Okoto lake, Georgiiskite lakes circus from the route to Sinanitsa chalet, to Begovitsa peak, from Tevnoto lake, from Todorka peak, views from all ridges and gates, etc.

Note: The above listing is based upon the personal impressions of the author of this section, without covering all magnificent views of the majestic of Pirin Mountain.

⇒ The following sites harm and modify the landscape scene:

Sites and facilities of rough construction with ecological consequences:

- Lower and middle lift stations of the lift from Gotse Delchev chalet to Bezbog chalet;
- Ski-run from Gotse Delchev chalet to Bezbog chalet.

Landscape destroying construction with expected ecological consequences:

- Construction of ski-runs and tow-lifts, Bunderishka Poliana locality – Todorka.

Abandoned ski-runs, designer errors:

- Tsrna Mogila ski-run;
- Expansion of Kulinoto ski-run.

Abandoned facilities spoiling the landscape and chalet surroundings:

- Abandoned metal containers from treatment facilities;
- Abandoned metal farms from cable power supply.

Anthropogenic causes of landscape damage:

- Intensified tearing of the forest cover integrity on the slopes and spoiling the landscape aesthetic quality;
- Illegal felling of dwarf pine formations and breaking the integrity of dwarf pine massifs – Bezbog PR;
- Eroded areas along the ski-runs caused by the vehicles – Starata Pista, Todorka ski-run, Bezbog ski-run;
- Erosion processes, resulting from recreational load along the tourist trails and sites – in the region of Baikusheva Mura, Piknika, Bunderitsa chalet yard;
- Illegal felling of high intensity in the Park surroundings;
- Altered water regime as a result from the construction of hydrological facilities.

Natural causes:

- Changes in the water levels and lake landscapes' biota and overgrowing with vegetation due to the lack of water exchange caused by the global climate change;
- Wind-throws, snow-breaks, avalanches, fires.

1.19.3. Measures for landscape protection, management and planning, aimed at reducing the influence of anthropogenic landscapes on the visitors

⇒ Destruction and removal or reconstruction of abandoned and unused buildings – former cattle-sheds, abandoned state forestry service facilities, old wooden bungalows, shepherd shelters – Zagaza and Ikrishite localities, around Yavorov chalet, above Pirin chalet, etc.;

⇒ Design, repairs and reconstruction of tourism and visitor servicing sites and architecture. Introduction of restrictive regimes:

- Shepherd shelters to be made of natural materials and to blend with the environment;
- Aesthetic design of the chalet surroundings and organizing the areas to correspond to the visitor flow needs. Improving the sanitary and hygienic conditions;

- Supplying the trails, recreation centers and rest facilities with unified architecture elements from the overall Park Information System;
 - Introducing a restrictive motor vehicle access regime, except for the park administration and guards' vehicles, ambulances and fire department vehicles. Visitors to be services by organized park minivan transport to Vihren PR, until the gondola lift becomes operational;
 - Restoration activities in the areas, which have degraded as a result from vehicle access – the localities of Piknika, Pri Cheshmata, Mosta, etc.;
 - Introducing a 5-year restrictive regime for accessing the Baikushevata Bosnian pine, Vihren PR. Carrying out restoration activities to mend the tourism degradation of soil, trampling and baring of the tree root system;
 - Restoration activities in Bezbog Park Region at certain road and ski-run sections.
- ⇒ Dispersing the recreation, sport and other sites in order to limit the tourism load to the traditionally visited areas;
- ⇒ Specifying the parking locations, tent campgrounds, and picnic areas.

1.20. STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS

1.20.1. Waste water

The water flow (spring, surface and waste) from the territory of the Pirin NP and its adjacent territories flows into the rivers – Mesta and Struma

⇒ Mesta River

Until the year 1990 the main polluters by organic matter of the valley have been the industrial factories in the region of the town of Razlog. Since 1990 because of the closing of the Plant /for ecological reasons/ and the reduction of the production of the Cellulose and Paper Plant the character of the pollution of the river valley changed.

Of the total of 16952 m³/ daily sewage water, 10419 m³/ daily or 61.5% of the total volume of the waste water flows into Mesta River without treatment.

The treatment effect of the exiting treatment facilities is low and none of the municipalities has a treatment station for the of households sewage water.

The building of a town water treatment station is planned in the *Razlog Municipality*, it will be funded through the PHARE programme. There is no time-schedule. The terrain for is allotted and the necessary pre-investment studies are made. The budget to finalize the sewerage system is spent.

A project is elaborated in the phase of the preliminary studies for the building of a town water treatment station in *Bansko Municipality*.

The problem of treatment of the sewage water is not tackled in *Gotse Delchev Municipality*.

Thanks to the influx down the stream of the crystal clean water of the tributaries and the great self-purifying potential of the river, the waters of Mesta River close to the border are very slightly polluted and leave the Bulgarian territory almost clean.

⇒ Struma River

The main sources of pollution of its waters by industrial and household waste waters are the towns of: Pernik, Radomir, Kyustendil, Dupnitsa, Blagoevgrad, Sandanski and Petritch.

Of the total of 13 603 m³/ daily sewage water, 11 404 m³/ daily or 83,8% of the total volume of the waste water flows into Struma River without treatment (this concerns the territories adjacent to Pirin NP).

The pollution of the river waters by organic matter of household-fecal origin is high. All the household waste water of the region flow into the river without treatment, which is an indirect sign of the presence of bacterial pollution.

At present there is a decision for planning of a town water treatment station in the *Simitli Municipality*.

Municipality Sandanski already has elaborated a plan for the building of a town water treatment station for the town of Sandanski, but the constructions are not scheduled.

1.20.2. Sources of air pollution

There are 7 static sources /emissions/ of air pollution established in the territories adjacent to the Park.

The 1999-2000 data of the more characteristic indicators of polluting substances, emitted in air were analyzed:

- ⇒ The fuel used by all the polluting sources is sulfur containing (2,5%) black oil.
- ⇒ Polluting substances in the air:
 - The measurements carried out by a mobile automatic station in 1996 and 2000 in the towns of Razlog, Bansko, Gotse Delchev and Sandanski proved that the indicators for dust, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, ozone, sulphur hydroxide, carbon oxide, ammonia, methane and non-methane hydrocarbons are within the MAL for settlements, according to the norms approved by the MoEW;
 - The aberrations of the emission norms of the emitters depend on the quality of the burned black oil, the conditions of the facilities and the observation of the technological regime.

1.20.3. Solid Waste

The table # 29 presents the solid waste dumps by municipalities. Only the dump in Gotse Delchev meets the requirements of Regulation #13. The treatment of all the dumps is by soil covering.

Table 29.
Solid waste dumps by municipalities

MUNICIPALITY	LOCATION OF THE DUMP	AREA	CHARACTERISTICS AND PROBLEMS
Razlog	6 km north-west of the town of Razlog in the Sedrach site; <i>agricultural lands</i>	Total area 68 dka, currently covered area 26 dka	In exploitation since 1996. Not in accordance with Regulation # 13 on the conditions and requirements for building and exploitation of the wastes dumps.
Bansko	8 km south-west of the town of Bansko in the Vakovia site; Agricultural lands	7,5 dka	The municipality has a programme for management of the wastes which is updated annually Not in accordance with Regulation # 13 on the conditions and requirements for building and exploitation of the wastes dumps.
Gotse Delchev	6 to the north-east from the town of Gotse Delchev in the Mokra polyana site	Covered area 19 dka	Until February 2001 an old dump was used. Regeneration is pending. Since February 2001 a new dump has been in exploitation, which meets all the requirements of Regulation # 13/ 06. 11. 98
Sandanski	Along the road 2 km south-west of town of Simitli in the Dinov Andak site Agricultural and forested areas	Covered area 10 dka	At the moment the construction of a new dump meeting the requirements of Regulation # 13, is finalized. It will service the municipalities of Sandanski and Strumiani.
Strumiani	on the territory of Mikrevo Village, 5 km west of Strumiani Village in the Vinka site; Agricultural lands		Not in accordance with Regulation #13 on the conditions and requirements for building and exploitation of the wastes dumps.

Kresna	3 km to the north-east of the town of Kresna in the site of Padina; Agricultural lands	Covered area 9 dka	Not in accordance with Regulation #13 on the conditions and requirements for building and exploitation of the wastes dumps.
Simitli	2 km south-west of the town of Simitli in the Dinov Andak site; Agricultural and forested areas	Covered area 10 dka	The capacity of the dump is exhausted. The construction of a new dump on a regional principle is pending. It will be meeting the requirements of Regulation # 13 /06. 11. 98.

In SCROLL I, Annex # 7. 14. is presented State of the Environmental Components:

Table 1 Sources of sewage water along the valley of Mesta River

Table 2 The maximum and the minimum values of the analysed main indicators in mgr/l for the valley of Mesta River in three plots located in the adjacent territory of the Pirin NP, for the years 1999 and 2000 by trimesters.

Table 3 Sources of sewage water along the valley of Struma River

Table 4 Polluters with indicators for contaminating substances for the 1999, 2000 and 2001 in the adjacent territories by municipalities.

Table 5 The industrial waste deposit sites with some of their characteristics.

1.20.4. Water-supply zones

The water-supply zones on the territory of Pirin NP have a total area of 5 850,6 ha – 4781,2 ha of which are forested and 1 069,4 ha – non-forested area.

⇒ In the territory of the town of Bansko there are water-supplying facilities with defined sanitary zones with an area of 28,5 dka.

⇒ Larger part of the facilities in the water-supply zones are not established in accordance with the Regulation # 3/16. 10. 2000 and are maintained in an unsatisfactory state.

/Regulation # 3 of 16. 10. 2000, promulgated in State Gazette # 88/27. 10. 2000 on the conditions and the terms for studies, planning, approval and exploitation of the sanitary-protection zones around the mineral water reservoirs used for curing, prophylactic, drinking and hygiene needs. /

In SCROLL I, Annex # 7.15. are presented the water supply zones of the municipalities in the adjacent territories, defined by the respective order

FIRST EVALUATION

1.21. ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION

This evaluation defines the importance of selected features in the park. These are species or groups of species, habitat types and landscapes. The importance of these features is defined by checking their **vulnerability, rarity, naturalness, typicality, sizes, biological diversity, stability and instability.**

The selection of habitats and species in need of protection is based on global, European or national importance. The evaluation is based on species identified in the Pirin NP that are: **endemic, relict, threatened – threatened globally, threatened in Europe and threatened in Bulgaria.**

The tables presented show the regular presence of species and habitat types of conservation significance in the park. They are based on the information presented in Scroll 1, Annexes 4.5, 4.10., 4.11., 5.2., 6.3., and 6.4. They are structured by habitat types, which include species, threatened by habitat loss or degradation. Then species follow, by taxonomic groups, as an evaluation of the conservation importance of the park is given.

Evaluations are made of:

⇒ **Habitats, in accordance with p.1.12.:**

- Water
- Bush and grass vegetation
- Forests
- Peat-bogs
- Rocks, screes and caves
- Anthropogenic habitats

⇒ **Flora, in accordance with the features considered in p. 1.14.:**

- Algae
- Mosses
- Fungi
- Lichens
- Vascular Plants

⇒ **Medicinal plants by habitat types, in accordance with p. 1.14.3., and include:**

- Forest communities within the boundaries of the Park
- Forest communities in the adjacent territories
- Grass and bush communities
- Intrazonal riverine, peat, pen and rock communities

⇒ **Fauna, in accordance with p. 1.15.:**

- Fish
- Amphibians and Reptiles
- Birds
- Mammals

1.21.1. Vulnerability

The water, peat bogs and the anthropogenic habitats are the most vulnerable. The main reasons are the stocking of the lakes with fish, unregulated grazing, inadequate qualification of the rangers, anthropogenic pressure over certain areas, illegal felling in the park's adjacent areas, lack of information for the visitors, improper use of the resources.

Most habitats and species are of medium vulnerability level. This requires monitoring on their future succession and undertaking measures that lead to their natural regeneration.

The basic measures for habitats and species conservation are:

- ⇒ Non - intervention in the hydrologic regime on the territory of the Park
- ⇒ Determining rules and norms for stocking with fish and fishing on the territory of the NP
- ⇒ Applying of targeted grazing regime
- ⇒ Gradual removal of the non-native species
- ⇒ Park Rangers training

- ⇒ Looking for public support for resolving the problems with the illegal logging
- ⇒ Raising the awareness of the tourists

LEVEL: + - low ++ - medium +++ - high

TYPE	LEVEL	REASONS / JUSTIFICATION	MEASURES NEEDED
HABITATS			
Water	++ to +++	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Their occurrence depends on the general climatic conditions ⇒ Changes in the hydrological regime may result in the formation of peats and the subsequent drying up of some lakes, which in practice means extinction of the habitat ⇒ The data show that the mineralizing of the water of the lakes is low, while the oxygen saturation is high, which makes them especially vulnerable in terms of pollution and eutrophication ⇒ The surface waters in Pirin NP are a zone that is sensitive and vulnerable to human intervention, because of the slow self-purifying processes and of the practically impossible restoration of the ecological status (especially of the lakes). ⇒ A main problem of the smaller lakes of Pirin NP is the gradual shallowing as a result of the precipitation of driftage materials (coming from avalanches) and the overgrowing by aquatic macrophytes. This is a natural process, slightly influenced by anthropogenic activities in some individual lakes through the stocking with fish. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Measures for preventing the pollution ⇒ Defining of rules and norms for stocking with fish and fishing on the territory of the NP
Bush and grass vegetation	++	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The expansion of the areas of the communities of Siberian juniper and the invasion of secondary bush vegetation at certain territories is due to the decreased grazing or the lack of grazing ⇒ The grass vegetation in the forest zone is of a secondary origin and has developed at the place of forests felled in the past ⇒ The status of the grass cenoses is comparatively good. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Applying targeted grazing regime ⇒ Defining the territories for grazing and rotation of the pastures
Forests	++	<p><i>Broad-leaved forests</i> They cover the lower sections of the Park, in a proximity to the zone of a higher anthropogenic influence</p> <p><i>Coniferous forests, Mixed forests and Forest plantations</i> Potentially vulnerable to parasites, snow-breaks, wind throws and drying up</p> <p><i>Anthropogenic factors:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Excessive thinning of the forest stands and of the plantations in the implementation of logging ⇒ Implementation of planned logging for openings, ski runs and constructions in areas with slope inclination over 20° and sizes above 0,1 ha ⇒ Intervention in dwarf pine forest stands ⇒ Use of tractors for the wood extraction activities has activated the erosion processes and the formation of furrows and ditches ⇒ Unregulated grazing of livestock threatens the off-shoots ⇒ Recreational overuse – breaking of branches, stamping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Gradual removal of the non-native species ⇒ Determining regimes and norms regulating the use of the forests ⇒ Inventorying of the areas and elaboration of a maintenance project ⇒ Involvement of all responsible institutions at the national and regional level ⇒ Looking for

		<p>over or denuding tree-roots along the tourist trails and in the resting sites.</p> <p>⇒ The illegal extraction of timber in the park's adjacent territories, especially within the boundaries of Bayuvi Dupki-Dzhindzhiritsa park region and the Razlog SFB, will also impact the forest ecosystems in the periphery of the Park.</p> <p><i>Natural factors:</i></p> <p>⇒ Damages by animals (bear, nutcracker, rodents, etc.) and damages by diseases and pests (European processionary moth, mistletoe, root fungus, etc.)</p> <p>⇒ The fires, the avalanches and the wind throws are of a sporadic character and their influence within the territory of the Park is limited to comparatively small and localized areas</p>	<p>public support on the side of the NPD for resolving the problems with the illegal logging</p>
Peat-bogs	+++	<p>⇒ In the conditions of general xerophytisation there are prerequisites for worsening of the water regime</p> <p>⇒ The available information on their distribution and state is incomplete</p>	⇒ Additional studies
Rocks, screes and caves	+ to ++	They are located mainly in the alpine and the subalpine belts, which makes them more difficult to access	⇒ Additional studies
Anthropogenic habitats	+++	<p>⇒ They cover limited areas and because of this are not significant for the park territory</p> <p>⇒ In most cases at sites influenced by human activities, mobile plant species of a secondary distribution occur</p> <p>⇒ A main problem are the waste waters</p>	<p>⇒ Regeneration activities</p> <p>⇒ Development of a system of measures for maintenance of the equipments for waste waters treatment and control over its applying</p>
FLORA			
Algae	++	⇒ The algae flora is influenced by the pollution of the water basins	⇒ Study of the algae diversity in the Popovite and Kremenskite lakes
Mosses	++	<p>⇒ The moss flora is poorly studied</p> <p>⇒ Predominate species occurring in forest communities and associated with forest vegetation either directly or indirectly, because of the shadowing and the specific humidity regime connected with it</p> <p>⇒ The moss flora is influenced by the changes in the water regime</p>	⇒ Additional studies
Fungi	++	<p>⇒ The inventory and the risk assessment of the fungi in the Pirin NP are at a level, at which it is hard to define the exact status of the threatened macromycetes.</p> <p>⇒ The unregulated collecting has resulted in reduction of the populations of the valuable edible fungi, such as boletuses, chanterelle, horn of plenty, etc.</p> <p>⇒ The method of collecting the mushrooms – they are uprooted and not cut with knives. In this way the mycelium is destroyed and the reproduction of the population is frustrated</p>	<p>⇒ Complex assessment and conservation of the fungi diversity of the Park</p> <p>⇒ Raising the public awareness of ways for sustainable and environmentally sound use</p> <p>⇒ Monitoring in</p>

			representative communities
Lichens	+++	⇒ The lichens are very slow-growing organisms and the disturbances of their cenoses regenerate very slowly.	⇒ Park Rangers training
Vascular Plants	++	⇒ Vulnerable are mainly species of a high ornamental value or the ones popular for their medicinal qualities, the populations of which are limited and the numbers decrease ⇒ Subject of tourists' interest are the edelweiss / <i>Leontopodium alpinum</i> /, the Pirin poppy / <i>Papaver degenii</i> /, rhodiola / <i>Rhodiola rosea</i> /, banewort / <i>Atropa belladonna</i> /.	⇒ Protection of the habitats ⇒ Park Rangers training
MEDICINAL PLANTS			
Forest communities within the boundaries of the Park	++	⇒ The main threats of a natural character are the change in the structure of the forest communities caused by fires, avalanches, wind throws and illegal logging. They are of a local character on comparatively limited areas	⇒ Raising the awareness of people of the norms and ways for sustainable and environmentally sound use
Forest communities in the adjacent territories	++	⇒ In the territories adjacent to the Park the anthropogenic pressure on these resources is much stronger because a larger part of the attractive resources occur in the lower sections of the mountain and around the settlements ⇒ A serious problem is the illegal extraction of timber, which leads to disturbances in the structure of the communities and to subsequent change of the conditions of the habitats and the numbers of certain species – especially of the vulnerable ones – bearberry, asarabacca, spotted cuckoo pint.	⇒ Guarding of the peripheral zones ⇒ Raising of public support against the illegal logging and the unregulated collecting of medicinal plants
Grass and bush communities	++	⇒ There are problems with the common primrose, the snowdrop, the scotch thistle, the goldenrod, the common centaury, the wild marjoram, the St. John's wort, the resources of which are low at the national scale or the interest to them is very high ⇒ A main factor influencing their status is the grazing – the increase of the density of the grazing animals leads to worsening of the hydrotermic regime of the soils and worsening of the conditions of the habitat of the wild thyme and the eyebright	⇒ Introduction of norms of use and rotation of the yields ⇒ Park Rangers training ⇒ Raising the awareness of the tourists ⇒ Introduction of grazing norms, rotation of the grazing and summer grazing
Intrazonal riverine, peat, pen and rock communities	+	⇒ These communities do not suffer serious anthropogenic pressure in the park	
FAUNA			
Invertebrates	+++	⇒ Vulnerable are all the local endemic species, a part of the rare species and the ancient relict species /Annex 6.3./ ⇒ The vulnerability of the troglobiont and the trogliphilous forms is very high – even to the slightest changes in the conditions of the caves (<i>Antrohyphantes rhodopensis</i>). ⇒ Among the most vulnerable hydrobionts are the crenophilous gastropodans of the family of <i>Hydrobiidae</i> – their biotopes are destroyed by the catchment of water supply sources.	⇒ Non-intervention in the hydrologic regime of the Park ⇒ Park Rangers training ⇒ Study of the phenology, the behaviour and the

			habitat preferences of the species of the concerned groups
Fish	+++	<p>⇒ The major negative factor is the fish stocking with alien species – rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) and brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>), the unregulated introduction of Balkan trout of unknown origin.</p> <p>⇒ Other factors are the poaching, the disturbance of the water regime of the rivers, the pollution and the felling of the tree vegetation</p>	<p>⇒ Determining rules and norms for stocking with fish and fishing on the territory of the NP</p>
Amphibians and Reptiles	+++	<p>⇒ Objective reasons for the high vulnerability lever are their small sizes, low mobility, direct dependence of many species on certain habitat conditions /local water basins, in separate cases single ones/, especially in terms of reproduction</p> <p>⇒ Subjective – the negative attitude to a large part of the representatives of these groups</p> <p>⇒ In the highest and less visited territories the level of vulnerability can be assessed as relatively low</p> <p>⇒ In the lower areas and especially around chalets, shelters, bivouacking sites, etc., it is higher</p> <p>⇒ Critical are the regions around the lower boundary of the park territory</p>	<p>⇒ Park Rangers training</p> <p>⇒ Raising the awareness of the tourists</p>
Birds	++ to +++	<p>⇒ 42 species (26%) could be included in the category vulnerable (golden eagle, saker falcon, peregrine falcon, capercaillie, rock partridge, corncrake, woodcock, stock dove, rock dove, Tengmalm's owl, white-backed woodpecker, three-toed woodpecker, shore lark, alpine chough, rock thrush, etc.)</p> <p>⇒ The changes in the populations have not been followed in time</p>	<p>⇒ Study of the long-term trends of the population dynamics of the birds</p>
Mammals	+++	<p>⇒ Main negative factor is the poaching</p> <p>⇒ The main part of the local population (including also some of the staff of the park rangers) do not make the difference between the pine marten and the stone marten, which is allowed for hunting out of the territory of the park</p> <p>⇒ The cross-breeding with the domestic cat is a threat to the wild cat on the territory of Pirin</p> <p>⇒ The local population applies forbidden methods to control the wolf and the bear – most often in the eastern and the south-eastern parts of the mountain</p> <p>⇒ Poor and ineffective control because of the shortage of funds, equipment and staff of the park administration</p>	<p>⇒ Park Rangers training</p> <p>⇒ Raising the awareness of the tourists</p> <p>⇒ Comparative studies of the status of the populations and the habitats of the mammals in the areas of anthropogenic pressure and in those of strict reserve regime</p>

1.21.2. Rarity

The IUCN Red Lists of globally threatened animals and plants consider rarity as an element of threat. This is true also for the lists of species and habitat types, threatened at European and national level.

The lakes, the communities of dwarf pine, the peat-bogs, the rocks, the screes and caves, the forest stands of Macedonian pine are exclusively rare at the national and international scale. A large number of local endemics, protected and rare species of the flora and the fauna occurs in the park. /Annexes 4.4., 4.10., 5.2., 6.3., and 6.4./

The geomorphologic characteristics of Pirin NP make it unique in both national and international aspect.

LEVEL: + - low ++ - medium +++ - high

TYPE	LEVEL	REASONS/ JUSTIFICATION
LANDSCAPE		
Geomorphologic Features	+++	<p>⇒ There are 35 cirques in the high elevation parts of Pirin</p> <p>⇒ On the bottoms and the terraced cirques' slopes are located 186 high-mountain lakes</p> <p>⇒ Along the shadowed slopes of the cirques of a northern exposure snowdrifts of permanent firm snow have been formed – Golyemia Kazan, Kutelo, Banski Suhodol</p> <p>⇒ Resulting from the curving inwards of the cirques, the ridges between them have formed narrow and sharp saddles – Koncheteto, Strajite, etc. Above the highest sections of the neighbouring cirques, cone or pyramidal peaks have been shaped – Vihren, Kutelo, Kamentsa, etc.</p> <p>⇒ During the Pleistocene comparatively short valley glaciers dropped down below the snow boundary, thus turning the river valleys into glacier valleys with the U-shaped horizontal profile characteristic of them</p> <p>⇒ Along the bottoms of the cirques dozens of pot-holes, precipices and caves have been formed</p> <p>⇒ The denuded karst covers large areas</p>
HABITATS		
Water	++ to +++	<p>⇒ Rivers – the river habitats are characteristic of the high-mountain zone of all mountains.</p> <p>⇒ Lakes - over 119 lakes of a glacial origin and of an average depth between 0.5 and 5.0 m</p>
Bush and grass vegetation	+++ ++	<p>⇒ The communities of the dwarf pine <i>Pinus mugo</i> are listed as an individual type in the European classification of the habitats (Communities of dwarf pine in the Balkan-Rila-Rhodopes system)</p> <p>⇒ The communities of <i>Chamaecytisus absinthioides</i> in the Rila-Rhodopes massif are classified as an individual habitat in the Palearctic Habitat Classification, which makes them unique at the European scale</p> <p>⇒ The highland grass vegetation on silicate soil covers vast territories within the Park; it occurs in the highland zone of all our mountains</p>
Forests	+++ +++ +	<p><i>Broad-leaved forests</i></p> <p>⇒ Forests with predominance of beech is a combination characteristic of the conditions of the park and it rarely occurs in the other Bulgarian mountains</p> <p><i>Coniferous Forests</i></p> <p>⇒ The pure spruce forests are a habitat specific to the Central Rila-Rhodopean massif of the European classification</p> <p>⇒ Pure Scots pine forests, pure Austrian pine forests and forests dominated by spruce occur only in the Central Rila-Rhodopean massif</p> <p>⇒ The endemic character of the Macedonian and Bosnian pines justifies the high conservation significance of the habitats formed by them in the Park.</p> <p><i>Mixed forests and forest plantations</i> are widely distributed ecosystems in both national and international aspect</p>
Peat-bogs	+++	<p>⇒ They are of exclusively high conservation significance because of the rich biological diversity and the occurrence of rare plants and animals</p>

Rocks, screes and caves	<p>++ ⇒ Granite rocks – they cover significant areas within the Park and shape the specific landscape of the alpine zone</p> <p>+++ ⇒ Marble rocks - a unique habitat at the European and the global scale</p>
FLORA	
Algae	<p>+ ⇒ Eight species of the algae flora of Bulgaria occur only in Pirin</p> <p>⇒ One species – <i>Cylindrospermum urumoffii</i> is endemic</p>
Mosses	<p>+ ⇒ They are not characterised by a large number of species of conservation significance</p> <p>⇒ One species is listed in the Bern Convention <i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>/, two species are listed in the Appendix II of the Council Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora <i>Buxbaumia viridis</i> and <i>Dicranum viride</i>/</p>
Fungi	<p>+++ ⇒ The occurrence of a very large number of rare species and species of high conservation significance /Annex 4.4./</p>
Vascular Plants	<p>+++ ⇒ At the national scale Pirin is one of the areas of the highest number of rare, protected and endemic species</p> <p>⇒ The number of the local endemic species /18 species/ and of the rare plant species /103 species/ is exclusively high</p> <p>⇒ Syntaxa of completely endemic vertical structure have been registered /Balkan chamaecytisus- Balkan fescue/ or monodominant syntaxa of rare species /Pirin fescue/</p>
MEDICINAL PLANTS	
Forest communities within the boundaries of the Park	<p>++ ⇒ Endemic medicinal plants occur on the territory of Pirin NP /Annex 5.2./</p> <p>⇒ Some species distributed in the remaining parts of the country are rare on the territory of the Park – red whortleberry, bearberry, European asarabacca, etc.</p>
Grass and bush communities	<p>+ ⇒ Comparatively rare for the territory of the Park are: snowdrop, lily-of-the-valley, orchids, common valerian</p> <p>⇒ The composition of these communities includes some species protected and rare for the territory of the Park, as well as for the whole country, such as the yellow gentian, the Pirin thyme, the blue gentian, etc.</p>
Intrazonal riverine, peat, pen and rock communities	<p>+ ⇒ Their composition includes the endemic Balkan angelica and also some rare plants like <i>Rodiola rosea</i> and yellow gentian</p> <p>⇒ The group of the lady's mantle includes some Balkan endemic and sub-endemic species. The population of the lady's mantle does not suffer anthropogenic pressure</p>
FAUNA	
Invertebrates	<p>+++ ⇒ The populations of the species that occur only in Pirin are characterised by a high level of rarity. The reason is their strongly expressed stenotype character.</p> <p>⇒ Among <i>Araneae</i> the rare species are 41% of all the species in the Park, among <i>Neuropterida</i> – 24%, while among <i>Orthopterida</i> – these are 21%</p>
Fish	<p>+ ⇒ The contemporary ichtiofauna of the Park includes the introduced North American species - <i>Rainbow trout</i> (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) and <i>Brook trout</i> (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>)</p>
Amphibians and Reptiles	<p>+ ⇒ The species occur in a number of other regions of the country</p> <p>⇒ The conditions in the Park offer optimal habitats to the glacial relict species typical of Bulgaria: common frog, viviparous lizard and viper</p>
Birds	<p>++ ⇒ 53 species (33% of all the 159 bird species found in NP) are rare: golden and lesser spotted eagle, saker falcon, peregrine falcon, hobby, corncrake, rock partridge, woodcock, stock dove, nightjar, three-toed and white-backed woodpecker, redstart, raven, etc.</p> <p>⇒ The rare bird species for the territory of Bulgaria are 30 species (19% of all the 159 bird species found in NP): saker falcon, Tengmalm's owl, three-toed</p>

		woodpecker, capercaillie etc. ⇒ The rare for Europe species (included in the Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds) are 39 species (25%): golden eagle, Levant sparrow hawk, saker falcon, nightjar, grey-headed woodpecker, wood lark, barred warbler, red-backed shrike, etc.
Mammals	++	⇒ Most of the mammal species occur in favourable habitats all over the country and on vast territories of Eurasia ⇒ Rare bats species – Bechstein's bat (<i>Myotis bechsteinii</i>), Natterer's bat (<i>Myotis nattereri</i>) and the barbastelle (<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>) ⇒ Some of the large mammal species are rare in Europe as well as in our country because of the increased anthropogenic influence

The SCROLLI, Annexes include:

4.10. Plant species of nature conservation value

5.2. List of medicinal plant species of nature conservation value

6.3. Invertebrates taxa of conservation value characteristic of Pirin NP

6.4. Vertebrate animals in Pirin NP – species composition and nature conservation value

1.21.3. Naturalness

The naturalness and typicalness have been evaluated by assessing the occurrence of the species and importance of their populations in the Pirin NP.

The larger part of the habitats and the species in the Park are characterized by a high level of naturalness. This requires monitoring and defines the need of measures that ensure their further natural evolution and regeneration.

The assessed level of naturalness is low for the openings for ski runs and technical infrastructure, the built up territories, the plantations created, the secondary grass and bush communities formed as a result of human interventions or under the influence of the natural factors, the water basins in the region because of the stocking with fish carried out in them.

The main measures for preservation of habitats and species naturalness are:

- ⇒ Defining zones of strict conservation regime
- ⇒ Restoration of degraded areas
- ⇒ Monitoring on the state of the forest ecosystems
- ⇒ Gradual removal of the non-native species
- ⇒ Allowing the use of the species of the pen communities
- ⇒ Determining rules and norms for stocking with fish and fishing on the territory of the NP
- ⇒ Ban on new construction

LEVEL:	+	- low	++	- medium	+++	- high
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TYPE	LEVEL	REASONS / JUSTIFICATION	MEASURES NEEDED
LANDSCAPE	++	<p>⇒ The naturalness of the forest, the rocks and the meadows landscapes in general is preserved in the Park</p> <p>⇒ Non-natural are the openings for ski runs and for the technical infrastructure, as well as buildings with architecture sharply outlined against the landscape – Academica, the anthropogenic landscapes, predominantly located in the park regions Vihren, Bezbog and immediately on the boundary of Bayuvi Dupki-Dzhindzhiritsa Park Region</p>	<p>⇒ Realising architectural plans adequate to the environment</p> <p>⇒ Regeneration activities for degraded territories</p>
HABITATS			
Water	+++		
Bush and grass vegetation	+++ to ++	⇒ Occurrence of secondarily formed grass and bush communities as a result of anthropogenic influence or natural factors.	
Forests	+++	<p>⇒ Of a high level of naturalness are the forest stands in the reserves (around 40% of the area of the forests), the dwarf pine stands, the forests at the upper forest line, the ones on ravines and rock areas and the territories unsuitable for forestry that are overgrown by tree and bush vegetation, in which there is no human intervention</p> <p>⇒ Low is the level of naturalness of the plantations of Douglas fir, American poplar in the Vihren PR and of cedar of Lebanon in the Sinanitsa PR, which cover only 5,3 ha (0,02%) of the area of forests in the Park</p> <p>⇒ Being Balkan endemic species both the Macedonian and the Bosnian pine form specific habitats, which deserve special conservation effort. Of an exclusive value are the oldest trees ageing over 200 years.</p>	<p>⇒ Gradual removal of the non-native species and replacing them by native ones adapted to the habitat conditions</p> <p>⇒ Monitoring on the state of the forest ecosystems</p>
Peat-bogs	+++	The peat-bogs have preserved their natural character	⇒ Monitoring on the state
Rocks, screes and caves	+++	They have preserved their natural character	⇒ Monitoring on the state
FLORA	+++	⇒ Insignificant number of anthropophyte and ruderal species have been registered at limited, small sized areas, mainly around the tourist centres	
MEDICINAL PLANTS	+++	⇒ The medicinal plants have preserved their natural character, they are represented by native species of a larger or more limited distribution in our country	⇒ Permitting the use of the species of the pen communities
FAUNA			
Invertebrates	+++	<p>⇒ In the Park there are no introduced invertebrates that form individual populations</p> <p>⇒ All the established species are autochthonous. Certain part of them have evolved in the specific for the Northern Pirin species formation centres thus contributing to the high level of uniqueness of the fauna</p>	⇒ Monitoring on certain groups of conservation significance
Fish	+	⇒ In terms of the ichtiofauna the water basins in the region of	⇒ Determining

		the Park are characterised by a “low” level of naturalness because of the regular stocking with fish carried out in them	rules and norms for stocking with fish and fishing on the territory of the NP
Amphibians and Reptiles	+++	<p>⇒ The widely spread Central European species occur in the Park - fire salamander <i>/Salamandra salamandra/</i>, yellow-bellied toad <i>/Bombina variegata/</i>, smooth snake <i>/Coronella austriaca/</i>, as well as the Palaeartic species – common toad <i>/Bufo bufo/</i>, common frog <i>/Rana temporaria/</i>, such are also the southern Palaeartic species – green toad <i>/Bufo viridis/</i> and the Euro-Siberian ones – Grecian toad <i>/Hyla arborea/</i>, viper <i>/Vipera berus/</i>, viviparous lizard <i>/Lacerta vivipara/</i> and grass snake <i>/Natrix natrix/</i>. Frequent faunal elements are the Mediterranean iranoturanic big water frog <i>/Rana ridibunda/</i>, the southern European agile frog <i>/Rana dalmatina/</i>, the Euro-Mediterranean green lizard <i>/Lacerta viridis/</i>, the Mediterranean common wall lizard <i>/Podarcis muralis/</i> and the Balkan Erhard’s wall lizard <i>/Podarcis erhardi rivetii/</i>.</p> <p>⇒ The vertical zoning of the individual species is also well-expressed, as in the lowest and the warmest parts (about 1000 m of elevation) the penetration of warmth-preferring species- Herman’s tortoise <i>/Testudo hermanni/</i> is registered, while the subalpine and the alpine zones are inhabited mainly by species regarded as glacial relict species in our country</p>	
Birds	+++	<p>⇒ On the territory of the Pirin NP 3 relict bird species have been registered – Tengmalm's owl, white-backed woodpecker and three-toed woodpecker</p>	<p>⇒ Ban on new construction</p> <p>⇒ Determining zones of strict protection regime</p>
Mammals	+++	<p>⇒ The species composition of the mammal fauna corresponds completely to the landscape character of the mountain</p> <p>⇒ Some non-typical species penetrate in certain regions under the influence of the anthropogenic changes of the habitats</p>	

1.21.4. Typicalness

Pirin NP is of exclusive importance as a territory which conserves typical of the region habitats and species - forest stands of Macedonian and Bosnian pine endemic to the Balkan Peninsular, habitats and species of the micota, medicinal plants, all the representatives of the fauna.

The significance of the Park in terms of the typicalness of the landscapes is also high.

The significance of the Park is not so high in view of the algae and the moss flora.

Untypical of the natural complex of the Pirin NP are the forest plantations of alien species.

The evaluation shows levels of typicalness of the habitats and the species of the Pirin region.

LEVEL:	+	- low	++	- medium	+++	- high
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TYPE	LEVEL	REASONS / JUSTIFICATION
LANDSCAPE	+++	⇒ The coniferous forests and the single specimens of aged trees of Macedonian pine, Bosnian pine, the cirques' rock walls and bottoms, the stone rivers and the screes, the great richness of lake landscapes and the rock granite and marble peaks and pinnacles along the main crest are characterized by a high level of typicalness
HABITATS		
Water	+++	
Grass and bush communities	++	⇒ In general, the grass and the bush communities are typical of the high parts of most of the Bulgarian mountains. ⇒ The species included in them are characteristic of the region
Forests	+++ ++ +	⇒ Typical of the Pirin NP are the forest stands of Macedonian pine, endemic species for the Balkan Peninsular, occurring predominantly on silicate terrain ⇒ Typical are the forest stands of Bosnian pine, endemic species for the Balkan Peninsular and Southern Italy occurring on carbonate terrain ⇒ The pure and mixed stands of dwarf pine, Scots pine, spruce, fir, beech and Austrian pine are of a medium level of typicalness. ⇒ Untypical of this natural complex are the forest plantations of alien species covering 0,02% of the territory
Peat-bogs	+++	
Rocks, screes and caves	+++	
FLORA		
Algae	+	⇒ The representatives of the algae flora are spread also outside the boundaries of Bulgaria
Mosses	+	⇒ The representatives of the moss flora are typical of the whole country
Fungi	+++	⇒ Global importance of the Park for the conservation of the typical of the region habitats and species of the micota
Vascular Plants	++	⇒ Around 1315 vascular plant species have been registered in the Park, most of which are typical of the region and the habitat conditions
MEDICINAL PLANTS	+++	⇒ Typical of their character and the habitat conditions ⇒ The following species could be conserved within the boundaries of the Park in terms of the protection of their genetic resources: banewort, bearberry, asarabacca, forest gentian
FAUNA		
Invertebrates	+++	⇒ The populations of the invertebrate animals form typical communities for the different habitats in the karst and silicate terrains in the mountain (<i>Diplocephalus altimontanus</i> , <i>Drepanotylus pirinicus</i> , <i>Metopobactrus orbelicus</i>)
Fish	+++	⇒ The Park is of a great importance for the conservation of the typical habitats of the region, such are the glacial lakes and the upper streams of the rivers, as well as of their ichtiofauna
Amphibians and Reptiles	+++	⇒ The conditions in the Park offer optimal habitats to the glacial relict species typical of Bulgaria: common frog, viviparous lizard and viper
Birds	++	⇒ The birds species typical of the following habitats in the region are well represented: - Broad-leaved forests – tawny owl, nuthatch, great and blue tit, jay, common buzzard. - Coniferous forests – nutcracker, crested tit and coal tit, crossbill, goldcrest, Tengmalm's owl, capercaillie. - Open grasslands in the lower and average elevation mountain belts – whinchat,

		<p>sky lark and wood lark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open grasslands in the sub-alpine and alpine zone – water pipit, shore lark. - The different types of rock areas – black redstart, alpine chough, alpine accentor, wall creeper, wheateater. - Species inhabiting the running and standing water reservoirs – dipper, grey wagtail; during the migrations also some waterfowl species – grey heron, common sandpiper, etc. <p>⇒ The constructions in the Park are a prerequisite for the penetration of synanthropic bird species - house martin and swallow, swift, white wagtail.</p> <p>⇒ The anthropogenic activities in their different forms lead to the reduction of the species diversity and to changes in the species composition</p>
Mammals	+	<p>⇒ The mammal fauna is very similar to that of the other Bulgarian high mountains</p> <p>⇒ The species typical of the following habitat types occur here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mesophillous broad-leaved and mixed forests: common srew <i>/Sorex araneus/</i>, pygmy srew <i>/S. minutus/</i>, Mediterranean water srew <i>/Neomys anomalus/</i>, Bechstein's bat <i>/Myotis bechsteinii/</i>, Natterer's bat <i>/Myotis nattereri/</i>, barbastelle <i>/Barbastella barbastellus/</i>, long-eared bats <i>/Plecotus spp./</i>; - the high sections of the Bulgarian mountains: water srew <i>/Neomys fodiens/</i>, paricoloured bat <i>/Vespertilio murinus/</i>, European pine vole <i>/Microtus subterraneus/</i>; - the rocks – Savi's pippistrelle <i>/Hypsugo savii/</i>, common vole <i>/Chionomys nivalis/</i>, Balkan chamois <i>/Rupicapra rupicapra/</i>

1.21.5. Size

In general, the sizes of the Park and the two reserves ensure the necessary prerequisites for achieving their conservation purpose, as well as the management objectives. The main reasons justifying the need of changes of their boundaries are the lack of buffer zones for the protection of the forest stands at the northern side of the Bayuvi Dupki-Dzhindzhiritsa reserve, as well as the areas of high specific diversity outside the Park, which at the present remain isolated and for which it is recommended to be connected with the Park by suitable territorial corridors.

LEVEL: + - insufficient +++ - sufficient

TYPE	LEVEL	REASONS / JUSTIFICATION	NEED OF CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PARK
HABITATS			
Water			
Grass and bush vegetation	+++	⇒ They cover vast territories of the high-mountain section of the Park and the reserves. The sizes of the territories covered and the existing regimes are a sufficient prerequisite for their conservation	
Forests	+	<p>⇒ The area of the Park and the reserve territories at the present correspond to their management objectives</p> <p>⇒ As a result of exclusion of areas covered by forests for other purposes, the anthropogenic pressure on the National Park and especially on the Bayuvi Douпки - Dzhindzhiritsa</p>	<p>⇒ Expanding the boundaries of the Park</p> <p>⇒ Special protection regime in</p>

	+++	reserve increases ⇒ The species of conservation concern are distributed mainly in the high-mountain parts of the Park and in the reserves and in this way the existing boundaries ensure good protection and conservation of the species.	the adjacent territories, especially within the boundaries of the park regions Vihren and Bayuvi Douпки – Dzhindzhiritsa
Rocks, screes and caves	+++	⇒ In terms of size the rock plant communities preserved within the Park are amongst the most numerous and most significant at the national scale. They cover a significant part of the high-mountain territories of the Park and the two reserves ⇒ The size of the Park and the two reserves is sufficient for their conservation	
MEDICINAL PLANTS	+++	⇒ The medicinal plants in the Park are represented by sufficient areas in terms of size, ensuring their natural succession, reproduction and productivity ⇒ Some of the largest natural bilberry complexes of the country are conserved within the boundaries of the Park	
FAUNA			
Fish	+++	⇒ All the glacial lakes of Pirin fall within the boundaries of the Park	
Amphibians and Reptiles	+	⇒ Outside the Park there are areas interesting in many aspects, which at the present remain isolated – they should be adjoined to the Park by suitable territorial corridors	⇒ Inclusion of the rock massifs above the villages of Ilindentsy and the reserve of Orelyak
Birds	+	Some areas of rich ornithofauna are located in the lower and medium elevation zones of the mountain, out of the NP ⇒ Areas important in terms of ornithology are: - The region to the south of the NP by the Chernata Skala peak (1239) – Popovi Livadi site. In this way the NP will be connected with the Orelyak reserve – well conserved natural forest massifs - The region to the southwest of the Sharalya peak (2172) along Vulchi Rid to Ilindentsy village- Plosky village – locally distributed Mediterranean bird species - The inclusion of the rock complex in the area of Tremoshnitsa (Gutevi skali, Sinite skali) – above the right geographic bank of the Sandanska Bistritsa river, will contribute to the conservation of some rare pertophilous bird species	⇒ The inclusion of the mentioned regions into the territory of Pirin NP will increase the species diversity and will increase the role of the NP for the conservation of the birds
Mammals	+ +++	⇒ Many of the species of bats and large mammals migrate seasonally, thus inhabiting ranges exceeding the boundaries of the Park ⇒ The territory of the Park is sufficient for the survival of the populations of the small terrestrial mammals	⇒ The enlargement of the boundaries of the Park will contribute to the conservation of the large mammals and the bats

1.21.6. Biological Diversity and Conservation Value

Pirin NP is an area of a high level of biological diversity, compared as a whole to that of the country and the other mountains in Bulgaria.

This defines the tremendous importance of the Park for the conservation of the biological diversity at the national and international scale.

Pirin NP is of a *national importance* in terms of some of the occurring within it species of mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles, fish, as well as species of the flora and the vegetation.

The Park is of *European importance* as a centre for the conservation of a number of rare, protected and endemic species of European significance with regard to a large part of the representatives of the flora and the vegetation, the medicinal plants, as well as of some fish.

The *global importance* of Pirin NP is defined by its role as a major species-formation centre of the vascular flora at the international scale, as well as a main centre for the conservation of a number of rare, protected and endemic floral taxa and syntaxa of a global significance. A large part of the representatives of the birds are also of a global importance.

LEVEL: + - low ++ - medium +++ - high

TYPE	LEVEL	REASONS / JUSTIFICATION
HABITATS	+++	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ From the point of view of the biodiversity of the macrobenthos taxa, especially distinguished is the Demirkapyiska river with 37 taxa registered (in the year 2002), which is the highest biodiversity registered in Bulgaria ⇒ 10 species are included in the list of the European habitats, needing special protection measures – Annex I of Directive # 4 / 1996 ⇒ The total number of the Bulgarian endemic species is 35, of them 14 floral species and 4 sub-species have localities only in Pirin ⇒ The largest natural complexes of the Balkan endemic Macedonian pine and the Balkan sub-endemic Bosnian pine are located on the territory of Pirin NP. ⇒ The natural forest complexes on the territory of the Park are amongst the largest in terms of area and the best conserved, compared to the other natural forests in Bulgaria
FLORA AND VEGITATION	+++	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Pirin NP falls within an independent Pirin district, because of the strongly manifested specificity of the flora and the vegetation (Bondev, 1991) ⇒ The total number of algae species is 165 ⇒ The total number of the moss species is 329 ⇒ 52% of the species of the Bulgarian lichen flora occur in the Park ⇒ The number of the registered representatives of the vascular flora in the Park is 1315, which is about 1/3 of the flora of Bulgaria. Of them the species and sub-species of conservation significance come to a total of 149 ⇒ The registered plant communities number 260 in total, of which 155 have been formed under the environment forming role of the forest species, and a part of the syntaxa are endemic ⇒ The total number of the registered Balkan endemic species is 86 species, and the ones of conservation importance are 22 species. Three Balkan sub-endemic species are also registered.
MEDICINAL PLANTS	+++	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Pirin NP conserves high biological diversity of medicinal plants compared to the country and to the other Bulgarian protected areas ⇒ The role of the Park for the protection and the conservation of the medicinal plant diversity is also high at the global scale. ⇒ The registered medicinal plant species are 182 ⇒ The largest natural complexes of bilberry, yellow gentian and <i>Rhodiola rosea</i> occur on the territory of Pirin NP.

		<p>⇒ 2 species are inscribed in the list of the endemic species (Balkan angelica and Pirin wild thyme), one is a relict species – <i>Orchis pallens</i>, 10 species are listed in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria, 6 are protected by the Medicinal Plants Act and 17 are under a special regime of use</p> <p>⇒ The bearberry (<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> (L.) Spreng.), Iceland moss (<i>Cetraria islandica</i> L.) and the yellow gentian (<i>Gentiana lutea</i> L.) are included in the list of the threatened medicinal plants of the European Union Regulation (EC) # 338/97</p>
FAUNA		
Invertebrates	+++	<p>⇒ Within the whole territory of the Park the group of the invertebrate animals is represented by almost 30% of all species occurring in Bulgaria</p> <p>⇒ Taking into account that the level of knowledge on the invertebrate fauna of the mountains does not exceed 40%, the taxa diversity could be estimated as high</p>
Fish	+	<p>⇒ The European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) is listed in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria</p> <p>⇒ Two species are glacial relict species – blageon and Balkan trout</p>
Birds	+++	<p>⇒ The registered 159 bird species in Pirin NP form 40% of the species diversity of the Class <i>Aves</i> for the territory of Bulgaria, which for the country comes to 399 species</p> <p>⇒ Endemic species – 5 Balkan sub-species</p> <p>⇒ Three species are glacial relict species</p>
Mammals	+++	<p>⇒ 45 mammal species are registered on the territory of the Pirin NP, which represent around 50% of the terrestrial mammals in our country, excluding the introduced species and the duplicate species, which cannot be distinguished by morphological features</p> <p>⇒ The bat fauna of the Park is still insufficiently studied – it could be presumed that this percentage is even higher</p> <p>⇒ Species of the Red Data Book of Bulgaria – wolf, bear, pine marten, chamois, occur in the Park and are represented by significant populations</p>

1.21.7. Stability and Instability

Most of the habitats and populations of the species in the Park are assessed to have a medium stability level.

Unstable is the state of the peat - bog complexes and the damp areas communities, the intrazonal riverine, peat-bog, pen and rock communities, the forest ecosystems along the northern boundary sections of the Park, as well as the populations of the typical of the Park species such as the chamois, the Balkan trout, etc. The measures for eliminating or reducing the impact of the factors leading to the instability of the habitats or populations are:

- ⇒ Limiting the tourist flow in proximity to the localities of species of conservation significance
- ⇒ Monitoring on the rivers and the glacial lakes
- ⇒ Reintroduction activities carried out by the NPD for the species in critical state
- ⇒ Rotation of the pastures
- ⇒ Ban on the construction
- ⇒ Determining zones of strict protection regime

LEVEL: + - low level or unstable ++ - medium +++ - high level or stable

TYPE	LEVEL	REASONS / JUSTIFICATION	MEASURES NEEDED
LANDSCAPE	++	⇒ High anthropogenic pressure on certain sites ⇒ Erosion processes resulting from the recreation pressure along the tourist trails and sites	⇒ Limiting the motor vehicles access ⇒ Determining parking lots
HABITATS			
Water	++	⇒ According to data from the literature about 40 smaller lakes in Pirin have changeable water cover and dry up in the droughty years ⇒ The river and lake water in Pirin NP is not polluted and is of a very high quality, corresponding to Water Category I according to Regulation # 7/1986	⇒ Monitoring on the rivers and the glacial lakes
Bush and grass vegetation	++	⇒ Comparatively stable – in part of them secondary succession processes take place, which result from the anthropogenic intervention ⇒ The insufficient degree of grazing creates conditions for succession changes	⇒ Rotation of the pastures
Forests	++	⇒ They are a subject of a more intensive economic use and a large part of them are of off-shoot origin ⇒ The succession processes in the coniferous forests develop in the direction of replacing the coniferous by broad-leaved (beech or aspen) species ⇒ They are in a comparatively stable condition – characterized by typical species composition and optimal structure ⇒ The factors leading to instability are mainly of a natural character – avalanches, wind throws, natural fires ⇒ The forest ecosystems along the northern boundary parts of the Park are strongly affected as a result of the anthropogenic intervention and illegal logging	⇒ Cleaning of the felling areas and implementing of regeneration activities ⇒ Special management regime for the adjacent territories
Peat-bogs	+	⇒ The peat-bog complexes and the communities on damp areas are unstable and are strongly influenced by the changes in the water regime. ⇒ Change in the species composition – from hygrophillous to hygromesophillous and mesoxerophytic species – is registered	⇒ Study of their status and localization
FLORA	++	⇒ Evaluated as a whole, the floral complex is in a stable state ⇒ Unstable are the populations of certain species of high conservation value: edelweiss, <i>Rhodiola rosea</i> , some of the mosses.	⇒ Limiting the tourist flow in proximity to unstable habitats ⇒ Regeneration activities for the species in critical state
MEDICINAL PLANTS			
	++	⇒ The medicinal plants are represented on areas ensuring their regeneration. They are influenced only by some extreme natural factors – fires, wind throws and avalanches ⇒ The bigger part of the medicinal plants represented in grass communities on forest meadows and openings are strongly mobile anthropophytic species.	⇒ Identification of the communities influenced by these factors ⇒ Regulating

		⇒ The medicinal plants represented in riverine, peat, pen and rock communities have been strongly influenced by the changes of the hydrological regime – this leads to changes from hygrophillous to hygromesophillous and mesoxerophytic species. (Example: the replacing of the Balkan wild angelica by the willow-herb after the water-catchments)	the anthropogenic factors which influence the hydrological regime
FAUNA			
Invertebrates	+++	⇒ Because of the natural character of the communities and the slightly exercised anthropogenic influence the populations of these species are stable	
Fish	+	⇒ The native elements of the ichtiofauna are characterised by a high level of instability	⇒ Identification of the local populations of the Balkan trout and conservation of them at the sites, where they are not influenced by the artificial stocking with fish
Amphibians and Reptiles	++	⇒ Some publications from the past give reasons to consider that there is a considerable decline in the number and the density of the populations of the common frog (<i>Rana temporaria</i>) ⇒ In the high sections the populations are stable	⇒ Additional studies in the zones identified by the MP ⇒ Ban on constructions, water-catchments
Birds	++ to +++	⇒ Most of the species typical of the region are numerous and stable ⇒ Many rare and threatened bird species are of low, varying or declining population numbers: saker falcon, hobby, golden eagle, rock partridge, three-toed woodpecker, white-backed woodpecker ⇒ Some of the species of the birds of prey have a lower number in Pirin NP, compared to other similar (comparable) mountain areas in Bulgaria: golden eagle, peregrine falcon, goshawk, etc.	
Mammals	++ to +++	⇒ As a whole, their stability is from medium (for some of the rare species) to high – for the common species	

1.22. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EVALUATION

1.22.1. Urbanization

1.22.1.1. Functional Zoning

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Zones defined under the Park Development Project</i>	<p>⇒ Correspond to the criteria, declaration and objectives of a National Park, defined by the PAA;</p> <p>⇒ Defined in compliance with the National Park category under the effective at that time National Nature Protection Act and in accordance with the determining role of the park's international status;</p> <p>⇒ The bans and the allowed activities defined by the regimes of the functional zones reflect definitely stricter and more restrictive measures related to construction of buildings and facilities, compared to those defined by the PAA.</p>	<p>⇒ The zones, regimes and norms, defined by the MP, should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - allow certain flexibility when taking management decisions in response to changing conditions; - not contradict requirements defined by legislative documents.
<i>Planning documents, approved after the PDP, and their zoning regarding its implementation and in accordance with the PAA</i>	<p>⇒ The planning documents for the management of Pirin NP, approved before 1996, define the regimes and the activities in accordance with the strategic goals for the development of the protected areas and the responsibilities of the Republic of Bulgaria;</p> <p>⇒ The defined strict regimes have been observed by the managing bodies and the local authorities:</p> <p>⇒ The major part of the additionally assigned and approved plans and technical projects after 1996 have not been elaborated in accordance with the zones, regimes and norms, defined by the PDP.</p>	

1.22.1.2. Built Territories

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Extent of construction</i>	<p>⇒ The accommodation facilities are unevenly distributed: the largest concentration is present in Vihren PR. No accommodation is provided in Bayuvi Dupki and Trite reki park regions</p> <p>⇒ In general, the built-up areas are in poor condition – they are neglected, and may have problems with the water sources, wastewater disposal systems, lack of proper lavatories.</p>	<p>⇒ Optimizing the existing accommodation facilities, improving the access, attractiveness and information.</p>
<i>Admissibility of new construction</i>	<p>⇒ There is no need for new construction, or for increasing the capacity of and expanding the existing buildings in any respect.</p>	

<i>Need for removal of existing sites</i>	⇒ There are abandoned, useless buildings – former cattle-sheds, abandoned servicing facilities of the State forestry boards, old wooden bungalows, frame-built shepherd shelters – in the localities of Zagaza and Ikrishte, and near Yavorov and Pirin chalets, that spoil the look of the landscape and should be removed.	⇒ Removing the unusable buildings and facilities that spoil the look of the landscape. ⇒ Reconstructing the shepherd shelters, as specified in the MP.
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1.22.1.3. Technical Infrastructure

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Power supply</i>	⇒ Electricity of 20 kV is supplied to the contact zone villages and tourist centers, and from there to the separate sites inside the park. This creates problems and leads to disturbances in the power supply.	⇒ A major task in the development of the 20 kV network is separating the terminals for the mountain sites from those supplying the adjacent territories.
<i>Water supply</i>	⇒ The established and exploited catchments have not displayed any harm to the ecological balance; ⇒ The Ikrishte locality catchment, supplying the Shiligarnika locality, contradicts the legislative provisions for the sanitary protection zones – strict protection belt A has been assigned to this area.	⇒ The marking, exploitation, guarding and control of the sanitary protection zones shall be carried out in compliance with the requirements of Regulation # 3 of 16.10.2000, promulgated in SG # 88 of 27.10.2000
<i>Sewerage</i>	⇒ The existing general sewerage collector, flowing into the sewerage system of the town of Bansko is in good condition; ⇒ All the other waste waters are taken to local septic pits, which are not in good condition; ⇒ There are no treatment facilities at the chalets of Vihren, Bunderitsa, and others.	⇒ Construction of new separate treatment facilities, which use modern technologies and are suitable for mountain conditions, is necessary.
<i>Telephones</i>	⇒ The telephone network is insufficient. There are no public telephones; ⇒ The Mountain Rescue Service (MRS) radio coverage within the NP is unreliable in the winter– only the modern mobile communications can be counted upon.	⇒ Phones shall be installed in all hotels, rest houses, lift stations, restaurants, etc.

<i>State road network</i>	<p>⇒ 413 km in length, the state road network is sufficient. Main designation: communication between the settlements from the contact zone;</p> <p>⇒ Condition assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good condition – asphalt covering, standard dimensions, good leveling and situation: # 19, 198, 19832, 109, 1, 19042, 19044, 19046, 19052, 10065 – a section with a total length of 234.3 km; - Satisfactory – macadam or asphalt covering, minimum dimensions, maximum leveling inclination values, and minimum radius of the horizontal situation curves, according to the state legislation: # 19012, 84041, 19032, 10903 – section, 19036, 19814, 10907 – section, 0079, 10071 – section, 10075, 10069, 10067, 10063, 10061 with a total length of 166.1 km; - Poor – no covering, small dimensions, extreme inclinations and radiuses: # 10907 – section, 10903 – section, 10073, 10071 – section, 10065 – section with a total length of 19.5 km, or 5% of the total length; <p>⇒ Traffic safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The necessary vertical signaling and vertical marking is not present everywhere; - The correlation between the good, satisfactory and poor condition of the total road length is 55.1%-40.1%-4.7%. 	<p>⇒ Improving the access through renovating the following roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dobrinishte – Gotse Delchev chalet; - Lilianovo – Yane Sandanski chalet; - Katuntsi – Popovi Livadi chalet; - Kresna to the dairy farm on the way to Sinanitsa chalet; - Pirin – Malina chalet; - To the villages of Brezhani, Kremen, Breznitsa, Kornitsa.
<i>Automobile access</i>	<p>⇒ Conditions exist only at the approaches from Bansko, Dobrinishte and Razlog, and only to limited locations, due to lack of parking spaces;</p> <p>⇒ In all other zones, access is only possible by 4 WD vehicles.</p>	
<i>Forest road network</i>	<p>⇒ Its total length and density are less that those of other similar regions in Bulgaria;</p> <p>⇒ In some areas within the park there is no forest road network (Mesta, Gotse Delchev, Ilindentsi and Simitli), and in Dobrinishte it is twice larger than the average;</p> <p>⇒ The correlation between roads in good condition and those in satisfactory and poor condition is 60:40 (in comparable areas the optimum correlation between asphalt, macadam and dirt roads is 25:15:60);</p> <p>⇒ The wooden bridges are worn out and unsuitable for motor vehicles;</p> <p>⇒ Increasing the length and density of the existing forest road network is not necessary.</p>	<p>⇒ Reconstruction, repairs and maintenance of the existing forest road network;</p> <p>⇒ Urgent repairs of the following bridges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demirkapiiska river – Kamenitsa PR; - 2 bridges on Zagazo river – Sinanitsa PR; - 2 bridges on Vlahinska river – Sinanitsa PR.
<i>Existing parking lots</i>	<p>⇒ The parking lot at Shiligarnika is insufficient for the peak use periods – this leads to illegitimate parking along the road over the weekends and in the winter;</p> <p>⇒ There are not enough parking spaces – an accommodation facility of 1822 beds needs about 460 parking spaces, but only 260-270 spaces are available.</p>	<p>⇒ Technical and organizational measures to arrange additional parking lots at appropriate locations.</p>

<i>Rope-ways</i>	⇒ The construction of the new lift will lead to adjusting the capacity of the ski runs and lifts to the accommodation capacity of Bansko, which is significantly larger.	⇒ Measures for restoration of ecosystems around the existing and the envisaged new facilities and infrastructure.
<i>Walking tourist routes</i>	⇒ The existing hiking tourist trails are adequate for ensuring the even distribution of visitors and taking them to all park regions; ⇒ The following approaches to the park are not marked on site: - From Simitli and Brezhani village (from North-West); - From Stara Kresna and Oshlava villages (West); - From Strumiani village (South-West); - From Mesta village through Haidushki Kladenets locality (East).	⇒ Designing perspective routes with a view of diversifying the entry and exit points in villages with preserved authentic atmosphere and customs.
<i>Transport communications</i>	⇒ There is no suitable transport to the approaches to Pirin NP.	⇒ Technical and organizational measures to arrange transport to the park approaches.

1.22.1.4. Cultural and Historical Heritage

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Preservation level</i>	⇒ The necessary restoration and conservation activities are not carried out due to lack of funds; ⇒ Archaeological surveys are only carried out where extremely needed (e.g. near Koprivlen village, at the construction site on the road Gotse Delchev - Drama); ⇒ Treasure-hunting has become an occupation for groups coming from all over the country, and a hobby for most relatively younger residents of the villages near the park; ⇒ There is a trend for an increase in the number of robberies of valuable icons and church plates.	⇒ Supporting initiatives related to adding “real value” to the CHH sites through modern interpretation and integration in tourist products.

<p><i>Preservation of local customs and crafts, and need of support</i></p>	<p>⇒ Traditional holidays and customs are still alive. In most cases, and especially in the towns, they are modernized and modified, but even so they attract significant amount of interest and are a considerable tourist resource;</p> <p>⇒ In the smaller villages, the traditions are closer to their roots; the holidays are more authentic and spontaneous. The big problem in these areas is depopulation, because traditions disappear together with the people.</p>	<p>⇒ Tourism products developed should encourage the participation of people, practicing traditional crafts, through demonstrations, hobby-courses, exhibitions, etc.</p> <p>⇒ Promoting the traditional crafts through creating and popularizing a “Made in Pirin” trademark of origin and quality;</p> <p>⇒ Providing information about the CHH sites through the Pirin NP information and visitor centers.</p>
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1.22.1.5. Sanitary and Hygienic Conditions

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<p><i>Waste-water treatment</i></p>	<p>⇒ Considerable pollution has only been registered at the Shiligarnika complex, where fecal and domestic waste-water from the new septic pit flows into Ikrishcha river;</p> <p>⇒ The open potable water catchment at the Shiligarnika complex does not comply with the sanitary requirements, and ammonium nitrogen has been found in the water, which is a sign of some pollution of Ikrishcha river waters from the upstream sites – buildings and ski-runs;</p> <p>⇒ The river and lake waters within Pirin NP are clear and of very high quality, corresponding to category I waters under Regulation # 7 of 1986;</p> <p>⇒ The septic and absorbing pits at the chalets and rest houses, as well as the open lavatories, which periodically or permanently discard untreated fecal waters, carry risks for the human health. The most typical cases are Tevno Ezero shelter, and the chalets of Vihren, Bunderitsa and Bezbog;</p> <p>⇒ In the spring and summer season (high waters), small concentrations of ammonium nitrogen have been registered in most rivers and lakes. This is a result of the natural secondary pollution from the decaying soil cover leaching in the coniferous forest belt (the dwarf pine zone inclusive). This does not affect the water ecosystems, but should be considered when using surface waters as a source for drinking water in the spring, since the presence of ammonium in the potable water is undesirable and does not comply with the standards;</p> <p>⇒ Of the total waste-waters of 30555 m³/day, only 8732 m³/day are treated, i.e. 71.4% of the total quantity are discarded in the rivers of Mesta and Struma untreated;</p> <p>⇒ Pollution at certain sections of the two rivers exceeds the admissible standards for category III, i.e. they cannot be used for irrigation, industrial or domestic water supply.</p>	<p>⇒ Small modular waste-water treatment stations should be installed at sites with capacity of more than 50 people;</p> <p>⇒ The existing septic pits within the park should be emptied in the presence of a park administration representative in view of preventing potential violations and discard of waste-water into the nearest water basin.</p>

<i>Solid waste treatment</i>	<p>⇒ For the exception of shelters, the issue of waste treatment – mostly domestic – has been adequately resolved and does not create ecological problems;</p> <p>⇒ The town solid waste depots are located in the adjacent areas – this requires permanent control over their condition, in accordance with the requirements of Regulation # 13 of 06.11.1998.</p>	<p>⇒ At the locations, unreachable by motor vehicles – Tevnoto Lake and Sinanitsa and Spano Pole localities – it is appropriate to use horses for removing the bags with solid waste.</p>
<i>Visitor facilities</i>	<p>⇒ The sanitary and hygienic conditions at the rest houses and hotels are good;</p> <p>⇒ The conditions at the chalets and shelters are unsatisfactory;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The sanitary facilities are poorly equipped; - The hygiene in the sleeping and sanitary premises is poor. <p>⇒ The chalet surroundings are notable for being neglected, as well as for the water supply problems, unsettled waste-water discard, lack of proper lavatories. The employees are undereducated and poorly motivated;</p>	<p>⇒ Measures for improving the conditions at the visitor facilities;</p> <p>⇒ Improving aesthetically the surroundings of the facilities.</p>
<i>Water-supply zones</i>	<p>⇒ At the present stage, only for the lands of Bansko there are hydro-economic facilities with sanitary zones at an area of 28.5 decares;</p> <p>⇒ In the remaining areas, the water supply zone facilities do not possess the required sanitary protection zones, or if they do, those zones are in poor condition.</p>	<p>⇒ Water supply zones should be structured in accordance with the requirements of the Instructions on the sanitary protection zones.</p>

1.22.2. Socio-economic Conditions

1.22.2.1. Assessment of the Recreation Activities

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Opportunities and conditions</i>	<p>⇒ The nature of the National Park is a source of positive emotional experience and a support of the physical and psychical health that are most threatened nowadays;</p> <p>⇒ The Pirin NP resources, as well as the numerous resources in the adjacent areas require new interpretation in order to allow the region to get maximum benefit from the modern consumption and visitor preferences;</p> <p>⇒ There is a striving for conducting projects, trips and holidays in a preserved non-urbanized, sufficiently wild, and at the same time accessible environment; people are interested in activities and skiing in affordable and well-structured settlements and resorts, where traditional architecture is in harmony with the latest novelties in infrastructure quality and services level;</p> <p>⇒ The “wild” camping is a dangerous trend. There are locations, designated for camping, but actually there are no modern camping sites developed;</p> <p>⇒ Opportunities exist for year-round programs, combining successfully recreation and tourism, e.g. balneological packages.</p>	<p>⇒ Greater attention should be paid to routes, leading to villages with preserved authentic environment, customs, architecture;</p> <p>⇒ Opportunities need to be developed for capturing the increasing interest and walking tourist flow in the southern park regions;</p> <p>⇒ Tent camps with modern equipment and chemical lavatories need to be established in Kamenitza PR– near Begovitsa chalet and Mosgovitsa locality, and in Trite Reki PR – near Pirin chalet.</p>
<i>Caves as a tourism resource</i>	<p>⇒ Most of the caves in the park can only be subject to specialized expeditions, i.e. they are only suitable for people with speleological training, using specialized equipment.</p> <p>⇒ Several Pirin precipices are of interest and can be subject to organized sport expeditions (hobby-tourism):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bunderitsa precipice (-125 m); - Vihren precipice (-170 m); - Banski Suhodol # 30 precipice (25th Anniversary of Akademik) (-118 m); - Banski Suhodol # 9 precipice (-170 m); - Kamenititsa # 14 precipice (-103 m); - Chelyustnitsa # 17 precipice (B. Dupki circus) (-103 m); - Aleko precipice (Sinanishki sub-region) (-130 m); <p>⇒ The mine-caves in the Sinanishki sub-region can be subject to organized visits by specialists – historians and archaeologists, working on issues related to antiquity and medieval mining.</p>	<p>⇒ The caves are concentrated in the karst section of the NP, and therefore the expeditions into them need to be consistent with the nature protection activities</p>

<p><i>Opportunities and conditions for development of tourism, sports and services in the territories adjacent to the Pirin NP</i></p>	<p>⇒ Natural resources exist that are favorable for practicing active tourism, but there are no adequate infrastructure (sport facilities inclusive) and accompanying services, such as renting equipment, bicycles, horses, etc.;</p> <p>⇒ The general infrastructure, for minor exceptions, is not at a sufficiently good level. Some villages have problems with the access, sewerage, potable water, telephone communications. The waste disposal problem is common;</p> <p>⇒ The adjacent areas as a whole have an enormous natural and anthropogenic tourism potential, but lack quality additional tourist services, as well as the necessary specialized tourism infrastructure;</p> <p>⇒ Mineral waters are actually not used as a tourism resource;</p> <p>⇒ There is no permanently open office, providing up-to-date, detailed and thorough information about the existing tourism opportunities;</p> <p>⇒ The promotion of the region is scattered. There is no concept for creating a common image of the region as a tourist destination;</p> <p>⇒ The settlements possess sufficient human resources to start tourism activities, but a lot needs to be done with regard to people's motivation, training, and education.</p>	<p>⇒ Adequate interpretation of Park's heritage</p> <p>⇒ Establishing Park partnership networks between all stakeholders from the adjacent areas;</p> <p>⇒ Provoking the attention and the direct participation of the local people for attracting tourists;</p> <p>⇒ Information services;</p> <p>⇒ Developing a set of information and interpretation packages that will be used both for tourism organization in the Park and the adjacent areas, and for environmental education for children and adults;</p> <p>⇒ Interpreters training.</p>
<p><i>Park capacity</i></p>	<p>⇒ The pressure on ecosystems between January and March in the region of Shiligarnika and at Vihren chalet between July and August is high. The correlation between the capacity and the resources is critical;</p> <p>⇒ The increasing hotel capacity and the opening of new accommodation, amusement and dining facilities is alarming;</p> <p>⇒ The hotels, family hostels, and private lodgings in the region of Predela-Razlog-Bansko-Dobrinishte have not conducted preliminary marketing surveys about the actual capacity of all new facilities.</p>	<p>⇒ There is a need to study the number of visits, the visitor interests, age groups, and a database needs to be set up, related to the visitor services and feedback.</p>

<i>New projects, approved after the PDP</i>	<p>⇒ The new constructions that have to be completed in 2005 will make the region accessible year-round. In the near future the marketability of the ski-product in Bansko is expected to improve, provided there is snow, and if the population of the region tries to understand better the modern ethics and environmental attitudes;</p> <p>⇒ The approved projects for a ski-zone, centered in Bansko, modify the capacities, defined by the PDP, involve construction of new facilities and buildings, which contradicts to the international commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria under the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.</p>	<p>⇒ Limiting the access by motor vehicles;</p> <p>⇒ Regulating the rights and responsibilities of the companies and authorities that run the ski facilities.</p>
<i>Visitor safety and information</i>	<p>⇒ A Concept for Information System within Pirin NP was developed. The goals of the Concept are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitating the visitor flow in order to ensure safe access to the park; - Defining the types of recreation activities; - Stimulating the visitor interest in preserving the unique landscape and floral and faunal diversity; - Achieving instructive and educational effects; - Establishment of information visitor centers; - Opening new smaller approaches to the park; - Providing information about the pre-park zone. 	<p>⇒ Developing a safety plan, compulsory for all users of the area.</p>

1.22.2.2. Assessment of the Resource Use Activities

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Forestry activities envisaged by the PDP</i>	<p>⇒ The fellings within the park have been carried out carefully, in strict observance of the legislative provisions, concerning the special functions of the forests;</p> <p>⇒ The current data about the forests differ from the PDP data of 1993, and the activities, envisaged by this project are currently inapplicable;</p> <p>⇒ Most of the measures, envisaged by the PDP, related to improving the health status of the forest stands and plantations have been completed. They do not contradict the national park declaration and management objectives.</p>	<p>⇒ When developing the guidelines for the restoration activities in the forests, the leading trend should be the process of forming stands of varied age structure that has already started owing to the good regeneration capacity of the forests.</p>

<p><i>Carrying out maintenance and restoration activities in the forests</i></p>	<p>⇒ The excellent regeneration capacity of the local tree species and the condition of the undergrowth show that there is a significant potential for forming stands of varied age structure over the next 50-70 years;</p> <p>⇒ There is a real threat of windthrows (windbreaks) or snowthrows (snow-breaks) in the sections, adjacent to the newly cut ski-run and tow-lift openings: 120b; 121b,f; 130a,b,e,f,g; 132l; 133c,d,e,h; 129a,b,h; 149a; 148c,e,g; 147k,i,h; 186a,b,d;</p> <p>⇒ The classic landscape restoration fellings, carried out in the past in some plantations, have led to forming stands of the same age, dominated by one species and specimens with similar genetic codes – the species and intra-species biological diversity has decreased.</p>	<p>⇒ Maintenance and restoration activities in the areas under section 3 of the MP should be applied if needed.</p>
<p><i>Plantations of alien and untypical tree species</i></p>	<p>⇒ Limited number of untypical and alien species can be found in the park periphery. The acacia and poplar are expected to die out in the next 10 years, and the cedar will be overgrown by the Scots pine. The fir grows well and could reach mature age for our conditions (80-100 years).</p>	<p>⇒ Gradual removal of alien species.</p>
<p><i>Need for timber production</i></p>	<p>⇒ The PDP has not been fully implemented with regard to the uses by type of felling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Landscape-forming felling – 27.8% of the planned volume; - Landscape-restoration felling – 11.3 of the planned volume; - Sanitary felling – 12.2% of the planned volume; <p>⇒ Over the period 1993-2000, a total of 93,014 cubic meters of standing mass was yielded – this exceeds the mass envisaged in the project by 5,679 cubic meters (6.5%);</p> <p>⇒ A total of 73,200 cubic meters of dried and fallen mass has been collected, which represents 78.7% of the park produce. It consists mainly of timber, brought down by a tornado on February 26 and 27, 1997, and small amounts by snow-breaks, snow-throws, and windbreaks;</p> <p>⇒ The timber yielded in the period 1993-2000 represents only about 15% of the forest growth in the park over the same period;</p> <p>⇒ According to data of the park administration, 250 cubic meters of wood is extracted annually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timber for construction – 100 cubic meters; - Firewood – 150 cubic meters. 	<p>⇒ Identifying norms for regulated use in the lower park regions and near settlements;</p> <p>⇒ Defining conditions and norms for utilizing the windthrown and dried timber from the park.</p>
<p><i>Forest health status</i></p>	<p>⇒ The presence of significant forest areas, destroyed by illegal felling, close to the park carries a risk of conflagrations with unpredictable consequences and an opportunity for calamity development of bark beetles and timber-attacking insects;</p> <p>⇒ 95% of the forests of the Park are of class A (high) fire risk.</p>	<p>⇒ The significant visitor flow to the mountain in the fire-risk season and the increasing number of fires in the past years require urgent measures for ensuring fire safety in specific park regions</p>

<i>Herbs</i>	<p>⇒ No intense use of the allowed resources has been recorded;</p> <p>⇒ Poaching of gentian roots was established near Kremenski Lakes;</p> <p>⇒ The fruits of bilberry, hazel, raspberry, blackberry, St. Johan's wort, wild marjoram, wild thyme, etc., are used for personal needs.</p>	<p>⇒ The legislation, regulating the use of these resources, needs to be improved.</p>
<i>Mushrooms</i>	<p>⇒ Mushroom collection is not regulated legally and is performed inconsistently;</p> <p>⇒ According to data, provided by the foresters and chalet-keepers, the uncontrolled collection has resulted in dramatic decrease in the numbers of the populations of valuable edible mushrooms, such as boletus, chanterelle, horn of plenty, etc. Numerous private companies offer to the local population extremely high (for our standards) purchase prices;</p> <p>⇒ The common practice is to uproot the mushrooms, instead of cutting them with a knife, since the purchasing stations have established the requirement for providing only uncut mushrooms. Thus, the mycelium is destroyed and the population reproduction is impeded.</p>	<p>⇒ Defining standards, regimes, conditions and recommendations for activities, related to mushroom collection.</p>
<i>Grazing</i>	<p>⇒ The vegetation of all pasture types found in the park is relatively poor in valuable forage species, and still they are intensely used in the summer months as a cheap forage source;</p> <p>⇒ No special regime of pasture using has been applied in the park. Unregulated use on some places has negative impact on the present biological diversity;</p> <p>⇒ Due to the excessive grazing in the past, many of the valuable corn and leguminous species have almost dropped out of the grass communities. On the other hand, the share of the harmful, poisonous, and weed species has increased, since they are not grazed by the animals, spread faster and often dominate the communities;</p> <p>⇒ In the period 1995-2001, changes were observed in the numbers and type of animals that use the pastures, which is related with the general decrease in the number of animals throughout the country. For the park in general, there is no trend for increase in the number of animals, and at present, no actual threat exists to the plant diversity in the alpine and sub-alpine pastures;</p>	<p>⇒ Identifying the areas with weak and torn turf and threatened with erosion, where grazing should be prohibited;</p> <p>⇒ Developing a targeted grazing project.</p> <p>⇒ Monitoring on the distribution of <i>Juniperus sibirica</i></p> <p>⇒ There is no information about the yield of green mass per region for the last several years – next year the total productivity should be determined for each grazing area.</p>

<i>Aboriginal domestic animal breeds</i>	<p>⇒ A common negative factor for all local breeds is the lack of legislative provisions, through which they can obtain conservation status and legal protection by the state;</p> <p>⇒ Breeding them is less profitable than breeding non-local breeds and hybrids, resulting from intensive selection. Breeding of some local breeds may even be unprofitable.</p>	<p>⇒ Measures for supporting the stock-breeders, who had taken the risk to raise them.</p>
<i>Hunting and fishing</i>	<p>⇒ The main factors restricting the increase of the number of hunt species are insufficient natural nutrition basis and the poaching;</p> <p>⇒ There is a threat of a growing interest in the capercaillie for having it stuffed and for the exciting hunting.</p>	<p>⇒ Increasing the guarding in April and May at the easily accessible locations near Bezbog, Pirin and Yavorov chalets, the localities of Koritoto, Medkovoto and Ovchi Kladenets below Todorka peak.</p>
<i>Water resources</i>	<p>⇒ Within Pirin NP there are no special systems established for monitoring of natural processes, incl. meteorological, hydrological, and hydro-geological;</p> <p>⇒ The potable and domestic water supply does not harm significantly the river flow within Pirin NP;</p> <p>⇒ The hydro-energetic treatment of waters does not cause any irreversible water losses.</p> <p>⇒ No mapping and surveys exist with regard to the sources of potable water within Pirin NP, nor are there clear rules for the management of catchments facilities within the park area;</p> <p>⇒ The park karst zones are not sufficiently studied;</p>	<p>⇒ Assessment of the water volumes taken</p> <p>⇒ Studying the catchments of the following rivers directly related to the karst regions' water regime: Iztok, Dobrinishka and Breznishka from the Mesta river basin, and Vlahinska from the Struma river basin.</p>

1.22.3. Ownership

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Existing rights of use</i>	<p><i>With expired procedure deadlines</i></p> <p>⇒ The ownership of many sites has not been established due to the exceptional state property on the Park's territory</p> <p>⇒ The relations with the NPD have been disconnected;</p> <p>⇒ The users are not interested in investing in improvement of the sites condition, and therefore they are in extremely poor condition, including the BTU facilities.</p> <p><i>With procedure deadlines expiring over the next 10 years</i></p> <p>⇒ The data about the owners and users are incomplete;</p> <p>⇒ For most sites within Pirin NP no ownership documents and lease contracts have been provided to the Pirin NPD.</p> <p><i>Users have been changed over the past 10 years</i></p> <p>⇒ Partial ownership inventory exists;</p> <p>⇒ The NPD control in case of inobservance of the sanitary and hygienic standards in the regions of the sites is extremely impeded.</p>	<p>⇒ It is necessary to clarify the status of the existing buildings and facilities on the Park's territory;</p> <p>⇒ In order to fulfill its obligations under Article 50, Paragraph 7 of the PAA, the Pirin NPD needs to have the ownership documents and lease or concession contracts for all sites within Pirin NP.</p>

1.22.4. Management

INDICATOR	ASSESSMENT	MEASURES / RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Availability of materials and equipment for the NPD</i>	<p>⇒ The lack of separate park offices and the lack of equipment, as well as the poor communications do not allow the proper implementation of the responsibilities of the small in number staff;</p> <p>⇒ The minimum office equipment required includes computer configurations for each park region and for the experts in the headquarters;</p> <p>⇒ All staff members need to be supplied with mobile telephone communications.</p>	<p>⇒ The headquarters and the park region offices urgently have to be equipped with the necessary software, copying and fax machines, stationary and mobile telephone communications for each of the experts.</p>
<i>Staff and human resources development</i>	<p>⇒ The limited number of employees impedes the implementation of all necessary park activities.</p> <p>⇒ There is no system for increasing the staff qualification.</p>	<p>⇒ Providing Internet connection on every PC available.</p> <p>⇒ Increasing staff qualification</p>
<i>Park area guarding system</i>	<p>⇒ The defined average area per park guard expert is 1948 hectares (the total guarding area of Pirin NP is 40,907.6 hectares and there are only 21 guards). This contradicts the provisions of Article 68 of the PAA, according to which the area of the separate guarding sections should not exceed 1500 hectares.</p>	<p>⇒ The guarding system needs to be developed by increasing the park regions and decreasing the guarding sections area to the legally defined size</p> <p>⇒ The number of park guards should be increased from the present 21 to 28.</p>
<i>Interactions and cooperation of the NPD and other agencies</i>	<p>⇒ There are no lasting relations with the municipal administrations and nature-protection NGOs at the national level;</p> <p>⇒ Good relations with the regional bodies at the local level: the Regional Service for Fire and Accidents Security /RSFAS/, the Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Interior, and the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Waters.</p>	<p>⇒ Establishing a Park partnership network between all stakeholders from the adjacent areas.</p>
<i>Conditions for participation of the local authorities and community in taking the decisions related to the park management and activities</i>	<p>⇒ There is no consultative and scientific council for the park;</p> <p>⇒ Sociological researches show that the public in some municipalities is not acquainted with the issues related to the national park management.</p>	<p>⇒ Establishing a Consultative Council;</p> <p>⇒ Nature protection should be carried out in terms of continuous dialog with and encouraging the interest of the professional organizations, which are directly related to the use of nature.</p>

In SCROLL I, Annex 8.1. A list of the materials and equipment needed by NPD is presented.

1.22.5. Formulating the main and the specific problems of the area

PROBLEMS ESTABLISHED	FACTORS AND REASONS, LEADING TO THE ARISING OF THE ESTABLISHED PROBLEMS
<i>Vulnerability of species and habitats due to human activity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The lakes' stocking with fish leads to changes in the water quality and quantity ⇒ Inappropriate ways of collecting mushrooms, herbs and others ⇒ Poaching, illegal fishing and stuffing animals ⇒ No special regime for pasture use has been applied ⇒ Negative impact on forest ecosystems in the periphery of the Park due to illegal logging in the adjacent territories ⇒ Carrying out planned felling for clearings, ski runs and construction
<i>Forest resources management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Lack of up-to-date forest inventory data ⇒ Removing the bigger part of the dry and fallen trees ⇒ Presence of non-typical, alien tree species
<i>Recreation pressure on certain parts of the park</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Big pressure in January – March in the region of Shiligarnika and in July – August at the chalets of Vihren, Pirin, Tevnoto ezero, etc. ⇒ Breaking branches, trampling and baring tree roots along the trails and the recreation spots ⇒ Lack of a system of tourist flow management ⇒ Lack of enough parking places ⇒ Unregulated camping – no camping sites, meeting the necessary conditions ⇒ The road network and hiking tourist trails maintenance is not at the necessary level
<i>State of the built territories and the tourist service sites</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The regions around the chalets are not well maintained, there are problems with the water sources and the removal of waste-waters, there are no normal toilets. The people working there are not well educated, nor motivated ⇒ There are abandoned and unnecessary buildings, which spoil the landscape ⇒ The waste-waters are led to septic pits, which are in a bad state; normal toilets are lacking ⇒ Insufficient number of phone posts ⇒ The water-supply zones are not provided with sanitary protection zones, or if there are such, they are in a bad state ⇒ There is no visitor information about the possible links to the public transport or access points to the park ⇒ Lack of preliminary marketing studies on the real capacity of the new sites
<i>Ownership on buildings and facilities and relationships with the users</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Lack of data about users ⇒ Elapsed procedure terms ⇒ Lack of motivation for investments ⇒ Non-observance of contract obligations ⇒ Different kinds of ownership on buildings and facilities

<p><i>Management, warding and maintenance of the territory of the National Park</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Insufficient material and technical provision of the NPD and its offices ⇒ Low personnel number ⇒ Insufficient qualification of the NPD staff ⇒ Lack of long-term relations with the municipal administrations and the national nature conservation NGOs ⇒ Insufficiently developed partnership system for sustainable tourism between the NPD and all the stakeholders in the territories, adjacent to the Pirin NP ⇒ Low public support for the park.
<p><i>Development of the adjacent settlements</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Lack of information visitor centres and information points ⇒ Insufficient information and promotion of the park ⇒ The adjacent settlements are not sufficiently used as a sports, recreation and tourist resource, or bases for environmental education and scientific research activities ⇒ Insufficiently developed transport and tourist infrastructure ⇒ Insufficient funds for preservation of cultural and historical heritage sites and for conservation of local customs and crafts
<p><i>Necessity of territorial link of the Park with other protected areas</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Priority habitats and areas, established out of the park (Orelyak Reserve, etc.) ⇒ Some areas with great species diversity are located in the low and average-height zones of Pirin, out of the NP territory

1.23. POTENTIAL VALUE OF THE PROTECTED AREA

INDEX EVALUATION	REASON
<p>Biological diversity Pirin National park is an area of high level of biological diversity as related to the whole country.</p>	<p>⇒ The plant sub-communities found are 260 in total, 155 of which are formed under the dominant role of the tree species, part of the sintaxa are endemic</p> <p>⇒ The total number of algae found on the territory of the park is 165, which is approximately 30% of the species that occur in Bulgaria</p> <p>⇒ On the territory of the park are established 367 species of lichens, which is around 52% of the species of the Bulgarian lichen vegetation.</p> <p>⇒ The number of the representatives of the vascular flora is about 1315 species, which is about 30% of the flora of Bulgaria. Of them the species and sub-species of conservation importance are 149:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 114 species are included in the Red Data Book of Bulgaria - 54 species are protected - 14 plant species and 4 sub-species are local endemics - 17 species are Bulgarian endemics - 86 species are Balkan endemics <p>⇒ The medicinal plants found are 182 species</p> <p>⇒ The group of the invertebrate animals is represented by nearly 30% of the species in Bulgaria</p> <p>⇒ The 159 bird species occurring form 40% of the species diversity on the territory of Bulgaria</p> <p>⇒ The species diversity of mammals on the territory of the park is about 50% of the mammal fauna in Bulgaria</p>
<p>Landscape diversity The appearance of nature and landscape of the Pirin National park offers diversity, uniqueness, and beauty that are an important factor for providing long-lasting influence on people in their recreation</p>	<p>⇒ 16 landscape groups are determined</p> <p>⇒ The rich landscape structure with the typical unique scenery of Pirin includes many small - and large-scale panoramas, diversity of scenery of forest and wilderness, cirque valleys and pinnacles</p> <p>⇒ The large number of lakes forms the typical of Pirin lake landscapes, most attractive for the tourists</p> <p>⇒ In the near sight are seen green and blooming meadows with numerous outskirts of forests, screes, gullies and rock walls, formed by nature in changing colors, lights and shadows, depending on the period of the year, on the sea level, the forms of relief, the rock substrate, and the time of the day</p>
<p>The place of the National Park in the ecological network of Bulgaria and Europe Concerning the national network of Protected Areas Pirin National Park has high value as a site from NATURE 2000</p>	<p>⇒ In the Directive 92/43/EEC are included: Four plants species: <i>Artemisia eriantha</i> Ten, <i>Galanthus nivalis</i> L, <i>Gentiana lutea</i> L., <i>Ligularia sibirica</i> (L.) Cass</p> <p>Vertebrate animals – blageon (<i>Leuciscus souffia</i>) and 24 mammal species</p> <p>⇒ Directive 79/409/EEC includes 40 bird species occurring in Pirin NP</p>
<p>Area for conservation of habitats and species of European and global conservation significance The global and European importance of Pirin National Park is determined by its role as a basic morphological unit for the formation of the vascular flora at the international scale,</p>	<p>⇒ 10 types of natural habitats are included in the list of the European Habitats, that need special conservation measures, Annex I of Resolution # 4 /1996</p> <p>⇒ The largest natural complex of the Balkan endemic species – the Macedonian pine and the Balkan sub-endemic species – the Bosnian pine, occurs on the territory of the park</p> <p>⇒ Pirin National Park is a major center for the conservation of several rare, protected and endemic species of European and global significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Species included in the 1997 Red List of IUCN – 21 species - Species included in the Directive 92/43 – 4 species

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<p>as well as a major center for conservation of habitats of several rare, protected and endemic plant and animal taxa and sintaxa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>All representatives of the families of the Orchids and Snow drops, occurring in the park are included in the CITES Appendix 6 – a total of 21 species</i> ⇒ <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> (L.) Spreng., <i>Cetraria islandica</i> L., and <i>Gentiana lutea</i> L. are included in the list of endangered medicinal plants determined by the European Union by Regulation (EC) # 338/97 (Medicinal species, listed in the Annex of Regulation (EC) # 338/97) ⇒ <i>Leuciscus souffia</i> is included in Appendix III of the Bern Convention and Appendix II of Directive 92/43 ⇒ The birds listed in the Red List of IUCN include – 1 nesting species (corncrake), BONN - 54 species, BERN - 148 species, CITES – 29 species, DIR 79/409 – 40 species, EMERALD – 37 species ⇒ Species of the Red Data Book of Bulgaria – wolf, bear, pine marten, chamois find habitats and are represented by significant populations.
<p>Centre for educational and scientific research activities The interests in using the territory of Pirin National Park that run in opposing objectives determine its importance as a place for educational programs and research activities connected to the long-term effects on the conservation of the natural complex</p>	<p>Objectives favoring scientific research activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Conservation and maintenance of biodiversity - <i>Study the processes in the ecosystems and territories after violation of natural and anthropogenic character</i> - <i>Monitor the succession processes in the main types of sub-communities</i> - <i>Clarify the population parameters of the species of conservation importance and their vulnerability to negative anthropogenic influences</i> - <i>Conserve the current species richness of autochthonous animals, local breeds and varieties</i> ⇒ Long-term monitoring of the global changes related to the waters and the trans-border pollution <p>Objectives favoring the implementation of educational programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Knowledge of and protection of rare and protected at the European and global scale species in the region ⇒ Promote the wild nature and the rules of behavior in the Park ⇒ Use of different kinds of timber and non-timber resources ⇒ Increase the awareness and knowledge of local people of the value and significance of the natural complex
<p>Phenomena in the landscape and geo-morphological aspects The geo-morphological features of Pirin National Park make it unique at national and international level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Granite rocks – covering considerable areas over the whole park and the specific alpine zone landscape ⇒ Marble rocks – natural habitats unique at the European and global scale ⇒ Typical of Pirin glacial forms of relief - cirques, glacier beds, gregue terraces ⇒ Pyramidal, needle or cone shaped inaccessible mountain peaks

<p>Resources Pirin National Park is very important for the formation of a permanent policy for sustainable and environmentally friendly use of natural resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The alpine and sub-alpine pastures are used as cheap source of fodder in the summer months ⇒ Several species of mushrooms with excellent taste occur in Pirin National Park (anice mushroom, brown forest mushroom, edible boletus, pine boletus, chanterelle, wood blewit, field parasol, fairy ring agaric etc.) ⇒ There are 182 medicinal plants occurring. For personal needs are used bilberry, hazel bush, raspberry, dewberry, St. John's wort, wild marjoram, wild thyme, etc. ⇒ The largest natural complexes of bilberry are found on the territory of the Pirin National Park ⇒ Wide spread in Pirin are two species of snails that are collected ⇒ Pirin National Park is used as a source of water for drinking and household water supply
<p>Area with opportunities for development of tourism and recreation The territory of the Pirin National Park offers conditions for development of sustainable tourism that meets the demands and expectations of the Bulgarian and foreign tourists</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Certain types of landscape are perceived in a distant view of the environment and serve as a natural background for tourism, sports, and recreation ⇒ Pirin is the most preferred mountain in Bulgaria – appears in more than 70% of the programs for active and adventurous tourism ⇒ Accessibility and available infrastructure, many opportunities for interesting, authentic and enriching trip, as well as relatively rich amount of information, printed materials and programs ⇒ The existing hiking trails are sufficient for equitable distribution of visitors and their directing toward all parts of the park ⇒ Many types of sports can be developed in the park: hiking, skiing, alpine climbing, cave diving, biking and horse-back riding tourism, topical/cognitive tourism, related to the settlements in the foot of the mountain ⇒ Conditions exist for new winter tourist activities: snowshoes hiking and randonee skiing ⇒ There are opportunities for year round programs that combine recreation and tourism with the use of the spa resorts. ⇒ The Cultural and Historical Heritage /CHH/ is a major precondition and resource for the development of cognitive tourism that acquires greater and greater popularity
<p>Source of benefits for the local people The opportunities and advantages that the National park offers are of great importance for generating revenues to the local municipalities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ For the managing and maintaining institutions – guiding, selling of maps and informational materials, use of resources, and etc. ⇒ For the commercial entities from the tourist service branch – offering of a variety of high quality additional services, development of alternative forms of tourism for the economic revival of the village regions ⇒ Opportunities for offering ecological products through development of the traditional farming

PART 2:

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES AND CONSTRAINTS

2.0. PRINCIPLES IN DEFINING THE OBJECTIVES

The definition of objectives has been done according to the requirements of the Protected Areas Act and the adopted categorization system of the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

Art. 18. (2) The national parks are managed with the goals of:

1. maintaining the diversity of ecosystems and wild nature conservation;
2. protecting and maintaining the biodiversity in the ecosystems;
3. providing opportunities for the development of scientific, education and recreation activities;
4. creating prerequisites for the development of tourism, nature-friendly occupation for the local people and other activities in compliance with the above mentioned goals (p.1 – 3).

Protected Areas Act

According to the management objectives of the IUCN categorization system, the Pirin National Park includes the following categories of protected areas:

Categories Ia – protected area, managed mainly for scientific purposes, and
Ib – protected area, managed mainly for the purposes of wilderness nature conservation

Category II – National Park – protected area, managed mainly for the purposes of protection and restoring of the ecosystems

IUCN – Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories

The main principle is the area to be managed in a way, ensuring the conservation and maintaining of the biodiversity in the long term.

2.1. LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

The long-term objectives defined in this part aim at:

- ⇒ Establishing a simple, consistent zoning system with clearly defined regimes (Part 3), which can be applied by the stakeholders;
- ⇒ Establishing a park management system, which complies with the international standards and allows the use of the Pirin National Park image as a World Heritage Site.

On the basis of the statements and evaluations made in Part 1, primary and secondary objectives have been formulated to set the basis of the definition of management decisions and specific activities of the park administration in the next 10 years (*Table 18*).

2.2. CONSTRAINTS

The evaluation in *Table 18* has been done according to a point system, which refers to the intensity of the efforts for removing a threat and the realistic possibility for doing so, as follows:

3 p. - the removing of constraints / threats is the task of the National Park Management and it is necessary the NP Directorate to undertake obligatory measures to this effect.

2 p. - the removing of constraints / threats is not a task of the National Park Management only, but it is necessary the NP Directorate to undertake initiatives to this effect.

1 p. - the removing of constraints / threats is not a task of the National Park Management and requires additional studies and involving other institutions and partners in order to undertake the necessary measures.

SECOND EVALUATION

2.3. EFFECT OF THE CONSTRAINTS ON THE LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

The levels of impact of the constraint / threat on the objectives have been defined by the experts, who have elaborated the different parts of the Pirin NP management plan. The evaluation has been formed by using a point system as follows:

2.3.1. Concerning the impact of the constraints and threats on achieving the primary objectives:

3 p. Considerable

2 p. Medium

1 p. Negligible

2.3.2. Concerning the territorial scope of the constraints' and threats' impact in the park:

3 p. Everywhere – influences the whole park

2 p. Local – influences a certain part of the park

1 p. Potential – may influence the park on certain conditions

2.3.3. Evaluation of the constraints and threats for undertaking measures in the framework of the 10-year management plan for the Pirin NP

The evaluation given in *Table 30* has taken into account:

⇒ Whether the removing of the pointed constraints / threats is a task of the National Park Management and whether it can be done by them according to the criteria, described in p.2.2.;

⇒ The effect of the constraint, resp. threat, on the objectives according to the criteria, described in p. 2.3.1. and 2.3.2.

The constraints and threats with the greatest number of points form the basis for defining the priorities, described in p. 4.1.

Table 30.
Evaluation of the constraints and threats

Objectives	Objectives Guidelines for achieving them	Constraints and threats and their impact on the achieving of objectives	NPD responsibility acc. to p.2.2.	Impact on the objectives acc. to p. 2.3.1	Scope of the impact acc. to p.2.3.2	General impact evaluation
I. Conservation, protection and maintenance of the ecosystems' and landscape's naturalness and intactness	<p>1. Conserving the natural features of the forest ecosystems and the succession processes going on in them ⇒ Non-interference in the forest ecosystems in the reserve zone ⇒ Interference in the wholeness and structure of the forest ecosystems out of the reserves only in cases of proven necessity (p. 1.11.2.2.) ⇒ Gradual replacing of the non-local tree species with appropriate local species (p. 1.13.2.3.) ⇒ Monitoring of the state</p> <p>2. Maintaining and restoring the naturalness of the alpine and sub-alpine associations ⇒ Regulation of the grazing (p. 1.22.2.2.) ⇒ Monitoring of the state</p> <p>3. Conserving of the natural rock associations, including the caves ⇒ Regulation of the places for extreme sports and control of their impact on the state of the natural complex ⇒ Monitoring of the state</p> <p>4. Conserving the naturalness of the river and lake ecosystems</p>	<p>Natural trends</p> <p>Global warming of the climate – influences the species diversity and the resources Avalanches, snowstorms, windstorms – result in the change of the habitats for a certain period Naturally originated fires – result in origination of secondary post-fire succession processes</p> <p>Man-induced trends</p> <p>Violation of the defined regimes in the zones – results in erosion and disturbing of the ecosystems' naturalness and the succession processes in them /p.1.22.1.1./ Excessive pressure on certain sports and recreation places – results in erosion and damages in the ecosystems and the landscape Lack of a waste and waste water treatment system</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p>	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p>	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>8</p> <p>7</p> <p>7</p>

	<p>⇒ Non-admission of water diversion from lakes and rivers /p.1.10.1.6./</p> <p>⇒ Elimination of the pollution of the lake ecosystems and the riverine associations /p.1.22.1.5./</p> <p>⇒ Monitoring of the state</p> <p>5. Protection of species threatened by direct destruction</p> <p>⇒ Protection from poaching and picking up protected pant species</p> <p>⇒ Maintenance of associations of conservation value and such with participation of species of conservation importance /p.1.14. and 1.15./</p> <p>⇒ Conservation of the chamois and other wild animals typical of the park /p.1.15.5.3./</p> <p>⇒ Monitoring of the populations' state</p> <p>6. Preserving the naturalness of the typical landscape elements and restoring damaged terrain</p> <p>⇒ Monitoring of the natural processes after windstorms, fires, avalanches or previous human interference;</p> <p>⇒ Defining measures for the regions mostly affected by changes (built territories, eroded terrain, etc.)</p> <p>⇒ Limiting the infrastructure development /p. 1.22.1.2. and 1.22.1.3./</p>	<p>Unsustainable use of natural resources– results in decreasing of the species diversity and poor regeneration of species, important from conservation viewpoint</p> <p>Direct species destruction – results in decreasing of the biodiversity of species of conservation value /p.1.15.5.3./</p> <p>Unregulated grazing - leads to changes in the grass species composition and loss of species</p> <p>Fires due to visitor negligence – lead to disturbances in the conditions of habitats and the landscape /p.1.16.5.6./</p> <p>Fish-stocking with alien species (not typical of Pirin) and uncontrolled angling– lead to disturbance of the river and lake ecosystems' naturalness (refers to the greatest extent to the Balkan trout) /p.1.16.6.2./</p> <p>Interests in water capturing and construction of water power stations – lead to danger from changes in the water regime and instability of the wet habitats</p>	3	3	3	9
			2	3	3	8
			3	2	2	7
			3	3	2	8
			3	3	2	8
			2	3	1	6

Objectives	Objectives Guidelines for achieving them	Constraints and threats and their impact on the achieving of objectives	NPD responsibility acc. to p.2.2.	Impact on the objecti- ves acc. to p. 2.3.1	Scope of the impact acc. to p.2.3.2	General impact evaluation
II. Providing opportunities for environmental education and interpretation	1. Assisting the park visitors to get acquainted with the interesting habitats and species in the park ⇒ Training guides ⇒ Training target groups with priority on the training in conservation of the natural habitats /p.1.16.9.3./ 2. Increasing the local people's awareness and knowledge about the value and importance of the natural complex ⇒ Interpretative presentation of information about the Pirin NP as a national park and a World Heritage Site /p.1.16.9.6./	Constraints and trends out of the park Insufficient information for the local people and the park's visitors about the biodiversity and the value of the ecosystems - leads to instability of the natural habitats Insufficient investigation of the tourists' interests – impedes the change of the visitors' attitude towards the protected areas Lack of information and visitor centres	 3 3 3	 2 3 2	 1 2 3	 6 8 8
III. Stimulation of scientific studies	1. Studying the natural ecological processes in ecosystems and territories after disturbances of natural or human nature ⇒ Evaluation in cases of interference or changes in the species diversity /p.1.21./ 2. Clarifying the population dynamics of species of conservation importance and their sensitivity to the negative human impacts /p.1.14. and 1.15./ ⇒ Creating a database on the biodiversity in the park ⇒ Preparing photo documentation	Constraints and trends out of the park Lack of systematic research planning and publishing of the scientific results in the protected area by the institutes of BAS, the universities and NGOs Insufficient initiative for looking for additional funding by programs	 1 1	 1 1	 1 1	 3 3

Objectives	Objectives Guidelines for achieving them	Constraints and threats and their impact on the achieving of objectives	NPD responsibility acc. to p.2.2.	Impact on the objecti- ves acc. to p. 2.3.1	Scope of the impact acc. to p.2.3.2	General impact evaluation
<p>IV. Incomes generation for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages of the National park</p>	<p>1. Increasing the economic benefits for the local people without influencing negatively the natural complex ⇒ Developing a strategy for stopping the pollution and for permanent control over it ⇒ Defining new forms of use of natural resources and values of biodiversity, which do not affect the wholeness and productiveness of the ecosystems – eco-tourism, cultivation of some wild herb species, etc.</p> <p>2. Achieving greater demand and higher prices for local products and services ⇒ Using the park’s international value for attracting tourists ⇒ Developing a brand/patent for the products and services offered in the region of the park</p> <p>3. Conserving of the available species diversity of indigenous animal species ⇒ Maintaining the high-mountain pastures with the help of disappearing and endangered local breeds /p.1.16.4.9./ ⇒ Developing alternative tourism (eco,</p>	<p>Man-induced trends</p> <p>Poor sanitary – hygienic conditions in the chalets and shelters and difficulties in the collecting and transporting of hard waste – result in pollution of the adjacent territories and water basins /p.1.22.1.5./</p> <p>Ineffective use of the existing tourist resources and lack of interpretation of the natural, cultural and historical heritage – results in decreasing of the opportunities for increasing the economic benefits for the local population /p.1.22.1.4./</p> <p>Lack of coordination of the services related to the park and control over them /p.1.22.2.1./</p> <p>Constraints and trends out of the park</p> <p>Bad sanitary – hygienic conditions and lack of specialized tourist infrastructure in the territories adjacent to the Pirin NP/p.1.22.2.1./</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>1</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8</p> <p>7</p> <p>6</p>

	rural, agrarian) by using the qualities and history of the local breeds and the traditional ways of stock-breeding <i>/p.1.22.2.2./</i> 3. Involving the local population, the municipalities and the NGOs in the development of small and middle-sized businesses	Lack of state policy for promotion of Bulgaria as an alternative tourism destination	1	2	1	4
Objectives	Objectives Guidelines for achieving them	Constraints and threats and their impact on the achieving of objectives	NPD responsibility acc. to p.2.2.	Impact on the objectives acc. to p. 2.3.1	Scope of the impact acc. to p.2.3.2	General impact evaluation
V. Improving the management policy and the specialized warding of the national park	1. Creating broad public support for the National Park ⇒ Establishing a working system of partnerships for sustainable activities between all the stakeholders in the territories, adjacent to the Pirin NP 2. Carrying out long-term monitoring, maintaining and periodical up-dating of a database on: ⇒ The state of the hygrophyllic associations on wet terrain and the peat-bog associations ⇒ The state of the forest ecosystems and the processes in them ⇒ The associations including rare, protected and endemic species 3. Systematic training of the park wardens ⇒ Training of the ranger for the purpose of carrying out monitoring ⇒ Elaborating a training program for the park wardens for distinguishing the plant, animal and fungi species of conservation value and applying the legal	Ineffective management structure and insufficient staff of the NPD – results in ineffective warding of the park territory Insufficient budget for rangers’ and staff training – leads to difficulties in the management and servicing of visitors Lack of established local structures for work in partnership – impedes the formation of a broader public support for the park	3 2 2	3 3 3	3 1 3	9 6 8

	<p>framework and regimes in the protected area /p.1.22.4./</p> <p>4. Changing the park wardens' image of "policemen"</p> <p>⇒ Ensuring regular access to information for the local people by the Park Directorate</p> <p>⇒ Establishing good communication between the park administration, the park wardens and the local people</p> <p>5. Tourist flow management</p> <p>⇒ Establishing and maintaining an information system on the park's territory /p.1.22.2.1./</p>					
Objectives	Objectives Guidelines for achieving them	Constraints and threats and their impact on the achieving of objectives	NPD responsibility acc. to p.2.2.	Impact on the objectives acc. to p.2.3.1	Scope of the impact acc. to p.2.3.2	General impact evaluation
VI. Observing the legal and institutional framework	<p>1. Arranging the ownership of buildings and equipment according to the active legal base /p.1.22.3./</p> <p>2. Effective applying of the legislation</p> <p>⇒ Removing illegal buildings and equipment /1.19.2. and 1.19.3./</p> <p>⇒ Control on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The implementation of the concession contracts - The fish stocking and angling - The car access - The pollution with hard waste - The water, air, etc. pollution <p>⇒ Fighting the practice of poaching</p>	<p>Unclear ownership of buildings and infrastructure – results in hindered control on the users' activities and lack of interests in investment for improving the state of the sites</p> <p>Lack of legal base for fundraising from the profits of other park users</p> <p>The ineffective legislation hinders the fighting with the poaching</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1</p> <p>3</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5</p> <p>8</p>

2.4. POTENTIALS OF THE PARK

The potential ways of using the park, which have been defined, practically exist and their observation in the management of the Pirin NP is important for the achieving of the objectives set. Currently these potentials are not adequately utilized. The reasons are mainly institutional, but an increased motivation on behalf of the park administration for qualitative changes in the management and a desire for broader cooperation with the stakeholders for the implementation of the long-term objectives are noted. Concerning its potentials, the Pirin NP is a multi-functional subject.

The evaluation of the listed potentials is done for each of the park functions in compliance with the defined objectives. It forms the basis of defining the programs and projects of Part 4, aiming at the balanced development of the park potentials.

2.4.1. The Pirin National Park is exemplary of the natural succession processes in Southeast Europe

The park territory provides conditions for conservation of the typical of the park habitats and species: Macedonian and Bosnian pine, Balkan Chamois, Balkan Trout, etc.

The park in general sustains a serious base for carrying out scientific research activities and long-term monitoring, which may support the conservation and maintenance of the biodiversity and the sustainable development on scientific grounds.

2.4.2. The Pirin National Park is a focal point for establishing relations with the other protected areas in the region, aiming at the conservation of wild nature and the species and genetic diversity

The park territory provides conditions for the protection, conservation and maintenance of the ecosystems' and landscape's naturalness and intactness. During the field studies regions with maximally conserved habitats, as well as valley, lake and rock landscapes with negligible human impact on them have been mapped.

The park's location and the proximity of other protected areas, like the Rila NP, the reserves Tisata, Orelyak and Ali Botush, allow the establishing of relation between well-conserved natural habitats and landscape structures, exchange of genetic material and conservation of the mammal and bird populations.

2.4.3. The Pirin National Park is a subject of implementation of environmental education and interpretative programs

The Pirin NP provides rich and interesting information about the plant and animal world, about habitats and species typical of the region, as well as conditions for information interpretation. An increased interest at local, national and international level in the training of target groups, aiming at the acquaintance with and protection of species of conservation significance from the park region, as well as with the behavior rules in the park, etc., has been observed.

The park management needs to be more closely interconnected with the local population and non-governmental organizations, which may change the public opinion about the protected areas in economic and social aspect. There is still a lack of managerial expertise in the involving of the public in the nature conservation and ensuring its responsible attitude to nature.

2.4.4. The Pirin National Park is a model of sustainable development of the tourism at local, national and international level

The Pirin NP is an attractive place for tourists from the settlements around. The existing visitor interest in the park is justified by the great potential the park territory provides together with the adjacent territories:

- ⇒ Comparatively evenly spread interesting trails, directing the visitors in all parts of the park;
- ⇒ Specialized trails, connecting places with rich biodiversity, sites of the cultural and historical heritage, tourist sites, panoramic view points and other protected areas in the region;
- ⇒ Places for rest and different sports;
- ⇒ Accommodation base;
- ⇒ Rich information, printed materials and programs;
- ⇒ Rich cultural and historical heritage in the adjacent territories.

The more effective use of the existing tourist resources may ensure an increase of the economic benefits for the local population and users.

2.4.5. The Pirin National Park is an example for public management of a protected area

The Directorate's long years of experience are a prerequisite for the future coordinated management of the Pirin NP. The NPD, in partnership with the municipalities, the local non-governmental organizations and state structures, can play an important role in the management of the territory of the Pirin NP, since they have gained the trust of the local people, can provide different information and may combine the interests of the different stakeholders.

Currently the Directorate's activity is not favored by sufficient public support and understanding. In many settlements in the vicinity of the park its existence is unknown. The present managerial body of the NPD puts a great deal of efforts to achieve transparency in the park's management and its opening to the wide public in the region. This allows raising the image of the NPD, changing the people's thinking and stimulating their desire to participate in the conservation of nature.

2.4.6. The Pirin National Park is an instrument for sustainable economic development of the adjacent territories

The park, as a World Heritage site, provides real opportunities for greater demand and higher prices for local products and services.

The development of alternative forms of tourism combined with the development of traditional stock-breeding provides opportunities for supplying ecologically clean production and is a prerequisite for the economic revival of the rural regions.

The alternatives of increasing the economic benefits without influencing negatively the natural complex are currently used in a very limited way. At the same time this is exceptionally important for the formation of the right attitude of the local people to the conservation of the natural complex.

Without entering in contradiction with the defined main management objectives, the park territory provides possibilities for bioregional planning according to the "*Man and the Biosphere*" Programme and its *Biosphere Reserve Concept* /p.1.3.4/. The Pirin NP territory, together with the reserves it covers – Bayuvi dupki – Dzhinzhiritsa and Yulen – may be connected to neighboring reserves and protected areas /p.2.4.2./ and included in the Bulgarian and international network of biosphere reserves, with a view to increasing the capacities for biodiversity conservation and sustainable regional development.

In SCROLL III, in the annexed "Reports of studies and research, carried out in the process of the plan's elaboration" there is a report on the Bayuvi dupki – Dzhinzhiritsa Biosphere Reserve and guidelines for the park's zoning according to the "Man and the Biosphere" Programme. It may serve as a basis for specific actions to this effect.

PART 3:

NORMS, REGIMES, CONDITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES

The zoning of the Pirin NP territory is made according to the requirements of the Protected Areas Act and the adopted categorization system of the World Conservation Union /IUCN/. The system of categories is established to provide a base for international comparison and is intended to all countries. According to it the regimes and norms in the national park “*concern mainly the conservation of natural habitats, where the direct human interference and the changes in the environment are limited*”.

According to the IUCN requirements, the territory has to meet the following conditions:

- ⇒ At least two thirds of the territory should be and should remain in its natural state in the future;
- ⇒ It should not include big constructed areas with economic functions;
- ⇒ A local management structure has to exist.

The Pirin National Park covers the following categories of protected areas with a view to the management objectives of the IUCN system:

- I. Strict protection – corresponding to categories Ia and Ib;
- II. Ecosystems’ conservation and recreation - category II.

The zones’ borders are set on the basis of the existing cadastre information – the defined forest sections and sub-sections. In the sites where the cadastre units do not correspond completely to the defined boundary of the zones, the division follows the characteristics of the terrain.

The proposed regimes and norms are defined on the basis of normatively defined requirements and the analytical information and evaluations presented in Part 1. Their imposing aims at eliminating or reducing the influence of the threats, identified in Part 2, as well as at ensuring conditions for control and management decision taking.

Especially for the purposes of zoning a new layer of the polygons type is added to the Geographic Information System of the Park and Map # 19 “Functional zoning” in scale 1: 25 000 is also elaborated.

To improve the effectiveness of the Park’s guarding maps are elaborated for each park region including: boundaries of the cadastre units, hydro-geographic network, roads, buildings and facilities, tourist trails, boundaries of zones, the sites of resource use, etc.

Note: The numeration is done in sections from I to V, all major positions following the numbers from 1 to 100.

I. REGIMES AND NORMS, VALID FOR THE WHOLE TERRITORY OF THE NATIONAL PARK

REGIMES

1. Activities, prohibited on the whole territory of the Pirin NP:

- 1) Construction of new and extending the existing ski runs and facilities;
- 2) Destruction, damaging or removing sites and facilities of the administrative, tourist and information infrastructure;
- 3) Picking up flowers;
- 4) Driving and parking of motor vehicles out of the designated and specifically marked by permit signs sites,

except for fulfillment of the official obligations of NPD, MIA, MD and other state services' officers.

- 5) Any activities, which are a source of noise pollution disturbing people's recreation or the normal conditions in the animal species habitats on the park's territory, are prohibited.
- 6) Artificial illumination of territories out of the defined zone for buildings and facilities.
- 7) Jumping and swimming in aquatic areas;
- 8) Using vessels such as boats, rafts, water-wheels, inflatable tires and mattresses, etc. in the water basins,

except for maintenance and regeneration activities, official activities, scientific research, monitoring and rescue operations;

- 9) Washing and bathing in the rivers and the lakes with detergents and soap;
- 10) Flying below 100 m over the ground with any flying device for visitors' attraction (helicopters, delta-planes, para-planes, etc.) and landing outside the tourist zone defined by the MP. Exception can be made in cases of rescue operations and park maintenance activities, authorized by the NPD.
- 11) Using motor vehicles, except for implementation of urgent forest activities and rescue operations;
- 12) Skiing out of the marked ski-runs and trails, defined by the MP;

2. Activities allowed on the whole territory of the Pirin NP:

- 1) Warding;
- 2) Rescue operations;
- 3) Educational visits;
- 4) Scientific research.

CONDITIONS

3. The establishing of fire-prevention facilities is carried out according to the approved fire management plan.

4. The establishing of the visual information system in the Park related to the marking, the information boards, the signs and the printed information should follow the Information System Concept of Pirin NP of the year 2002.

II. ZONING AND FUNCTIONAL PURPOSE OF THE ZONES

5. The following zones are defined in the Pirin NP:

1) Defined in the sense of art. 19 of PTA – Reserve zone, Tourism zone, Zone of buildings and facilities.

2) Defined by the Management Plan, according to art.19, p.4 of the PTA – Zone of limited human impact, Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation and Zone of sustainable use of the open areas and recreation.

Table 31

Allocation of the zones according to their area

Designation of the zone	Name of the zone	According to PAA, Art.19	According to IUCN Categories	Area ha	% of the total park area
Ia	Reserve zone	p. 1	Ia	5991,8	14,8
Ib	Zone of limited human impact	p. 4	Ib	8198,5	20,3
IIa	Zone of conservation of forest ecosystems and recreation	p. 4	II	18245,0	45,2
IIb	Zone of sustainable use of open areas an recreation	p. 4	II	6806,8	16,9
III	Tourism zone	p. 2		895,1	2,2
IV	Zone of buildings and facilities	p. 3		218,8	0,6
Total				40356,0	100

6. As zone **Ia - Reserve Zone**, the territories of the Yulen and Bayuvi Dupki-Dzhindzhiritsa reserves are defined according to the Orders for their designation.

1) The zone's area is 5991 ha, or 14,8 % of the total area of the Park.

2) The Reserve zone is managed with the goals of:

- a) Preserving the natural succession processes in the ecosystems;
- b) Preserving of samples of natural ecosystems, including characteristic and/or remarkable wild plant and animal species and their habitats;
- c) Preserving of structural landscape peculiarities;
- d) Encouraging the scientific research and ecological monitoring activities.

3) The zone meets the following criteria for defining regimes and norms:

- a) It is almost entirely free of direct human impact;
- b) The biodiversity conservation in this zone is achievable only through protection and does not require active habitat management or manipulation;
- c) It is sufficiently big and allows the achieving of the conservation goals;

7. As zone **Ib - Zone of limited human impact**, are defined territories without changed or with only slightly changed habitats with preserved natural features and processes, localities of threatened habitats of species of conservation significance.

1) The zone's area is 8198,5 ha, or 20,3 % of the total park area.

2) The Zone of limited human impact is managed with the goals of:

- a) Maintaining the natural processes and qualities of the environment over a long period of time;
- b) Preserving the natural state of localities, where threatened habitats of flora or fauna species with

conservation importance have been established and where stricter access and use regimes are needed;

- c) Ensuring access in a way, providing physical and spiritual pleasure for the visitors and simultaneously maintaining the wild nature of the area for the present and future generations;
 - d) Establishing an ecological corridor between natural habitats of conservation value and protected areas in and out of the park's boundaries.
- 3) The zone meets the following criteria for defining regimes and norms:
- a) It has natural qualities of high conservation value and allows stopping of the human interference, which guarantees management sustainability.
 - b) It has typical ecological, geological and exceptional landscape features, which are of great importance for the scientific and educational goals.
 - c) It is sufficiently large and allows both the conservation and the applying of the described ways of management.

8. As zone IIa - Zone of conservation of forest ecosystems and recreation, are defined the territories of the Pirin NP occupied by forest vegetation, including dwarf-pine.

- 1) The zone's area is 18245,0 ha, or 45,2% of the total park area.
- 2) The Zone of conservation of forest ecosystems and recreation is managed with the goals of:
 - a) Conservation of the ecological intactness of the forest ecosystems for the present and future generations;
 - b) Preserving the ecological, geo-morphological and aesthetic features;
 - c) Ensuring conditions for the natural development of the forest ecosystems;
 - d) Maintaining the most possible natural state of the representative territories, providing examples of the existing physical-geographic regions, natural habitats, genetic resources and species;
 - e) Ensuring nutrition base for the animal species;
 - f) Establishing conditions and directing the visitors to such forms of spiritual, educational, cultural and recreational use, which allow the conservation of the area in its natural or close to natural state;
- 3) The zone meets the following criteria for defining regimes and norms:
 - a) It covers considerable representative natural regions, where the plant and animal species, the habitats and geo-morphological features are of special spiritual, scientific, educational and recreation value;
 - b) It is sufficiently large and covers entire ecosystems, which are not changed or are slightly influenced by man.

9. As zone IIb - Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation are defined the pasture areas of the Pirin NP, traditionally related to the pasture stock-breeding and maintained by this activity.

- 1) The zone's area is 6806,8 ha, or 16,9 % of the total park area.
- 2) The Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation is managed with the goals of:
 - a) Long-term conservation and maintenance of the biodiversity and landscapes within the territory;
 - b) Stimulation of responsible and purpose-oriented ways of long-term sustainable use of resources;
 - c) Protection of the natural resources from ways of use destroying the area's biodiversity;
 - d) Using resources through measures, which do not contradict the management goals.
 - e) Supporting the regional development.
- 3) The zone is sufficiently large and allows determining of norms and regimes for long-term use of resources without damaging the natural values.

10. As zone III - Tourism zone, are defined territories of the Pirin NP in the regions of Bansko and Dobrinishte with existing intensive tourist pressure and existing sports facilities, including the “Ski-zone with center Bansko”, planned in the Territorial Structural Plan and approved by MoEW.

1) The zone’s area is 891,8 ha, or 2,2% of the total park area.

2) The Tourism zone is managed with the goals of:

- a) Maximum protection of the ecological, geo-morphological and aesthetic features;
- b) Establishing conditions and directing the visitors to such forms of sports, tourism and recreational use, which

allow the preservation of the territory in its close to natural state;

- c) Protection of the natural resources from tourism and sports practices, which damage the biodiversity on

the park’s territory out of the zone;

- d) Ensuring conditions for development of specialized tourism and sports activities.

3) The zone meets the following criteria for defining regimes and norms:

- a) It is clearly differentiated and covers ecosystems, which are influenced by man;
- b) It is sufficiently large and allows the long-term use of the existing tourist resources and sports facilities without additional destruction of the natural values.

11. As zone IV - Zone of buildings and facilities, are defined the regions of the exiting chalets, lodgings, bungalows, buildings of the Park administration, transformation stations, water catchments, openings for air electric power lines, fire-prevention openings, roads, existing ski-runs and facilities, as well as the ones that are under constructions according to the approved projects, the sites of new construction envisaged by the projects and included in the Management Plan, and constructions for the purposes of the National Park determined by the Plan.

1) The zone’s area is 222,1 ha, or 0,6 % of the total park area.

2) The Zone of buildings and facilities is managed with the goals of:

- a) Protection of the natural resources from methods of using and maintaining the facilities, which damage the

biodiversity on the park’s territory;

- b) Removing illegal buildings and facilities;

- c) Improving and keeping the necessary sanitary – hygienic conditions in the accommodation buildings;

- d) Defining limited territories, suitable for visitor recreation and rest – picnic sites, shelters, tent camps and

other tourist sites.

- e) Ensuring conditions for shepherds’ staying in the area;

- f) Providing opportunities to the park guards for optimum management;

- g) Establishing conditions for providing visitor information and interpretation.

3) The zone allows the long-term use of the existing tourist resources and sports facilities with maximum preservation of the landscape qualities.

III. REGIMES AND NORNS BY ZONES

12. In zone Ia – Reserve zone, any human activity is prohibited, except:

- 1) Passing of people along the marked trails, including with education purposes;
- 2) Collecting seed material, wild plants and animals for scientific purposes or for their reintroduction at other

places, in quantities, mode and time excluding the disturbance of the ecosystems;

- 3) Carrying out of sanitary activities only with the permission of the Ministry of Environment and Water,

issued after receipt of a positive scientific reference of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and positive decision of the National Council on the Biological Diversity;

13. In zone Ib – Zone of limited human impact, any human activity is prohibited, except:

- 1) Hiking tourism only along the marked trails, including with education purposes;
- 2) Collecting seed material, wild plants and animals for scientific purposes or for their reintroduction at other

places, in quantities, mode and time excluding the disturbance of the ecosystems;

14. In zone II a – Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation, any human activity is prohibited, except:

- 1) Extinguishing fires and fire-safety activities according to the action plan of the NPD;
- 2) Maintaining the tourist trails and the safety facilities;
- 3) Passing of domestic animals on trails defined by a project;
- 4) Hiking and recreation;
- 5) Ski-hiking only on marked trails;
- 6) Collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs;
- 7) Maintenance and restoration activities in the forests in cases of strictly proven necessity;
- 8) Regulating the numbers of certain animal species;
- 9) Angling.

15. In zone II b – zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation, any human activity is prohibited, except:

- 1) Extinguishing fires and fire-safety activities according to the action plan of the NPD;
- 2) Maintaining the tourist trails and the safety facilities;
- 3) Hiking and recreation;
- 4) Collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs;
- 5) Maintenance and restoration activities in cases of strictly proven necessity;
- 6) Regulating the numbers of certain animal species;
- 7) Stocking with Balkan Trout and angling at places, defined by the MP;
- 8) Grazing of sheep, cows and horses.
- 9) Sports.

16. In zone III– Tourism zone, any human activity is prohibited, except:

- 1) Extinguishing fires and fire-safety activities;
- 2) Waste collecting and transporting the hard refuse;
- 3) Hiking and recreation;
- 4) Specialized tourism (horse-back riding, cycling, skiing, etc.)
- 5) Collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs;
- 6) Maintenance and restoration activities;
- 7) Regulating the numbers of certain animal species;

- 8) Stocking with Balkan Trout and angling at places, defined by the MP;
- 9) Grazing of sheep, cows and horses;
- 10) Sports.

17. In zone IV – Zone of buildings and facilities, any human activity is prohibited, except:

- 1) Extinguishing fires and fire-safety activities;
- 2) Waste collecting and transporting the hard refuse;
- 3) Hiking and recreation;
- 4) Collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs;
- 5) Maintenance and restoration activities;
- 6) Regulating the numbers of certain animal species;
- 7) Stocking with Balkan Trout and angling at places, defined by the MP;
- 8) Grazing of sheep, cows and horses;
- 9) Sports;
- 10) Construction, repair and reconstruction of buildings, roads and facilities.

Table 32
Activities permitted in the different zones of the park's territory

Zone Activity	I a Reserve zone	I b Zone of limited human impact	II a Zone of conservati on of the forest ecosystem s and recreation	II b Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation	III Tourism zone	IV Zone of buildings and facilities
Scientific research and passing along marked trails p.V.1.	1	1	1	2	3	3
Hiking and recreation p.V.2.	–	–	1	1	1	2
Collecting mushrooms, herbs and forest fruits for personal needs p.V.3.	–	–	3	3	3	3
Maintenance and restoration activities p.V.4.	–	–	2	2	1	1
Regulating animal species' numbers p.V.5.	–	–	2	2	3	3
Angling p.V.6.	–	–	3	3	3	3
Grazing p.V.7.	–	–	–	1	3	3
Sports p.V.8.	–	–	–	–	1	1
Construction, repair and reconstruction p.V.9.	–	–	–	–	–	1

1. Primary activity
2. Secondary activity
3. Potentially feasible activity
 - Prohibited activity

IV. REGIMES AND NORMS IN KINDS OF ACTIVITIES

IV.1. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND PASSING ALONG MARKED TRAILS

REGIMES

18. Scientific research may be done in all zones.

CONDITIONS

19. The use of equipment is limited.

20. After the end of the studies all equipment should be dismantled and the initial state of the area - restored.

RECOMMENDATIONS

21. The proposals for scientific research activities contain the following information:

- In case of already running projects an idea of the results, already achieved, should be presented;
- The project's subject should be precisely formulated and the way it meets the conservation goals should be pointed out;
- Kind of the data and methods of their study;

22 In case the study is done in a specific zone, the reason why only there work on a certain problem is possible should be given

23. The scientific visits to the reserve territories out of the marked trails should be coordinated with the park administration.

24 The organized groups on the marked trails of the reserves should not exceed 20 people.

25 When scientific research or monitoring is done, a copy of the results report should be submitted to the NPD.

26 The necessary control surveys are done on foot.

IV.2. HIKING TOURISM AND RECREATION

REGIMES

27. Hiking tourism and recreation may be practiced in the following zones:

- 1) II a – Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation;
- 2) IIb – Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation;
- 3) III – Tourism zone;
- 4) IV – Zone of buildings and facilities.

CONDITIONS

28. The design and the furniture of the resting sites, as well as the elements themselves should follow individual projects.

29. All the architectural elements and facilities should be planned and build in natural materials – stone and wood.

NORMS

30. For the purposes of the future planning the carrying capacity of the sites for recreational activities should be calculated in a differentiated method by expert evaluation, as follows:

- 1) For artificially planted forest ecosystems – 8 people/ha;
- 2) For grass ecosystems on well-developed soil (meadows, mowed meadows) – 12 people/ ha;
- 3) For high-mountain grass ecosystems on shallow soil – 6 people/ha;
- 4) Lump pressure of up to 180 man-days annually for the high sections of the zone /above 1600 m/ and up to 240 man-days annually for the recreation sites in the remaining sections of the zone (Douglass. R, Forest Recreation, 42-44)

31. The following numbers are defined for establishing the sites for picnic and short-term recreation by regions:

- 1) Vihren PR –15;
- 2) Bezbog PR – 2;
- 3) Trite Reki PR – 5;
- 4) Kamentsa PR – 15;
- 5) Sinanitsa PR – 10;
- 6) Bayuvi dupki PR – 5.

RECOMMENDATIONS

32. Limiting the access to the Baykusheva Mura in the Vihren NR for 5 years is recommended.

IV.3. COLLECTING MUSHROOMS, HERBS AND WILD FRUITS

REGIMES

33. The collecting of mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits may be practiced in the following zones:

- 1) II a – Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation;
- 2) IIb – Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation;
- 3) III – Tourism zone;
- 4) IV – Zone of buildings and facilities.

NORMS

34. The norms of using non-timber products – wild fruits, herbs and mushrooms – are as follows:

- 1) Wild fruits for personal needs, excluding these of the medicinal plants list – quantities of fresh fruits collected by one person within one day – up to 4 kg;
- 2) Herbs for personal use – the quantities of fresh fruits collected by one person within one day are as follows:
 - a) roots, rootage, bulbs or tubers – up to 1 kg;
 - b) stems – up to 1 kg;
 - c) leaves – up to 0.5 kg;
 - d) bark – up to 0.25 kg;
 - e) blossoms – up to 0.1 kg;
 - f) seeds – up to 0.1 kg;
 - g) fruits – up to 4 kg;
 - h) buds – up to 0.25 kg;
 - i) talus – up to 0.5 kg.
- 3) Mushrooms for personal needs – quantities of fresh mushrooms collected by one person within one day – up to 3 kg;

RECOMMENDATIONS

35. The use of stinging nettle (roots and leaves), monk's rhubarb (roots) and the Panonian mullein (blossoms) should be carried out without limitations in the pen communities, shown on Map # 11 “Plant communities”.

IV.4. MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION ACTIVITIES

REGIMES

36. Maintenance and restoration activities may be practiced in the following zones:

- 1) IIa – Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation;
- 2) IIb – Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation;
- 3) III – Tourism zone;
- 4) IV – Zone of buildings and facilities.

Arising from the Protected Areas Act /PAA/:

37. Prohibited activities:

- 1) Cutting down trees and bush species not marked with a stamp of the Pirin NPD.
- 2) Cutting down trees and bush species without timber use permit issued by the NPD.
- 3) Trucking and transporting timber obtained in Pirin NP without a permit issued by the NPD and without a mark of the Pirin NPD stamped on the front of the logged timber.
- 4) Using seed material for forest regeneration purposes, acquired out of the park territory or the adjacent areas.

CONDITIONS

38. When maintenance and restoration activities in the forests are accompanied with timber yielding, the timber is transported by animal force.

39. The maintenance and restoration measures should be obligatorily coordinated with the management goals for the respective zone, listed in Chapter III.

NORMS

40. No sanitary activities are allowed in case of damages or drying of less than 5 % of the growing stock of the forest stand.

41. In cases of damages or drying of more than 25% of the growing stock of the forest stands the carrying out of sanitary activities should be decided upon by the Park administration, after the approval of the Scientific Council.

42. In cases of damages or drying of 5% to 25 % of the growing stock of the forest stands the carrying out of sanitary activities should be decided upon by the Park administration, but at least 5 m³/ ha of the damaged timber should be left on the spot.

43. In carrying out of the maintenance activities in forests no more than 20 % of the growing stock of the forest stands can be yielded.

44. In carrying out of the regeneration activities in forests no more than 10% of the growing stock of the forest stands can be yielded.

45. Growing plantations of local origin is practiced up to the fifth year of their establishing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

46. The development and structural projects should comply with the management goals for the respective zone, listed in p. II.

IV.5. REGULATING THE NUMBERS OF ANIMAL SPECIES ON THE TERRITORY OF THE PARK

REGIMES

47. Regulating the numbers of animal species on the park's territory may be practiced in the following zones:

- 1) IIa – Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation;
- 2) IIb – Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation;
- 3) III – Tourism zone;
- 4) IV – Zone of buildings and facilities.

48. Regulating the numbers of animal species is practiced according to the requirements of the *Hunting and Game Protection Act (HGPA)*

49. Regulating the numbers of animal species is prohibited, except:

- 1) when they pose threats to the health of their own population or the populations of other species;
- 2) for maintaining the populations of the Balkan trout or other species;
- 3) when they cause damages to domestic livestock or present threat to the visitors;
- 4) for the removal of stray dogs and cats and cross-breeds between wild and domestic animals.

50. Carrying and transportation of or the presence of persons with guns or rifles, regardless assembled or disassembled is prohibited, with exceptions made for the employees of the NPD and MI in execution of their duties or for shooting for scientific purposes after the permission of the NPD.

CONDITIONS

51. Animals proven to be dangerous are shot with the permission of the MoEW or the Park Directorate, depending on the requirements for the respective species, subject to shooting, set in the statutory acts that apply.

IV.6. ANGLING

REGIMES

52. Angling may be practiced in the following zones:

- 1) IIa – Zone of conservation of the forest ecosystems and recreation;
- 2) IIb – Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation;
- 3) III – Tourism zone;
- 4) IV – Zone of buildings and facilities.

53. Activities, prohibited while angling:

- 1) Moving, transporting and staying of persons with spears.
- 2) Carrying and transporting of stocking material and stocking with fish of rivers and lakes without permission.
- 3) Angling in the following rivers and river sections:
 - Vasilashka – from the Dolno Vasilashko Lake to its influx into Demyanitsa River;
 - Demyanitsa – from Tiyacite (including) to the Dolno Valyavishko Lake;
 - Srednata – from the Pirin chalet and upwards;
 - Kraynata – from the Park boundary and upwards;
 - Polenitsa;
 - Konska reka;
 - Malka Spanopolska;
 - Banderishka – the section crossing the Ravnaka site;
 - Georgiiska;
 - Sinanishka.
- 4) Angling and fish breeding out of the places, defined by the NPD annual plans.

CONDITIONS

54. The stocking with fish should be done only with Balkan trout originating from the park territory, which is to be certified by a genetic certificate issued on the basis of DNA analysis. Until the accreditation of a laboratory for issuing of the above- mentioned certificate, the latter will not be required when stocking with Balkan trout is done.

NORMS

55. The following restrictions are introduced for the anglers:

- 1) Allowed time of the day – the light part of the day;
- 2) Allowed days of the week – Saturday, Sunday and the official holidays;
- 3) Allowed gear – one fishing line with one hook mounted on it;
- 4) Allowed quantities – for one-day excursion for personal needs 2 kg of fish could be kept, but not more than 8 fishes or one specimen heavier than 2 kg – does not apply to the Rainbow Trout and the Brook Trout.
- 5) Allowed bait – only artificial.

RECOMMENDATIONS

56. For the first two years of the plan's action the following lakes are proposed for fish stocking and angling: Okoto (The Eye), Muratovo Lake, Ribno and Banderishko Lakes, Spanopolski lakes, Golyamo Viljavishko, Sinanishko, Tevno, Bezbozhko and Popovo lakes.

IV.7. GRAZING ON THE PARK'S AREA

REGIMES

57. Grazing on the park's territory may be practiced only in the following zones:

- 1) IIb – Zone of sustainable use of open areas and recreation;
- 2) III – Tourism zone;
- 3) IV – Zone of buildings and facilities.

CONDITIONS

58. Issuing the grazing permits, the employees of the Park should instruct the shepherds about the regime of use of the pastures in the concrete region.

59. The trails for bringing animals up on the pastures are defined by a Grazing Project.

60. The following requirements should be included in the issued grazing permits:

- 1) The grazing animals should be kept at least 100 m off the tourist trails;
- 2) The dogs accompanying the herds should wear clogs.

NORMS

61. For grazing in one grazing season (*calculated on the basis of the state of the pastures in 2002 – the average green mass yield, the daily need of nutritive substances and the continuation of the grazing period*):

- for big cattle – 0.5 heads per 1 ha;
- for sheep – 2,5 heads per 1 ha.

Note: In the calculations the big cattle is related to the sheep in a ratio of 1:5.

RECOMMENDATIONS

62. The period of use of each specific pasture should be defined in accordance with the vegetation cover, the productivity and meteorological conditions, after expert evaluation of an expert or employee of the park;

63. The grazing should begin when the grasses are 8-10 cm if the pasture is to be used by sheep, and 15-30 cm if it is to be used by cows, i.e. targeted grazing should be carried out in the beginning of the vegetation in the sites where the bush cover is the densest;

64. Rotation of pastures should be introduced at certain pasture territories when the grass cover is reduced below 60%;

65. The steep pastures in the areas of Mandrishte and Solishteto should be used every second year to allow restoration of their natural sod.

66. Mainly indigenous cattle breeds typical for the Park, like the Karakachan sheep and the Bulgarian Grey Cattle, should be used for grazing.

IV.8. SPORTS

REGIMES

67. Sports may be practiced in the following zones:

- 1) III – Tourism zone;
- 2) IV – Zone of buildings and facilities;

68. Prohibited activities:

- 1) Using technologies for producing artificial snow, which pollute the environment;
- 2) Driving machines and technical equipment over the ski-runs when they are not covered with snow;
- 3) Exceeding the determined tourist accommodation capacity of the tent camps;
- 4) Cycling and horse-back riding out of the defined trails;

69. Speleological visits, except to the following sites:

- Banderitsa precipice;
- Vihren precipice;
- Banski suhodol precipice;
- Aleko precipice – northwestern slope of peak Sharaliya.

70. Practicing alpine and rock-climbing, except:

- on the northern face of Vihren Peak;
- the peaks Kamenitza, Banski Suhodol, Bandershki chukar, Bashliiski chukar, Sinanitza,

Kuklite, Sabat, Djengal, Jalowarnika;

- in the areas Pesterite and Zhaltite skali (between chalets Banderitza and Vihren);

71. Using flying devices as a tourist attraction (except helicopters) is allowed only in the winter season, in the region of Todorka peak – the upper lift station.

CONDITIONS

72. The safe proofing of the rock climbing trails should be made according to the international safety standards.

73. The design and the furniture of the resting sites, as well as the elements themselves should follow individual projects.

NORMS

74. In defining the bike routes and the horse-back riding routes the following norms should be observed:

- 1) For horse-back riding – width of the path 1.80 to 2.80 m;
- 2) For mountain biking – width of the path 1.30 to 2.50 m.

RECOMMENDATIONS

75. The horseback riding and cycling routes should not coincide.

IV.9. COSTRUCTION, REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCTION

REGIMES

76. Construction, repair and reconstruction on the park's territory may be done only in zone IV– Zone of buildings and facilities.

77. Any construction activities are prohibited on the park's territory, except:

- 1) Refurbishment, repair and maintenance of the existing chalets, resting facilities and catering bases and facilities without changing their purpose and increasing their capacity, as well as their built up area;
- 2) Enlargement of the built up area of the Sinanitsa chalet and Tevno Ezero shelter for sanitary premises;
- 3) Mounting bungalows by the Begovitsa chalet;
- 4) Reconstruction, repair and maintenance of the existing forest road network without changing its purpose and without increasing its width and density;
- 5) Building of meteorological stations according to the projects approved in the due order;
- 6) Building of networks for mobile-phone operators;
- 7) Refurbishment of the high-mountain shepherd shelters at the following sites:
 - Vihren PR – forests sub-sections: 124-3, 162-7, 1147-1;
 - Bezboz PR – forests sub-sections: 264-2, 290-2, 309-2, 118-2, 1220-1;
 - Kamentsa PR – forests sub-sections: 339-1, 1241-1, 348-1, 364-a, 376-3, 1302-1, 1302-1;
 - Sinanitsa PR – forests sub-sections: 1341-1, 1355-1, 1359-1, 473-9, 1371-1, 1374-1, sites Konski kladenez, Wlashki rid and Plesha.
- 9) Construction of tourist shelters according to plans approved in the due order at the following sites:
 - Spano pole
 - Chernata woda – sub-section 1374 – 1;
 - Kornishki esera – sub-section – 314 – 1.
- 10) Establishment of camping grounds according to individual plans in:
 - Trite Reki PR – in the region of Pirin chalet, forests sub-section 339-5;
 - Sinanitsa PR – in the region of Sinanitsa chalet, forests sub-section 455-a;
 - Kamentsa PR – in the region of Mozgovitsa, forests sub-section 381-3;
- 11) Construction of a collector next to the site Shiligarnika and its inclusion in the city sewerage system of Bansko.
- 12) Establishing a ski-run along the existing ski lift from Bezbozhna poliana to the park boundary in order to use it instead of the existing steep opening.
- 13) Finishing the construction of the approved ski runs and facilities according to the adopted Teritorial Structural Plan of “Ski zone with center Bansko” and its EIA of 2000.

CONDITIONS

78. The non-functioning buildings and facilities are removed and sanitation measures are taken.

79. The boundaries of the yards of all the buildings, transformation stations, water capturing points should be determined and marked on the ground according to the orders for conceding their territories in two years' term after the adoption of the MP.

80. Information kiosks should be established in all mountain chalets.

81. The movement of vehicles should be ceased if the capacity of the parking lots in Vihren PR is exhausted.

82. The existing steep opening from Bezbozhna poliana to the park boundary should be rehabilitated.

NORMS

83. Increasing of the build up area of the Sinanitsa chalet and Tevno Ezero shelter by up to 15 % is acceptable.
84. Mounting of 5 bungalows at the Begovitsa chalet, each with an area of up to 25 m² is acceptable.
85. Building of meteorological stations at a norm of 1 item per 80 km².
86. The acceptable area for setting up high-mountain shepherd shelters is up to 30 m² per shelter, including the fireplace and place to keep the fire-wood.
87. For the defined new tourist shelters:
 - spread built area – up to 30 m² for one shelter;
 - to be built on one storey, at the level of the terrain;
 - to be constructed of natural materials;
88. The capacity of the defined tent campsites is 60 people and area of 0,2 ha.
89. The measures of ski run from Bezbozhka poliana to the park boundary are: length 800 m and width 20 m.

RECOMMENDATIONS

90. The campsites should be supplied with shelters /water-supplied and supplied with electricity/ and chemical toilets, and their maintenance should be organized.
91. The meteorological stations should be built in proximity to the exiting chalets, at open and accessible places, which are at the same time representative in terms of the changeability of the meteorological elements. Suitable for this purpose are: Gotse Delchev chalet, Demyanitsa chalet, Vihren chalet, Bezbog chalet, Yavorov chalet, Sinanitsa chalet, Banderitsa chalet, Pirin chalet, Tevno Ezero shelter and Begovitsa chalet.
92. The reconstruction of the exiting electric power lines should consider ground construction works.
93. The check-points of the park guards should be established in the exiting buildings:
 - In the exiting forest buildings;
 - In buildings by the tourist chalets;
 - In rooms offered by the chalets.
94. The derivations of the electric power lines of 20 kV to the facilities in the park should be separated from these in the adjacent areas.
95. For facilities of capacity over 50 people modular sewage water treatment stations should be planned.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE MODE OF USE OF THE ADJACENT TERRITORIES

96. The information and visitor centres and the information kiosks should be planned according to the Information System Concept of Pirin NP of the year 2002.
97. Parking lots should be established at the main access points to the NP, considering the norm of 15 m² per car.
98. At certain places, agreed with the NPD and the traffic police, road signs for limiting the speed and warning for crossing animals should be mounted.
99. The NPD should look for public support to resolve the problems of the illegal logging.
100. Annual meetings should be carried out to discuss the problems of the poaching and the increase of the game stock outside the Park territory with representatives of NP, hunting units, Municipalities, SFB, NGOs, Regional Police Departments, RIEW and the Rila DNP.

PART 4:

OPERATIONAL TASKS AND PRESCRIPTIONS FOR PROTECTION AND USE

4.1. DEFINING THE PRIORITIES

Priority targets for the 10-year period of the Plan's action have been set on the basis of the analyses and evaluations made, the defined potential value and possibilities for realization of the objectives set in correspondence with national and international documents.

The rating of the described park management directions in priority order is done according to the evaluation, respectively the number of points, given to the constraints / threats in *Table 30*, p. 2.3.

Related to achieving main goal I:

Conservation, protection and maintenance of the ecosystems' and landscape's naturalness and intactness

- 1) **Observing the defined regimes and norms** – control on the conceded sites, interference in the forest ecosystems only in cases of strictly proven necessity, control on the sites for sports and intensive tourist practices.
- 2) **Sustainable use of natural resources** – defining places and appropriate technologies in the use of the resources, gradual replacing of the non-local tree species with local ones, protection from poaching and picking prohibited plant species, preventing the diversion of water quantities from lakes and rivers.
- 3) **Protection of the fish and game fauna** – protection from poaching and illegal stocking with fish, maintaining conservation important habitats, and creating peaceful conditions for the animals through providing information, training and control.
- 4) **Optimum protection and management of habitats of high conservation value after natural disasters or unregulated human intervention** – defining prevention measures for safety and monitoring on the state of the affected areas.
- 5) **Regulated pasture use and control** – conservation of the grass species composition and maintaining of rare and threatened local animal breeds, control on the pollution, monitoring on the pastures' state.

Related to achieving main goal II:

Providing opportunities for conservation education and interpretation

- 6) **Studying the visitors** – interests, preferences, types of behavior harmful for nature, etc.
- 7) **Informing the local people and the visitors about the biodiversity and the park's value** – establishing a network of information centres and points, producing information materials, maintaining the existing and establishing new elements of the tourist infrastructure, regulating and directing the visitor flow to the places, defined for sports and recreation.
- 8) **Carrying out nature conservation training initiatives** – elaboration of educational programs for increasing the ecological culture of certain target groups and interests, training mountain guides, etc.

Related to achieving main goal III:

Stimulation of scientific studies

- 9) **Coordination of scientific research and publications about the park** – providing logistic support and cooperation, control on their implementation, maintaining databases.

Related to achieving main goal IV:

Incomes generation for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages of the national park

- 10) **Improving the sanitary – hygienic state of visitor servicing sites** – establishing a system of waste and waste water management and systematic control on the pollution
- 11) **Development of sustainable tourism** – interpretation of the natural heritage of the park for the purpose of more effective use of the existing tourist resources, coordination of the park-related services and controlling them, ensuring conditions for exchange of tourists and services, aiming at the development of family businesses in the small settlements.
- 12) **Supporting the traditional stockbreeding on the park's territory** – reconstruction of shepherd shelters, simulating the breeding of local breeds, etc.
- 13) **Introducing a concession regime** of using sites in the park.

Related to achieving main goal V:

Improving the management policy and the specialized warding of the national park

- 14) **Management re-structuring** – forming and organizing the functioning of a Public Consultative Council, a Scientific Council and a moving Park Guard Ward.
- 15) **Work in partnership** – elaboration of a partnership system for sustainable activities, involving all stakeholders in the territories, adjacent to the Pirin NP, joint initiatives with other park administrations, regular information exchange with journalists and local people, maintaining an Internet site of the park, involving responsible institutions, organizations and persons in the forest poaching fight on a local and national scale.
- 16) **Increasing the staff qualification and the guarding effectiveness** – a program for systematic training of the park guards and administration, exchange of experience with Bulgarian and international park administrations.

Related to achieving main goal VI:

Observing the legal and institutional framework

- 17) **Clarifying the ownership** of buildings and sites on the park's territory.
- 18) **Effective applying of the legislation** – control on the implementation of concession contracts, the pollution and poaching.
- 19) **Establishing a legal base for financial revenues from other users' profits from the park.**

4.2. OPERATIONAL TASKS

The operational tasks listed below refer to the responsibilities of the Pirin NP Directorate to implement the programs and projects, included in the Management Plan – p.4.3. They are implemented every year in the framework of the Directorate staff responsibilities, ensuing from their terms-of-references, described in p.1.5.3. “Staff – main functions by positions”.

4.2.1. Ensuring the functioning of the Public Consultative Council /PCC/

The technical and organizational support to the PCC is to be provided by the NP Pirin Directorate. The PCC meets at least twice a year and the time and place of the meetings are to be defined according to the its Activity Regulations. In cases of emergency the PCC may be called by the Park Director.

Directions on the foundation of Pirin NP Consultative Council

The Consultative Council of Pirin National park is an independent body that is a part of the Administration of the national park. It is formed on the basis of quota principle by keeping the proportion between the different quotas and the inner-quota representativeness. Four target groups determine the quotas:

1. **Government administration** including the administration of the park. This is where it is appropriate to be invited representatives of the district administration, the fire department and emergency services, the regional police departments and other sub-divisions of the central state administration;
2. **Local administration** that consists of authorized representatives of the municipalities on the territory of the park;
3. **The business** – represented by different firms whose interests are connected with the development of the park – tour operators, hotel-keepers, restaurant-keepers or their associations, water supply and electricity companies, transport companies, private owners who use the resources of the park (pasture, gathering of forest fruits, herbs), owners or managers of buildings in the park;
4. **Non-governmental organizations.** This is where it is necessary to be included representatives of nature conservation organizations, the regional tourist association, organizations concentrated on the regional development, the mountain rescue service and etc.

The consultative council should not exceed 30 members. It functions on the basis of Activity Regulations and name list of its members discussed on the first meeting and approved by the Minister of the environment and water. The consultative council meets at least twice per year, the dates and places of meeting being determined by its Activity Regulations. The functioning expenditures are a part of the annual budget of the park.

The Consultative Council prepares statements regarding the park’s Management plan implementation and all the problems related to the conservation, protection, maintenance, and use of the lands, forests, and waters on the territory of Pirin National park. The statements of the Consultative Council support the Directorate of Pirin National park and all other concerned private or juridical persons regarding: the work with the public, informational activities, organization of recreational and tourist activity, conservation of the biological diversity, the sustainable use and preservation of the natural resources, visitors’ services and security in the park. The consultative council scrutinizes and expresses its opinion on the organizational policy, maintenance and development of the Park according to its goals and purposes and on all other matters it is appointed to be in charge by the present Management Plan. The Consultative Council discusses and gives standpoints on research activities, awareness and educational programs, informational service, and other activities of the park’s administration.

The Consultative Council is a collective body that consists of a chairman, a deputy chairman, a secretary, and members. The chairman, the deputy chairman, and the secretary are chosen out of the members of the Consultative Council. The Directorate of Pirin National Park does the technical and organizational provisions. Participation in the Consultative Council is unpaid.

4.2.2. Functioning of the Scientific Council /SC/

The SC functions according to Activity Regulations. It meets at least once a year, the time and place of the meetings being determined by the Pirin NP Directorate. For urgent solution of specific problems the Park Director may call the members to an extraordinary session.

Directions on the foundation of the Scientific Council

The existence of a Scientific Council as a part of the national park is one of the recommendations of the IUCN/UNESCO mission from 2002.

The Scientific Council has consultative functions and is concentrated on the provision of the necessary scientific basis in the taking of decision by the park's administration or on the solving of concrete problems. The Scientific Council expresses its opinion on the quality of the scientific and science-applicable developments assigned by the administration of the park to different experts and research teams financed by the national budget. The Scientific Council may give recommendations concerning the improvement of the park's management and may execute part of the system for evaluation and monitoring of the current plan's implementation.

The Scientific council consists of experts on the conservation and management of the separate components of the biological diversity, on the regional development, on the tourism development, on the protected areas and etc. The minimum number of members is 12, whereas the maximum should not exceed 20.

The Scientific Council of the park functions according to its Activity Regulations and according to a name list of the members discussed on the first meeting of the council and approved by the Minister of the environment and water. The Scientific Council meets at least once per year, the dates and places of meeting being determined by the administration of the park. The functioning expenditures and the rewards to the members of the council are a part of the annual budget of the park.

4.2.3. Periodical checks or monitoring of sites

The applying of the monitoring programmes is done by the whole staff depending on their competence and according to preliminary schedules and the Programme for Complex long-term monitoring for the purposes of conservation and maintaining of the biodiversity in the Pirin NP – p. 4.3.

To get a more objective idea about the state of the populations of rare and threatened animals, subject to illegal hunting, annual census is done, especially of species like the Balkan Chamois, the Brown Bear and the Capercaillie. The behavior of the big mammals and the potential appearance of epizoa are monitored all year round. The state and numbers of the *Martes fiona*, *Mustela nivalis*, *Mustela putorius* are additional subjects of observation. For this purpose a database is maintained and updated.

The implementation and results of projects funded by foreign donors, are monitored by an expert from the Directorate, chosen according to the internal regulations. At the end of each project or project stage, this expert up-dates the GIS data as well. The establishing and maintaining of such database allows the use of the data both by the immediate users and by the experts, dealing with the extending and upgrading of the information system.

4.2.4. Fire-safety

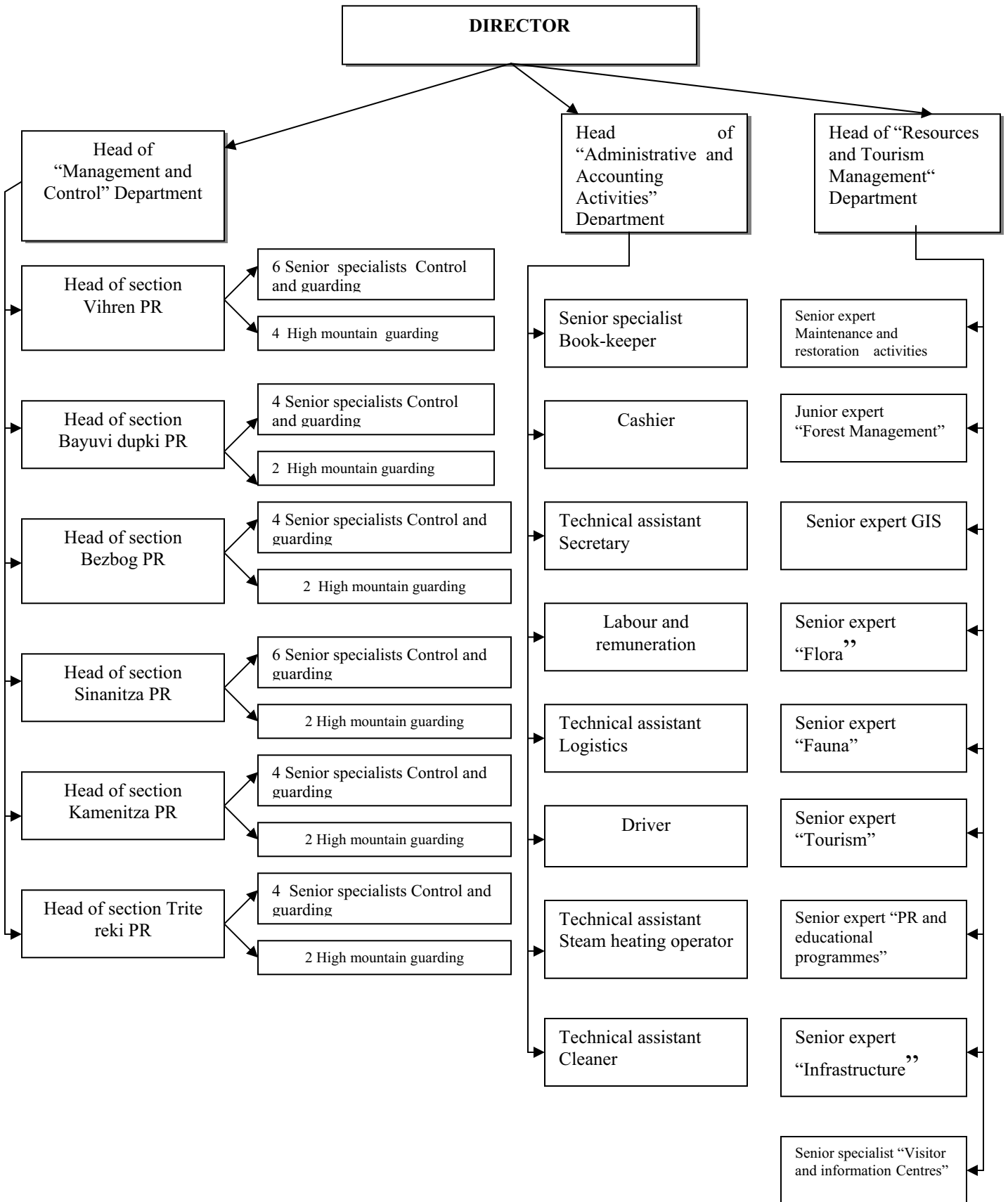
The operational activities are related to the implementation of a “Technical project for fire-safety and action in cases of fire” – p.4.3., VII Programme, Project #3.

When the annual fire-safety plans are elaborated, relevant information for each park region is collected. It includes the potential fire spots, the state of the existing equipment and the necessity for establishing new depots, etc.

Training of the staff and volunteers is organized every year by the NP Directorate before the beginning of the fire hazardous season. It is done together with the local authorities and the relevant services of the National Fire-fighting and Prevention Service, the Ministry of Interior, Civil protection, etc.

The users of the Park are also involved in the fire-fighting actions if necessary

Fig. 10 New management structure of Pirin NP



4.2.5. Improving the structure for management and warding of the park territory

The new management structure of the park's administration is shown on *fig. 10*.

One of the main objectives is the establishing of a "Moving Park Guard Ward" and dividing the park region Kamenitza in two by establishing a new park region – "Trite reki" (The tree rivers). The goal is the warding of the high-mountain and more remote park regions, improving the guarding, and decreasing the number of violations within the park, as well as achieving higher effectiveness of the punitive measures applied by the park wardens.

One of the main operational tasks of the officers from the moving Park Guard Ward in spring, summer and autumn is the protection of the game and the fish. The number of guards should increase from the existing 21 to a minimum of 28.

The activities of the park wardens are described in art. 70 of the PAA and are allocated in the following way:

- Informing the visitors and raising the awareness of the fauna and flora, the goals and development of the National park and the sites of cultural and historical heritage in the adjacent territories (for instance by guiding small groups) – 50% of the occupation;
- Control on observing the requirements for behavior in the National Park, fines for breaking the rules – 20 % of the occupation;
- Control and monitoring of the activities done in the Nature Park – 10% of the occupation;
- Maintaining the information system – 10 % of the occupation;
- Support for activities, related to habitats and species protection, processing sample plots for scientific research and monitoring – 10% of the occupation.

4.2.6. Elaborating time-tables and budget for organizing the assignment of the activities of the work plan

The schedules of the activities funded by MoEW are elaborated according to the *Regulations for assigning activities in protected areas, exclusively state property*. In cases of another funding of projects, relevant to the regimes, norms and recommendations, defined in Part 3, the schedule is up-dated and an expert from the NP Directorate is appointed, who is to be responsible for the respective project.

Periodical checks on projects of the work plan are done by the senior park region officers according to the form, described in Part 5.

The schedules include activities related to organizing competitions, maintaining the existing tourist infrastructure, removing the waste, controlling septic pits, etc.

4.2.7. Planning and reporting the activities on the different levels of the Directorate

To be done according to the *Regulations for assigning activities in protected areas, exclusively state property*, "The main functions by positions", described in p. 1.5.3 and the "Reporting form", given in Part 5. Every expert makes proposals according to his/her competence and responsibilities. The planning for the coming year is done by the end of the current year. The report for the preceding year is prepared and presented by the end of January in the current year.

4.2.8. Organizational, procedure and operational links between the Directorate and MoEW/ NNPS

Implemented according to the *Regulations for structuring and activity of the national park directorates*.

In SCROLL II is annexed "Regulations for assigning activities in protected areas, exclusively state property" and "Regulations for structuring and activity of the national park directorates".

4.2.9. Material and technical equipment of the NPD

Secured according to the "List of the necessary material and technical equipment for the NPD", proposed in p. 1.22.4. It includes the providing of the central office and the park region offices with the necessary software, copy and fax machines, stationary and mobile communication equipment for each of the experts in the office.

The stages and the kind of the equipment depend on the specific need of the officers in a given park region. For this purpose every inspector makes a justified request for the most necessary equipment. If possible, part of the equipment should be shared between 2-3 or more park regions, according to a preliminary schedule, approved by the Park Director.

4.2.10. Information policy and public involvement

Every year a schedule is elaborated of the specific tasks and activities, which meet the regimes, norms and recommendations of Part 3 and for which partners and resources have been secured. The activity of informing the public is the task of the NPD expert, responsible for the public relations, and is done on the basis of:

- Work with journalists, who reflect the news related to the park in the local and national mass media;
- Providing information to the mass media, maintaining and regular up-dating of the information boards;
- Producing information materials;
- Dissemination of actual and well-interpreted information about the plans and programs of the park administration, about the problems of the park management and the ways of solving them;
- Maintaining the park's web site, featuring the park's natural and historical heritage, the activity of the park administration (annual reports and plans, including financial, the management plan, scientific research reports, etc.)
- Promotion of the effective proposals or solutions, which have come out as a result of sociological research.

4.2.11. Providing for the functioning of information and visitor centres

The establishing and equipping of information centres is an important element of the overall activity of the NPD, which will play more and more important role in the determining of the strategies for tourism development in the region of the park. It is coordinated and controlled by an expert of the park administration, specially assigned this task. It is advisable to work in partnership with the municipalities, local NGOs and others.

Guidelines and requirements for place selection, contents, etc. are presented in the elaborated Information System Concept of Pirin NP.

4.2.12. Educational policy of the NPD

NPD submits information and, if necessary, controls the execution of the educational programs.

The education is done together with the schools, cultural community centres, other parks' directorates, the Ministry of Education and its structures and the nature conservation NGOs. The kind of activities and programs is defined according to the Programs and projects, described in p. 4.2.

4.2.13. Looking for additional funding sources

A detailed terms-of-reference is prepared on the basis of the potential funding sources and priority of the project. It contains:

Description (What, how and where):

Justification of the necessity of the project's implementation, respectively description of threats, which necessitate the project implementation:

The implementation will be sub-contracted: *yes* *no* *partially*

Expected results:

Preliminary distribution of costs:

No	Staff	Travel and per diem	Acquiring information	Equipment	Buying/ renting plots/ Legal services	Office materials	Others	Total

The proposed scheme should obligatorily take into account the donor's requirements.

4.2.14. Maintaining regular contacts with local bodies and organizations

The partnership with local state and non-governmental organizations allows the sharing of experience, knowledge and ideas and may serve as a basis for establishing a "Club of the park's friends" (the experience of the other national parks in this aspect may be used) – p.4.3., IX programme, project #3. The goal is to adopt common action plans, to exchange experience, to distribute printed or electronic periodicals, etc. The activity is done in every park region and is coordinated by the public relations expert.

The main partners are the municipal administrations, the nature conservation and ecological NGOs, the forestry boards, representatives of the commercial and social tourism, the regional structures of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Environment and Water.

4.3. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

The programs are related to the primary and secondary objectives and comprise a number of projects and activities, which:

- ⇒ Have been selected on the basis of priority criteria set in 4.1;
- ⇒ Lead to the overcoming of threats and constraints for achievement of the management goals set in *Table 30*;
- ⇒ Ensure park's development in line with its purposes as a whole and of individual zones.

The programs and projects are grouped according to their goals, each project included in the programs having a name, goal and object of implementation, expected result, method, implementer and term.

All the mentioned data serve as a basis for the elaboration of detailed terms-of-references of the projects after the necessary funding is ensured. When a certain project starts a NPD expert is defined to participate in the long-term monitoring programs and to control the achieving of the project's goals. Some of the planned projects and activities to be implemented directly by the Directorate's employees are included in "Operational tasks", p.4.2.

The following programs and projects are defined to be implemented in the Plan's period of action:

Related to achieving main goal I: *Conservation, protection and maintenance of the ecosystems' and landscape's naturalness and intactness*

- I. Complex long-term monitoring for the purposes of conservation and maintaining of the biodiversity in the Pirin NP
- II. Sustainable use and management of natural resources

Related to achieving main goal II: *Providing opportunities for conservation education and interpretation*

- III. Information provision
- IV. Public relations and interpretation
- V. Environmental education

Related to achieving main goal III: *Stimulation of scientific studies*

- VI. Scientific research coordination and publication

Related to achieving main goal IV: *Incomes generation for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages of the national park*

- VII. Improving the conditions for tourism and the tourist infrastructure.
- VIII. Supporting the development of the adjacent territories

Related to achieving main goal V: *Improving the management policy and the specialized warding of the national park*

- IX. Institutional development of the NPD and training.

Related to achieving main goal VI: *Observing the legal and institutional framework*

- X. Applying the legislation and the active statutory base

I PROGRAM:

COMPLEX LONG-TERM MONITORING FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONSERVATION AND MAINTAINING OF THE BIODIVERSITY IN THE PIRIN NP

The further natural development of the ecosystems in the national park has to be ensured. This necessitates studying the possibility for the running of succession processes in the park. The achieved results may be used as a comparative evaluation for assessing the naturalness of the other landscapes and ecosystems.

Subjects of surveys and documentation:

- ⇒ The processes of natural development of ecosystems, habitats and species;
- ⇒ The natural processes of restoring ecosystems, damaged in the past;
- ⇒ The socio-economic processes in the region – economic activity, tourism, settlement development;

The monitoring aims at preventing violations, respectively species', associations' or habitats' destruction, maintenance and periodic up-dating of the database.

The program is related to the achieving of the following goals:

- ⇒ Conservation of the forest ecosystems' natural features and the succession processes, running in them;
- ⇒ Conservation and restoration of the alpine and sub-alpine associations' naturalness;
- ⇒ Conservation and protection of the natural rock associations, including the caves;
- ⇒ Preserving the naturalness of the river and lake ecosystems;
- ⇒ Conservation of species threatened with direct destruction;
- ⇒ Monitoring the processes in ecosystems and territories, which have undergone disturbances of natural or human character;
- ⇒ Studying the socio-economic factors and evaluation of their impact on the park's ecosystems.

Monitoring guidelines and requirements:

The monitoring has to be done at three levels:

I. Surveys done by the park guards – to be carried out daily

The monitoring schedules and forms are elaborated by experts under the supervision of the Scientific Council. Defining survey methods and reporting the results is a hard and responsible task, since these need to be as simple as possible and convenient for rangers, students, volunteers, etc. Therefore this kind of monitoring is developed with the direct involvement of the rangers and experts of the park administration in the very first year of the adoption of the MP.

Its implementation does not require additional funds – it is a part of the operational obligations of the NPD employees.

II. Monitoring on a limited number of key elements – to be done annually

This kind of monitoring is done under the control of the NPD in the framework of the MP. It requires a more profound analysis of the factors for certain trends in the park. The sites to be monitored, the ways and period of reporting the results are defined for each element separately with the help of the Scientific Council or experts designated by it. The conclusions of this monitoring have a direct bearing on the conservation and management of the park (ex. For closing certain trails, for defining water pools for angling, etc.)

Depending on the subject of monitoring, this kind of monitoring may require a specific budget.

The funding comes mainly from the MoEW.

III. Inventories and Monitoring of scientific interest– to be done whenever possible

These are mainly scientific research observations and studies, which are not of primary importance for the park's management. The NPD ensures support and a framework for their practical implications.

Their funding is not a responsibility of the park administration, but their coordination, the collection of the data and their incorporation into a database is under its responsibility.

The results of the three levels of monitoring are bound. On the basis of conclusions from the I-st level of monitoring, certain element may have to be monitored on the II-nd level as a key one. At SC decision some of the elements of the III-rd level may be moved to the II-nd level of monitoring.

Note: The systems, elaborated by the Rila NP and the Central Balkan NP may be used in the monitoring.

Projects, related to the program “Complex long-term monitoring for the purposes of conservation and maintaining of the biodiversity in the Pirin NP”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Elaboration of monitoring systems and methods	Supporting the park’s management and warding.	Clear, easy to implement, simplified information systems for the three levels of monitoring	Analysis of key elements and preparing forms for filling in monitoring data; <i>The systems elaborated by the Rila NP and the Central Balkan NP may be used.</i>	NPD, external experts	2004
2	Monitoring of natural restoration processes in forests and lands	Maximum conservation of the natural character of the forest ecosystems and the succession processes in them, Supporting the forest’s management and warding	Defining measures, maintaining and periodical updating of a database on the state of the forest ecosystems	Taxation of the areas, control checks on certain territories and updating the information	NPD	ongoing
3	Monitoring of processes in ecosystems and territories after disturbances of natural and anthropogenic character	Study succession processes in disturbed eco systems after fires, windthrows, avalanches or unregulated human interference.	Definition of effective restoration measures for areas disturbed by recreational pressure and construction of ski-runs and facilities or due to natural disasters	Organized monitoring stations or permanent sample plots for following the succession processes in the main types of associations. Report results after recultivation in disturbed park areas, Regular updating of the GIS data.	NPD, external experts	ongoing
4	Local monitoring of the quality of on-ground waters on the territory of Pirin NP	Supporting the management of the water basins on the park’s territory	Full sampling of the waters of 12 basic rivers and about 30 lakes and evaluation of the waters’ quality (acidification, warming, succession level)	Monitoring and defining the ecological and chemical status; once a year for TI and once every two years for BI; Following the main physico-chemical indicators	NPD, external experts	ongoing
5	Monitoring on the pastures’ overgrowing with shrubs	Prevention of pastures from bushing	Definition of effective restoration measures in line with project a grazing	Photos of the same place, done every year in the same week; the material is collected and the distribution of <i>bushes</i> estimated	NPD, external experts	ongoing
6	Monitoring of the population development of mammals, typical of the Pirin	Take timely and effective action for species protection; determine the reasons for the lower numbers of species in comparison to the optimum for Pirin	Comparative results on the condition of population and habitats, use in the sphere of eco-tourism	Census of numbers in different seasons	NPD, external experts	ongoing

7	Monitoring of the populations of Balkan trout in water basins of Pirin NP	Conservation of the populations of Balkan trout, blageon (<i>Leuciscus souffia</i>) in the water basins where no fish breeding has been done – on the territory of the Yulen Reserve and the lakes of Kremenski, Breznishki, Kornishki, Malenkoto, Koukleno, Mitrovo, Argirovo, Malokamenishki, Strezhishki, Tipitski, Strazhishki, Disilishko, Pleshko, Pleshivo	Additional data on the biology of species in explored territories	Annually between June 15 and September 15 collection of ichthyologic material within a week per month, Morphometric procession etc.	NPD, external experts	ongoing
8	Monitoring of conflicts	Amelioration of the main conflicts between different groups of visitors - owners of guest houses and hotels; Bulgarian and foreign visitors; owners of timber-processing enterprises And their attitude to nature conservation and use.	Outline controversial interests in regard to the future utilization of Pirin NP	Standard inquiry, extensive interviews	NPD	ongoing
9	Visitor flows monitoring	Help visitor management, register and evaluate visits to the park; report the number, type, interests and ways of use of different park zones	Define recreational pressure on different zones;	Inquiring the visitors - standard inquiry, interviews, database, updating the database	NPD	ongoing
10	Monitoring of violations	Establishing the kinds of violations and the trend in their number	Defining management measures for decreasing the number of violations	Comparative data analysis from the park guard	NPD	ongoing

II PROGRAM:

SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The changes caused by economic, social or ecological needs require the defining of conservation and maintenance measures, targeting the communities in case of worsened state or poor reproduction. These measures should result in stability of the ecosystems and simultaneously establish conditions for limited use of the natural resources.

In connection with the above, grazing, collecting mushrooms, herbs and wild fruits for personal needs and angling in certain water pools are allowed on the park's territory.

The implementation of this program is directly influenced by the monitoring results.

The program is related to the achieving of the following goals:

- ⇒ Conservation, protection and maintenance of the ecosystems' and the landscape's naturalness and intactness;
- ⇒ Protection of the available diversity of indigenous animal and plant species, while allowing their sustainable use for local communities;
- ⇒ Participatory management of natural resources.

Guidelines and requirements for sustainable use of resources

The places, regimes and norms for using resources are defined with the MP.

The sustainable use of resources on the territory of the Pirin NP requires:

- ⇒ Defining a regime for regular use of pasture territories;
- ⇒ Elaborating and applying a concept, determining proper ways and technologies for collecting and using resources. This concept should be elaborated with the direct participation of the park guards and experts of the park administration in the very first year after the adoption of the MP;
- ⇒ Applying the planned sanctions and control measures by the park guard;
- ⇒ Carrying out joint actions with companies and buy-out points for controlling species, which may be cultivated and used out of the park territories;

The funding of the projects is ensured mainly by the MoEW.

Projects, related to the program “Sustainable use and management of natural resources”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Concept for participatory management of natural resources	Defining practices for sustainable use of natural resources, supporting the information and education policy of the Park Directorate	Involving the users and the people around the park in the evaluation of resources, in the decision-making concerning the ways, places and quantities subject to use, as well as in activities of their protection	Identifying all stakeholders, training them in the ways of using resources, the ensuing control and sanction measures, etc.; Producing identification guides with color illustrations of the economically valuable, the rare and the threatened species, etc.	NPD, Companies using natural	2004-2005
2	Project for using and control of pasture territories in Pirin NP	Application of special regime of regulated use of pasture territories	Select passage-ways; define general productivity of each grazing zone for each region; restoration of places with weak and destroyed turf, Following the trends of the numbers of sheep, cows, horses, statistic data about the pastures' use	Establishing the impact of free grazing on the species composition and productiveness (general and factual); monitoring the development of the shrub and pest vegetation; periodical monitoring of the biggest, typical for the park pastures	NPD, municipalities, external experts	2004-2006
3	Creation of plantations outside park borders for growing endangered and rare plants	Conservation of <i>Atropa belladonna</i> <i>Gentiana lutea</i> natural populations	Reduction of anthropogenic pressure on the species' sources within the park	Biological and agronomic	NPD, external experts	When funding is ensured
4	Variety of fungi in Pirin NP – opportunities for its rational use as a natural resource	Study of fungi on the territory of the park, support for the information and educational policy of the NPD; raising public awareness on the opportunities for sustainable use of the resources of fungi	Regional list of endangered fungi; evaluation of anthropogenic pressure on economically significant species of fungi and their reproductivity;	Trail and stationary methods with testing sites at Yavorov Chalet, Kamenitsa Chalet and Haidoushki Kladenets locality; routine methods of taxonomic and resource studies	NPD, external experts	2006

III PROGRAM:

INFORMATION PROVISION

The big visitor flow – extreme for some parts of the park, and the high interest for its natural resources, leads to great pressure and necessitates management of the visitor flow including a comprehensive information system. Simultaneously with the development of the MP, an **Information System Concept** for the park's territory was also elaborated with the following goals:

- ⇒ Facilitating the movement of visitors to ensure safe access to the park;
- ⇒ Defining suitable forms of recreation activities;
- ⇒ Stimulating the visitors' interest in the conservation of the unique landscape and the diverse flora and fauna of the park;
- ⇒ Achieving an educational effect through an information system, establishing information visitor centres and opening new access points to the park;
- ⇒ Providing interesting and accessible information about the zone around the park and the opportunities for spending one's free time in and around the villages, in order to form a positive attitude of the local people to the park;
- ⇒ Ensuring future development and renovation of information system.

Guidelines and requirements for the information provision:

In the establishing of the overall information system for the territory of the Pirin NP, the general strategy for promoting the PT should be taken into account. On a local level, it should define:

- ⇒ Which features of the park should be promoted;
- ⇒ What is the potential for development of sustainable tourism in the region;
- ⇒ How and in front of whom should the region be promoted;

In this way the local people will be able to really influence the development of tourism and not simply to comply with what is imposed.

The Concept defines the guidelines for:

- ⇒ Information marking – national, road, tourist, ray-trail and mountain lifeguard service markings;
- ⇒ Specialized marking of the Pirin NP – a general information board (with advertising and directing character), an information board about species (flora and fauna) and an information board about behaviour (to serve for providing information about the biodiversity and the species with conservation status, directing boards, etc.)
- ⇒ Defining the places and way of installing the boards;
- ⇒ Control points of the park guard;
- ⇒ Information and visitor centres, information points;
- ⇒ Consecutiveness in the establishing of the information system and its maintenance;
- ⇒ Printed information;
- ⇒ Institutional security in the projects' realization;

The places for the necessary roadside panels, information centres, as well as the model villages of the program "28 weekends in a village" are more or less defined.

The implementation of projects, related to the information provision should obligatorily be coordinated and controlled by the NPD in the framework of the employees' obligations. The funding is provided mainly by MoEW. Additional funding sources may be looked for on mutually accepted conditions, defined by the NPD.

Projects, related to the program “Information provision”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Standardization of names of localities and sites in Pirin NP	Using one and the same names of localities and sites in the park by all stakeholders relating to the information system, scientific research, printed materials, etc.	Better orientation for the visitors, facilitating the management	Forming a working group. Carrying out consultations with the local municipal administrations and people.	NPD, Tourist companies, municipalities	
2	Ground marking	Designation of the park's and reserves' boundaries, zones, etc.	Marking the park's boundaries, the reserves, etc., according to the adopted digital models	Band marking	NPD	2004-2005
3	General information board with advertising and directing character	General tourist interpretation of the park and its value	Visitor information about main features of the park for those visiting the park without a guide or information materials provided in advance	Project for illustrated presentation of the information	NPD, external experts	2004-2005
4	Information board about species (flora and fauna) and information board about behaviour	Providing information about the biodiversity and species with conservation status, occurring in a certain region	Informing about the behaviour requirements, related to the biodiversity conservation and about sanctions for violations	Project for illustrated presentation of the information	NPD, external experts	2004-2006
5	Boards, indicating direction with information	Providing brief directing information, referring to nearby sites	Designating places and spots for recreation, springs, shelters, waterfalls, fire-lighting spots, etc.		NPD, external experts	2004-2006
6	Tourist marking	Marking tourist paths, trails, sites and sports facilities	Facilitating and safeguarding the movement of tourists	It is regulated with a Regulation of the Tourist Marking in the Republic of Bulgaria, May 1991	NPD, BTU, University Rescue Squad, etc.	ongoing
7	Marking of the Mountain Rescue Service (MRS)	Designation of risk spots on the route of the trails	Facilitating and safeguarding the movement of tourists	Signs are put in potentially dangerous sections together with designation signs, pointing to the possible winter alternative of the trail	NPD, FB, MRS, URS, municipality and others	ongoing

8	Marking ray-routes <i>/start from and end in one and the same point/</i>	Concentrating the tourist flow in the zone around the park	Economic development of the adjacent settlements	Identification and marking around the existing tourist centres, like Bansko and Sandanski	NPD, PTF, municipality	When funding is ensured
9	Road marking	Information about the possibilities, which the Pirin NP and the adjacent territories provide, should exist in the whole region	Promoting the information about the Pirin NP, which is under the UNESCO aegis, and the closest information centre, which is an access point to the park	Installing boards at the entrances to the region, along the two main roads, where there are access and information points	NPD, municipality	When funding is ensured
10	Information centers	Provision of information for both Pirin NP and the tourist resources/services of the precise place and surrounding areas as a whole	Up-to-date information for tourists about accommodation, services, guides; contact point for tour operators; bookings; sale of advertisement materials and souvenirs	In specially designed buildings and premises	NPD, municipality	6-12 months after ensuring the funding
11	Information points	Provision of information for both Pirin NP and the tourist resources/services of the precise place and surrounding areas as a whole	Up-to-date information for tourists about accommodation, services, guides; information boards or panels, maps, full set of the park's printed materials	Use local store, shop, pub, town hall (in villages); stands or kiosks outside settlements	NPD, municipality	3-6 months after ensuring the funding

IV PROGRAM:

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND INTERPRETATION

The public relations suppose first of all communication. The goal is to establish broad support for the park. Therefore it is necessary to motivate the local people and those, who come for tourism and recreation, to have a positive attitude and responsible nature-friendly behavior.

The priority targets of the public relations concerning the park are: the tourists, the local people, the municipal and administrative structures in the adjacent settlements, representatives of other institutions and non-governmental organizations with relevance to the park, the mass-media – newspapers, radio stations, TVs.

The interpretation is the best public relations and region promotion tool. It is of highest importance each settlement in the region to be able to present its history and way of life on the background of the national park. The site interpretations should not repeat each other, in order to keep the tourists' interest to visit different places in different periods of the year. This is also a way to attract investments in the settlements.

The program is related to the achieving of the following goals:

- ⇒ Helping the park visitors to get acquainted with the interesting habitats and species in the park;
- ⇒ Increasing the local people's knowledge about the value and importance of the park as natural landscape and ecosystem complex;
- ⇒ Promoting local products and services achieving an increased demand and opening new market opportunities;
- ⇒ Changing the park guards' image and attitude from "policemen" to useful resource persons;
- ⇒ Establishing broad public support for the national park, including among politician and decision makers at regional and national level.
- ⇒ Stimulation of local NGOs interested to the Park and creation of a « Friends of the Park » organisation

Interpretation guidelines:

- ⇒ It should be clear who the visitors are, what are their interests and which is the preferred language of communication;
- ⇒ Accessible and understandable style of expression should be used – most of the visitors are not specialists;
- ⇒ It is recommendable to select the stories and follow a strict consecutiveness;
- ⇒ Interesting live presentation should be used – stories, citations, references to real people and events, guided tours, demonstrations of the local way of life, etc.
- ⇒ Messaged, awakening the people's emotions should be used;
- ⇒ The guides should be able to adapt the routes to the needs of the respective group, to have a differentiated approach to the visitors and very good language skills.

The interpretation elements are:

- ⇒ Good visual information;
- ⇒ Properly designed maps, travel guides, leaflets, etc.;
- ⇒ Panoramic view platforms with information on the spot;
- ⇒ Exhibitions and presentations at the museums;
- ⇒ Birdwatching and observing other animals;
- ⇒ Guided tours;
- ⇒ Trails for individual tours;
- ⇒ Thematic celebrations in the open, crafts demonstrations;
- ⇒ Competitions and contests, for instance on the historical past, art projects, nature, etc.
- ⇒ Local guest houses.

The projects and activities are the task of the NPD.

Projects, related to the program “Public relations and interpretation”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Visualization of tourist trails and sites	Provide opportunities for virtual ‘use’ of existing trails and introduction to the interesting objects (trees, animals, rocks, etc.)	Bigger attention of Bulgarian and foreign tour operators to alternative tourism	Multimedia	NPD, tourist companies	2005-2006
2	Training of local tourism providers on the park territory and around <i>as far as the park is concerned/</i>	Raise quality of tourism supply by the hotel owners, hut hosts, guides, and others.	Providing information about the park as a site, which is an exceptional resource for sustainable economic activities (mostly tourism) and which should be valued for economic reasons as well, strategic business planning applied by present and potential entrepreneurs in alternative tourism.	Identification and training of local ‘development agents’ – 1 or 2 in each tourist village, who will act as the organizers of tourist services and contacts with NPD and tourist companies.	NPD, tourist companies	ongoing
3	Information and interpretation packages	Stimulation the development of eco-tourism, environmental education for children and adults, training of interpreters	Packages of interpretative lectures and printed (audio, video) materials that can be used by guides, trainers, teachers, etc., Develop tourist packages in the park and surrounding areas, packages of interpretative lectures and printed (audio, video) materials that can be used by guides, trainers, teachers, etc.,	Two approaches to information structuring: by place (village, group of villages, larger area) or by resources (most typical species, protected species, natural phenomena, etc.)	NPD, tourist companies	ongoing
4	Days of the Pirin National Park	Establishing a tradition for annual presentation and promotion of the park	Shape public attitudes within the region and in Bulgaria as a whole, draw the attention and involve local people, attract tourists and raise the awareness of the politicians at local and national level.	Organization of competitions for children’s drawings, essays, newspaper, photography, etc., on topics related to the park; traveling exhibitions; musical shows; media campaigns: competitions, contests, inquiries; village celebrations (Holiday of milk, wine, bread, etc.); art/sculpture shows on environmental topics; campaigns for cleaning major tourist routes in the mountain	NPD, tourist companies and NGO’s	ongoing

V PROGRAM:

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The promotion of the landscape beauty and diversity provides the opportunity of acquainting many people with the ecological integrity and vulnerability of nature.

The Pirin NP provides opportunities for the implementation of diverse conservation education initiatives. The conservation projects, implemented with the different schools and teachers, are one of the most important tools for the understanding and achieving the park's goals. The students exchange their opinion on the NP impartially and critically. They transfer the information to their families, clubs, etc. On the other hand, the teachers in the region value highly the conservation initiatives and thus they are among the most important partners in spreading the idea of the park's conservation.

The program is related to the following goals:

- ⇒ Training park guides to assist visitors in the exploring of interesting habitats and species in the park;
- ⇒ Presenting the behavior rules, applying in the park;
- ⇒ Presenting the natural heritage and the needs for its conservation;
- ⇒ Training target groups with emphasis on the natural habitats' conservation and maintenance training.

Guidelines and requirements for the conservation education:

The conservation education initiatives include:

- ⇒ Elaboration of training programs for different target groups;
- ⇒ Conducting lectures, field trips, etc. to acquaint the local people and the park visitors with the natural heritage and the needs for its conservation;
- ⇒ Noting the change in people's attitude and thinking through inquiries every four years, including the same questions.

Some of the conservation education programs may be organized jointly with the structures of the Ministry of Education and in cooperation with the other NPs and Nature Parks of the country. The NPD should support the education initiatives of the regional schools, NGOs, etc., including in the looking for funding for their implementation.

Projects, related to the program “Environmental education”

№	Project	Goal and object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Educational program on Pirin NP for schools	Include a certain number of lessons on Pirin NP as part of the world’s natural and cultural heritage in the curriculum at national level, in coordination with Rila NP and Central Balkan NP.	Raise environmental awareness among young people and strengthen their interest for Bulgarian nature and its protection	Joint action with the Ministry of Education and its regional structures (might be combined with the other two NPs)	NPD, MOH	2005-2006
2	Training of target groups for protection and conservation of natural heritage	Spread information about the park and promote its values among as many stakeholders as possible – Territories rich in biodiversity, where practical courses with students, parents, and others can be held with no threat to populations	Raised public awareness and protection of rare and endangered species (precious landscapes) in the region of NP and Pirin Mountains as a whole	Training different age groups, training of guides who could help visitors enjoy better and learn more about interesting habitats and species in the park; lectures and lessons; publications; video shows, photo exhibitions, etc.	NPD, external experts, schools	ongoing
3	Cognitive trails	Raise awareness of visitors about specific species of plants and animals, and elements of landscape, typical for the Pirin NP – interesting habitats of selected species, panoramic view points	Concentration of visitor flows to less vulnerable areas, reduction of anthropogenic pressure on species, aesthetic enjoyment for visitors	Signing and information provision of trails, view points, etc	NPD, external experts, schools	2004-2006
4	Green schools	Introduce students and parents to wild nature, rules of behaviour within the park and how to survive in nature, the connection between the mountain and the life of local people – peripheral park zones and villages around the park	Development of themed interpretative programs related to the natural heritage of the park, cultural and historical sites, local mode of life	“ <i>Walking with wild animals</i> ” program, where children will learn to recognize the prints and sounds of wild life; “ <i>Week-end for children and parents</i> ” program, in which families will be trained in basic rules for survival in nature; “ <i>The path of cheese</i> ” program, showing children how to milk a cow and prepare home-made cheese; “ <i>Treasure quest</i> ” program, where children will have to find a prize hidden somewhere in a forest, acquiring knowledge about wild nature and rules of behaviour, etc.	NPD, NGO’s schools	ongoing

VI PROGRAM:

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COORDINATION AND PUBLICATION

The National Park, like any big protected territory, represents a unique laboratory in the open for diverse scientific studies on regional, national and international scale.

The listed projects may be implemented if funding is ensured anytime during the period of action of the Plan. Depending on the available means the projects may be implemented stage by stage in different parts of the park territory.

They may be supported by the NPD by means of providing guiding, transport, office, ensuring additional funding sources, etc. The NPD will ensure the incorporation of all data collected from the Park into a national database and make sure that there are available free of charge to anybody.

The program is related to the achievement of the following goals:

- ⇒ Filling in the gaps in the knowledge about habitats and species;
- ⇒ Maintaining databases about the biodiversity and comparative analysis of the state of its elements;
- ⇒ Long-term monitoring of the global changes, related to the modification of water regime, global climate change and the trans-border transfer of pollutants;
- ⇒ Establishing the current distribution and numbers of the different species;
- ⇒ Establishing the impact of abiotic and biotic factors on the species biology and ecology;
- ⇒ Clarifying the population parameters of species with conservation value and their sensitivity to the negative human impacts;
- ⇒ Establishing the real state of the populations of disappearing and threatened species on the park's territory.
- ⇒ Study on the socio-economic processes having relation to the park, such as economic activities, tourism, transport, development of the small villages, etc.

The funding of the projects is not a task of the NPD, but it is necessary the NPD employees to assist their implementation. The Directorate should coordinate the planning and publishing of the scientific research activity results by the BAS institutes, the higher education institutions, NGOs, etc.

Projects, related to the program “Scientific research coordination and publication”

Abiotic features

1. Preliminary biological and socio-economic researches outside the boundaries of the Pirin NP for the purpose of designating protected areas out of the boundaries of the NP
2. Local monitoring of the quality of on-ground waters on the territory of Pirin NP
3. Caves within Pirin NP – part of the region's biodiversity
4. Research and design of monitoring networks for hydrological and hydrogeological processes in the Pirin NP
5. Research and design of a local meteorological network on the territory of Pirin NP
6. Construction and exploitation of local meteorological, hydrological and hydrogeological networks
7. Study on the water balance of Pirin lakes
8. Study on the water regime of Karst regions

Flora and vegetation

1. Mapping and studying species in peat complexes
2. Mapping and studying species in rock communities
3. Study on algae diversity in the Popovi and Kremenski lakes
4. Environmental status of moss on the territory of the Park
5. Potential use of lichen as biological indicators of environment pollution
6. Maintenance of the populations of *Leontopodium alpinum*
7. Maintenance of the populations of *Rhodiola rosea*

Invertebrates

1. Inventory of entomological fauna using relic plant species within the park
2. Inventory of invertebrates in Karst terrains and park caves
3. Monitoring of dryland invertebrates
4. Inventory of conservationally important groups of non-insect invertebrates
5. Inventory of conservationally important groups of entomo-fauna in the park
6. Monitoring of crustacea and insects in lakes and running waters in the sub-Alpine parts of Pirin NP

Amphibian and reptilian fauna

1. **Study on and protection of newt populations**

Birds

1. Study on predatory birds and on the impact of pasture stock-breeding on the birds in the high-mountainous zone of Pirin
2. Study on owls
3. Study on the nesting sites of woodcock and the migration zones of the species
4. Study on current numbers and spreading of the wood-grouse
5. Study on the nesting sites and seasonal dynamics of Corncrake (*Crex crex*)– endangered species of world significance!

Mammals

1. Study on the present condition of marten population in Pirin NP and Pirin Mountains
2. Study on otter habitats
3. Study on the present condition of wildcat population in Pirin NP and Pirin Mountains
4. Study on various aspects of the biology and ecology of the wolf and on the impact of socio-economic factors on its existence.
5. Study on the impact of abiotic and biotic factors on the biology and ecology of the brown bear
6. Evaluation of suitable habitats for the red deer
7. Study on the trends of population development of doe in Pirin in different seasons
8. Monitoring on the bats' distribution
9. Monitoring of bat colonies spending winter in underground shelters
10. Monitoring of small mammal communities

Local breeds

1. Conservation of indigenous local breeds on the mountain pastures
2. Monitoring of endangered indigenous breeds and breeds near extinction in Pirin

In Annex, SCROLL III "Reports from studies and research work carried out during the drafting", data and requirements for the described projects are provided in the different reports. The reports may be used also as a basis for scientific research and interpretative programs.

VII PROGRAM:

IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS FOR TOURISM AND THE TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE PARK

The NPD, in partnership with the municipalities, the local NGOs and the local state structures, can do the planning, establishing and maintenance of the tourist infrastructure on the territory of the Pirin NP.

The collecting of information about the infrastructure's feasibility is a priority both of the NPD and the local and regional organizations and municipalities. The goal is to create an accessible database, containing information about:

- ⇒ The economic cost-effectiveness of the tourist infrastructure;
- ⇒ The positive and the negative sides of the already existing infrastructure;
- ⇒ The expectations and requirements of the users and visitors.

This information could be collected through the maintenance of visitor registers – where do they come from, how much time do they spend in the region, what problems and difficulties have they encountered, etc.

Once established and maintained, such a database may be used both by the visitors and by the experts, involved in the future maintenance and development of the infrastructure on the park's territory.

The program is related to the following goals:

- ⇒ More effective use of the existing tourist resources on the park's territory;
- ⇒ Improving the quality of the infrastructure of the park territory;
- ⇒ Improving the sanitary-hygienic state of the visitor service sites;
- ⇒ Stimulation of the development of environmental friendly tourism;
- ⇒ Controlling the pollution with scraps and waste water.
- ⇒ Use of environmental friendly technology.

Projects, related to the program “Improving the conditions for tourism and the tourist infrastructure in the park”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Design and operation of camping sites (for tents) on the territory of Pirin NP <i>The sites are defined in Part 3, p.109.</i>	Prevent unregulated camping, especially during the summer; facilitate the maintenance of sanitary and hygienic conditions through the provision of accessible and modern facilities	Sustainable tourism use of park resources through the provision of additional options for choice and dispersion of tourist flows, as well as additional income	Individual project proposal	NPD, users	2004-2006
2	Construction of tourist shelters <i>The sites are defined in Part 3, p.109.</i>	Provision of shelter for tourists in the park along the long signed trails.	Sustainable tourism use of park resources through the provision of additional options for choice and dispersion of tourist flows	Individual project proposal	NPD, tourist associations, users	When funding is ensured
3	Technical project for prevention of fires and action in case of fire	Prevention of the danger of fires and decrease of their negative impact on the Park's ecosystems	Decrease number of forest fires; Measures for the restoration of areas affected, plan for systematic training of staff and volunteers, system for coordination and joint action with partners (police, National Service for Anti-Fire and Emergency Safety, Civil Protection Service, the University Emergency Squads, National Forestry Management Unit, and others)	Mapping dangerous sites, evaluation of the degree of negative impact, lectures and outdoor training, meetings with partners	NPD, fire experts	2004-2005
4	Strategy for safeguarding the visitors during their visits to the park	Decreasing the number of accidents with visitors	A system for maintaining and periodical controlling of the dangerous places in the different regions	Fencing ski-runs, signs, bridges, safety ropes, etc.	NPD, external experts	2004

5	Strategy for management and control on solid waste pollution	Reduce solid waste pollution in the park	Elaboration of a system of measures and methods to collect solid waste along: tourist trails and paths, sites for one-day relaxation, chalets and other visitor servicing sites. Cleaning of old dump places and installing thenecessary equipment and information.	Development of timetables for waste removal and control on their implementation	NPD, municipalities	2004-2005
6	Strategy for waste waters management and control	Reduce the pollution of water basins in the park as a result of uncontrolled flow of wastewaters	Elaboration of a system of measures and methods to maintain wastewater treatment facilities in visitor sites; control over its implementation	Lead wastewaters into towns' treatment stations, systematic cleaning of septic pits by specialized vehicles, installation of chemical toilets and module treatment stations	NPD, municipalities	2004-2005
7	Aestetization of the surroundings of chalets and other accommodation and tourist servicing sites	Improving the sanitary-hygienic conditions and increasing the opportunities for revenues of the users. An object of the project are the areas around the chalets and shelters	Concrete measures to design space around the objects and guidelines for maintenance and control	Photograph surroundings, prepare schemes	NPD, users, external experts	2004-2006

VIII PROGRAM:

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE PARK AND ADJACENT TERRITORIES

The park administration should support the development of activities and services in the zone around the park for the purpose of concentrating the main tourist flows there by providing them with interesting and accessible information about the park and the many possibilities for spending their free time in and around the villages. This will help the formation of a positive attitude towards the Park among the local people.

This requires the formation of working groups by municipalities and carrying out discussions in order to define the way of partnership between NPD and concerned persons and institutions on this matter.

The program corresponds entirely to the defined goal of generating incomes for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages the national park provides.

The National Park Directorate has to support different initiatives in the adjacent territories, related to the park. It is also necessary to move activities to the access points to the Pirin mountain in general – the towns of Bansko, Razlog, Gotse Delchev, Sandanski, Kresna, Simitli, Strumjani and the villages of Dobrinishte, Melnik, Pirin, Rozhen, Delchevo, Petrovo, as well as to the new exit points, which may be formed towards the valleys of the Mesta and Struma rivers.

This is the way to increase the respect for the NPD, to change the people's thinking and to bring forth their desire to participate in the conservation of the Pirin for the future generations.

Projects, related to the program “Supporting the development of tourism in the park and adjacent territories”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Concept for encouraging sustainable tourism	Identify activities, services, crafts, and others, specific of each individual settlement or resort	Tourist packages, developed jointly with local authorities, tourist companies, etc.; New kinds of park related services introduced - guiding, thematic trails, products bearing the trademark of the Pirin, etc.	Training of “local development agents” – 1 or 2 persons in each tourist settlement, who keep the contacts with the NPD and the tourist companies	NPD, municipalities, tourist companies and users	2004-2005
2	Establishment of the Pirin Brand of origin	Register the Pirin Brand, which will be awarded to environmentally-friendly local productions (dairy products, wine, etc.), guest houses, traditional handicrafts, etc.	Economic revival of rural surrounding areas of the NP through the development of alternative tourism in combination with traditional stock-breeding and ecological farming	Village Days (Celebrations of Milk, Wine, Bread, etc.), where the Pirin Brand can be awarded	NPD, municipalities, tourist companies and users	2005
3	Marketing strategy for development of tourism in Pirin NP and surrounding areas	Growth of tourism sales	Stimulate entrepreneurship of population, especially in small settlements, towards family business, establishment of a tourism database and photo library of the park	Professional advertisement materials: souvenirs with the logo of the park, calendars, series of posters, post cards, image brochures, CD, Web-pages, etc	NPD, municipalities, tourist companies and users	If funding is provided
4	The colourful paths of Pirin <i>Note: This project has been awarded at the First National Ecotourism Forum in Bulgaria (2001) and is in compliance with the National Eco Tourism Strategy</i>	Develop a system of longer and shorter walking, cycling and other tourist trails connected to the surrounding areas of Pirin NP	Identified and signed circular walks (also for riding, cart driving, etc.) near settlements from the surrounding areas of Pirin NP	Designation of picnic places, securing of dangerous parts of trails, connect signing around villages and inside the park, preparation of interpretative boards and maps of trails in all tourist villages around the NP	NPD, municipalities, tourist companies and users	If funding is provided

5	Joint initiatives of the park and private entrepreneurs for tourist attractions	Identify activities, services, crafts, and others, specific of each individual settlement or resort: the park will provide expert help or in-kind support (materials, labour), while the entrepreneur will pay back his 'debt' by supporting activities for the park	Stimulate entrepreneurship of population, especially in small settlements, towards family business	Sale of park souvenirs, provision of information about the park, interpretation of its heritage, joint projects of interested individuals and legal entities in nearby tourist centers	NPD, tourist companies	ongoing
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IX PROGRAM:

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NPD

The Park Directorate activity is the main guarantee for the applying of the MP. Therefore its efficient operation, as well as the increasing of the staff's qualification, have exceptional importance for achieving the defined goals. The NPD has to ensure real opportunities and financial support for the Pirin NP nature in order to meet the challenges of the future in terms of visitor flow, violations and usage.

The program is also related to the following goals:

- ⇒ Carrying out long-term monitoring, maintaining and periodical updating of the database;
- ⇒ Systematic training of the park guard;
- ⇒ Changing the image of “policemen” of the park guard officers;
- ⇒ Establishing a partnership network for the park between all the concerned bodies in the adjacent territories;
- ⇒ Creation of a regional association (or similar body) to operate the tourist and commercial activities in the Park through a concession system controlled by the NPD

Guidelines and requirements for the institutional development of the NPD:

Annual carrying out of training classes – a frame plan, including periods, number of classes, participants, budget

Precise identifying of the groups and subjects of training: for guides, for wardens, for the administration, common for the whole staff

Experience exchange – within the country and in other countries

Foreign language training

Basic projects with partners

Multidisciplinary researches

This program is related to establishing conditions for better implementation of the employees' operational tasks – p.4.2.

Projects, related to the program “Institutional development of the NPD”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Human resources development strategy	Raise staff qualification, including foreign language skills	Development of a system for improving staff qualifications for the period 2004-2009, career management; Develop networking with other NP in Bulgaria and throughout Europe	Training of park guards to recognize conservationally important plant and animal species, introduction of present environmental legislation and its application	NPD, external experts	2004-2005
2	Development of implementation of GIS	Maintain and update park GIS-system, raise park staff qualifications	Updated database, source of data for comparison and analysis in long-term monitoring projects and scientific research, provision of necessary maps for park staff while performing their official duties	Training of park guards and administration	NPD, PROLES	ongoing
3	Establishing a Consultative Council	Supporting the work of the Directorate and other physical or legal stakeholders concerning: the public relations activities, the information activities, the organization of the tourist and recreation activity, the biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources, the safety and attendance of the park visitors.	Statements concerning the implementation of the park’s management plan	Point 4.2. gives “Guidelines for the establishing of a Consultative Council”.	NPD, NGO’s, experts	2004-2005
4	Establishing a Scientific Council	Providing the necessary scientific base for decision making on behalf of the park administration concerning the general matters of park management or the solving of specific problems.	Statements concerning the qualities of the scientific and applied science reports. Assigned by the park administration to different experts and expert teams and funded by the state budget.	Point 4.2. gives “Guidelines for the establishing of a Scientific Council”.	NPD, NGO, experts	2004-2005

5	Partnership for Pirin	Identifying and involvement of the stakeholders	Involve local stakeholders in nature protection and Pirin NP promotion, establishing a non-formal group "Friends of the Pirin NP", joint action plans and exchange of experience, dissemination of a periodic newsletter – printed and/or electronic	Study visits to other parts of Bulgaria where there are examples of such partnerships; periodic meetings; annual conference/forum to report progress of activities; promotion of joint initiatives of the network in media; annual awards for best partnership initiative	NPD	ongoing
6	Joint initiatives with other protected areas administrations	More successful promotion of Bulgarian nature	More visitors acquired to the idea of National Parks and nature conservation	Training in work in partnership, joint development of tourist programs, themed discussions, etc.; establishment of eco tourism associations	NPD, туристически фирми	ongoing

X PROGRAM:

APPLYING THE LEGISLATION AND THE ACTIVE STATUTORY BASE

In order to fulfil its obligations according to Art. 50, paragraph 7 of the PTA, the Pirin NPD should have at their disposal the ownership documents and the rent or concession contracts for all sites on the territory of the Pirin NP.

NPD has to fulfill the commitments taken by Bulgaria regarding international conventions and agreements, in particular the CBD and the World heritage convention.

The program is also related to the following goals:

- ⇒ Settling the property rights on buildings and facilities in compliance with the active statutory base
- ⇒ Removing illegal buildings and equipment
- ⇒ Fighting the practice of poaching and illegal logging
- ⇒ Maintain contact with International organizations (UNESCO, IUCN, etc.) and organize the required periodical reviews
- ⇒ Control on:
 - The implementation of the concession contracts
 - The fish stocking and angling
 - The car access
 - The pollution with hard waste
 - The water, air, etc. pollution

Projects, related to the program “Applying the legislation and the active statutory base”

№	Project	Goal and Object of implementation	Expected result	Method	Implementer	Term
1	Clarification of ownership over buildings within Pirin NP	Restore relations with NPD; raise users' interest to invest in improvements of objects	Clarification of obligations in use of objects' surroundings; facilitate control on part of NPD over conformity to necessary sanitary and hygienic regulations in the vicinity of objects	Inventory of ownership – working group which will collect and analyze information about objects: ownership, rental and concession contracts, terms, purpose of use, compliance to the Law on Protected Areas, etc.	NPD, external experts, users	2004
2	Removal and sanitation of non-functioning buildings and facilities	Elimination of illegal buildings and equipments; Define methods for removal and sanitation, which do not present a threat to the natural complex	Removal of unnecessary infrastructures; Restoration of landscape after removal of objects.	Mapping of places and description of objects	NPD	2004-2005
3	Framework plan for conceding sites and control on the contracts' implementation	Supporting the park's management and warding	Improving the conditions in the visitor servicing sites; decreasing the number of violations	Creation of a regional association (or similar body) to operate the tourist and commercial activities in the Park through a concession system controlled by the NPD	NPD, external experts	2004-2005
4	Implement international categories of protected areas	Comply with requirements from international conventions	Regular reporting and periodical reviews	Ask UNESCO and IUCN for instruction; assist to conferences and training workshops.	NPD, NGO's	2004-2005

4.4. MIDDLE –TERM WORK PLAN FOR THE FIRST 3 YEARS OF ACTION OF THE PLAN

The work plan includes priority projects /p.4.2./, which should be implemented from the very beginning of action of the Management Plan. Schedules and estimated costs for the first year are pointed out in them. The costs required for capital construction, further equipment of the administrative buildings and staff of the Park Directorate for the first year are included. The three-year plan also includes priority projects of the programmes, for which the NPD should look for co-funding.

I PROGRAM: COMPLEX LONG-TERM MONITORING FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONSERVATION AND MAINTAINING OF THE BIODIVERSITY IN THE PIRIN NP

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Elaboration of monitoring systems and methods	2004	NPD, external experts	10000	10000
2. Monitoring of natural restoration processes in forests and lands	ongoing	NPD	-	-
3. Monitoring of processes in ecosystems and territories after disturbances of natural and anthropogenic character	ongoing	NPD	-	-
4. Local monitoring of the quality of on-ground waters on the territory of Pirin NP	ongoing	NPD	-	-
5. Monitoring on the pastures' overgrowing with shrubs	ongoing	NPD	-	-
6. Monitoring of the population development of mammals, typical of the Pirin	ongoing	NPD	-	-
7. Monitoring of the populations of Balkan trout in water basins of Pirin NP	ongoing	NPD	-	-
8. Monitoring of conflicts	ongoing	NPD	-	-
9. Visitor flows monitoring	ongoing	NPD	-	-
10. Monitoring of violations	ongoing	NPD	-	-

II PROGRAM: SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Concept for participatory management of natural resources	2004-2005	NPD, Companies-users of natural resources	10000	5000
2. Project for using and control of pasture territories in Pirin NP	2004-2006	NPD, municipalities, external experts	15000	10000

III PROGRAM: INFORMATION PROVISION

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Standartization of names of localities and sites in Pirin NP	2004	NPD, tourist companies, municipalities	3500	3500
2. Tourist marking	2004-2005	NPD, tourist associations	50000	15000

3. Marking of the Mountain Rescue Service (MRS)	2004-2005	NPD, FB, MRS, URS, municipalities	15000	5000
4. General information board with advertising and directing character	2004-2005	NPD	30000	10000
5. Information board about species (flora and fauna) and information board about behaviour	2004-2006	NPD	20000	10000
6. Boards, indicating direction with information	2004-2006	NPD	15000	5000
7. Maintaining of information system	ongoing	NPD	-	3000

IV PROGRAM: PUBLIC RELATIONS AND INTERPRETATION

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Visualization of tourist trails and sites	2005-2006	NPD, tourist companies in the region	10000	-
2. Training of local tourism providers on the park territory and around	ongoing	NPD, tourist companies in the region	-	3000
3. Information and interpretation packages	ongoing	NPD, tourist companies in the region	-	3000
4. Days of the Pirin National Park	ongoing	NPD, tourist companies and NGOs	-	2500

V PROGRAM: ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Educational program of the national parks for all schools in the country	2005-2006	NPD, Ministry of education	5000	-
2. Training of target groups for protection and conservation of natural heritage	ongoing	NPD, external experts, schools	-	2000
3. Cognitive trails	2004-2006	NPD, external experts, schools	6000	2000
2. Green schools	ongoing	NPD, local NGOs, schools	-	1000

VII PROGRAM: IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS FOR TOURISM AND THE TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE PARK

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Design and operation of camping sites (for tents) on the territory of Pirin NP	2004-2006	NPD, users	35000	12000
2. Technical project for prevention of fires and action in case of fire	2004-2005	NPD, experts on fire fighting	5000	2500
3. Strategy for safeguarding the visitors during their visits to the park	2004	NPD, external experts	5000	5000
4. Strategy for management and control on solid waste pollution	2004-2005	NPD, municipalities	5000	3000
5. Strategy for waste waters management and control	2004-2005	NPD, municipalities	5000	1000

Strategy for waste waters management and control	2004-2006	ДНП, ползватели, външни експерти	6000	2000
Aesthetization of the surroundings of chalets and other accommodation and tourist servicing sites	текущ	ДНП	-	6000

VIII PROGRAM:

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE PARK AND ADJACENT TERRITORIES

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Concept for encouraging sustainable tourism	2004-2005	NPD, municipalities and tourist companies, users	10000	5000
2. Establishment of the Pirin Brand of origin	2005	NPD, municipalities and tourist companies, users	3000	1500
3. Marketing strategy for development of tourism in Pirin NP and surrounding areas	If funding is provided	NPD, municipalities and tourist companies, users	2500	-
4. The colourful paths of Pirin	If funding is provided	NPD, municipalities and tourist companies, users	85000	-
Joint initiatives of the park and private entrepreneurs for tourist attractions	ongoing	NPD, tourist companies	-	1500

IX PROGRAM:

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NPD

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
1. Human resources development strategy	2004-2005	NPD, external experts	-	3000
Development of implementation of GIS	2004	NPD, PROLES	15000	
			<i>Funding is ensured by BSBCP</i>	
Establishing a Consultative Council	2004-2005	NPD, NGOs, experts	1500	1000
Establishing a Scientific Council	2004-2005	NPD, NGOs, experts	1500	5000
Partnership for Pirin	текущ	NPD	-	1500
2. Joint initiatives with other protected	текущ	NPD, tourist	-	1500

areas administrations		companies		
3. Establishing Moving Park Guard Squad	2004-2005	NPD	-	-

X PROGRAM:

APPLYING THE LEGISLATION AND THE ACTIVE STATUTORY BASE

Project/Activity	Schedule	Implementer	Estimated costs	Costs for I year
Clarification of ownership over buildings within Pirin NP	2004	NPD, external experts, users	4000	4000
1. Removal and sanitation of non-functioning buildings and facilities	2004-2005	NPD	10000	3000
2. Framework plan for conceding sites and control on the contracts' implementation	2004-2005	NPD, external experts	3000	2000

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND FURTHER EQUIPMENT

Activity	Estimated costs for I year
1. Rehabilitation of bridges	5000
2. Roads repair	100000
3. Establishing information centres	
4. Establishing information points	30000
5. Further equipment and furnishing of buildings	
6. Further equipment for the staff	

PART 5:

REVIEW OF THE FULFILMENT OF GOALS AND TASKS

5.1. REVIEW OF THE GOALS

5.1.1. Year for public hearing of the implementation of the management plan of the Pirin National Park – 2008.

The process of elaboration of a management plan for the period 2014 – 2024 has to start after the second four-year review in 2012.

5.1.2. Institution, responsible for the implementation review – according to Article 60 of the PAA, every four years a public hearing of the Pirin NP management plan is organized by the Ministry of the Environment and Waters, where representatives of the concerned state bodies, district governors, municipalities, scientific and non-governmental organizations are invited to participate.

On the basis of the yearly reviews, the NP Directorate prepares and presents at the public hearing a general review of the management plan implementation and the results of the management practice in the reviewed period.

5.1.3. Participants in the review

These are the district administrations, the municipalities of the settlements with grounds included in the park's territory, RIEW – Blagoevgrad, the state forestry boards of the adjacent territories, the local structures of the Ministry of Education, schools, representatives of the businesses (tourism, timbering and others, related to the park's use), NGOs, experts and consultants from the team, which has elaborated the present management plan, the partners of the NP Directorate, the members of the consultative and scientific councils, users.

5.1.4. Public participation in the review process

The public hearing of the plan's implementation is announced in advance, at least 20 days before the date of the event. Announcements are placed or sent to all participants, described in p. 5.1.3.

The general statements, recommendations and comments are reflected in a minutes and discussed by the consultative and scientific councils. The approved and feasible new ideas, as well as the revised goals are annexed to the management plan and submitted to MoEW for coordination.

5.1.5. List of the MP projects and activities, which should obligatorily be subjected to evaluation, concerning the effectiveness of their results for achieving the goals

#	Projects and activities	Indicators for their effectiveness
Relevant to achieving main goal I: <i>Preservation, protection, and maintenance of the naturalness and intactness of ecosystems and landscapes</i>		
1.	Biodiversity conservation and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ Elaborated programs for long-term monitoring and schedules for their implementation;⇒ Organized monitoring stations or constant sample plots for observation of the succession processes in the main types of associations;⇒ Organized biodiversity database and regular up-dates in the GIS;⇒ Provided data for education and promotion materials, targeting the park visitors and users⇒ Carried out sociological researches of the conflict of interests and defined the preferences of the visitors and the users, etc.

2.	Preventive activities in case of danger of fires, windthrows, avalanches	⇒ Mapped affected regions and defined measures for intervention or non-intervention there; ⇒ Elaborated plan for systematic training of officers and volunteers and system for partners' coordination and joint actions; ⇒ Decreased number of fires
3.	Pastures use and control	⇒ Elaborated project for grazing management ⇒ Defined passage ways, general productiveness of each grazing territory for every separate region, restored places with poor or torn grass cover; ⇒ Applying a special regime for regular use of the grazing territories; ⇒ Monitoring – statistics of the pastures use
4.	Fish and game protection	⇒ Restored natural river and lake ecosystems, which have been stocked with non-typical fish species – number of the basins; ⇒ Decreased number of violations in the park's boundaries
5.	Sustainable use of non-timber products	⇒ Elaboration and applying of an information programme, concerning the ways of collecting and using non-timber products and the existing sanctions and control measures; ⇒ Defined places and appropriate technologies for using the resources; ⇒ List of the mushrooms with endangered status prepared; ⇒ Joint actions with companies and delivery stations, carried out; ⇒ Produced field guides and other information materials
Relevant to achieving main goal II: Providing opportunities for conservation education and interpretation		
6.	Activity of the information centers and points	⇒ Established network of information centers and points, according to the Information System Concept; ⇒ Specificity of each information center, established jointly with local authorities and institutions; ⇒ Number of visitors and celebrated events, profile of the visitors' interests, submitted proposals, new activities introduced.
7.	Producing information materials	⇒ Maps of the park, maps of ray-routes, information leaflets about the biodiversity / natural heritage of the park, materials for ecological training in the schools
8.	Carrying out nature conservation educational initiatives	⇒ Elaborated interpretative programs for different target groups; ⇒ Talk-shows, field trips, etc., carried out to introduce the local people and the park visitors to the park's natural heritage and the needs for its conservation ⇒ Every four year tracing and reporting the change in the public opinion and attitude by means of questionnaires containing one and the same questions
Relevant to achieving main goal III: Stimulation of scientific studies		
9.	Providing additional funding sources	⇒ Funds provided and scientific researches carried out; Scientific and research materials published; ⇒ Specific contribution of the researches to the park management
Relevant to achieving main goal IV: Incomes generation for the local communities as a result of the opportunities and advantages of the national park		
10.	Maintaining the existing and establishing new elements of the tourist infrastructure	⇒ Marked tourist trails, connected with the marking from the settlements of the adjacent zone; ⇒ Regulated and safety-ensured places for tourism and different

		<p>sport activities;</p> <p>⇒ Defined approaches to the park and equipped rest and view points;</p> <p>⇒ Ensured parking lots and visitor access to the sites for visitors</p>
11.	Improving the sanitary-hygienic state of the visitor serving places	<p>⇒ Elaborated schedules for removing the waste and control on their implementation;</p> <p>⇒ Liquidated old waste depots; existing equipment with the necessary waste bins, information boards, etc.;</p> <p>⇒ Systematic servicing of septic pits by specialized cars; chemical toilets and module treatment stations set up</p>
12.	Development of sustainable tourism	<p>⇒ Identified activities, services, crafts, etc., specific for each settlement or resort;</p> <p>⇒ Trained “Local development agents” – 1 or 2 persons in each tourist settlement, who maintain contacts with the NPD and the tourist companies;</p> <p>⇒ Tourist packages, elaborated together with local authorities and tourist companies;</p> <p>⇒ New park-related services introduced – guiding, thematic routes, products with the “Pirin” brand, etc..</p> <p>⇒ Registered “Pirin” brand of origin;</p>
<p>Relevant to achieving main goal V: <i>Improving the management policy and the specialized warding of the national park</i></p>		
13.	Increasing the staff qualification and the effectiveness of warding	<p>⇒ Working system for regular training courses for the park’s wardens and administration on the conservation of valuable species and associations and the applicable laws and statutory regulations;</p> <p>⇒ Functioning “Moving Park Guard Squad”;</p> <p>⇒ Established park region “Trite reki”;</p> <p>⇒ Restored volunteering traditions</p>
14.	Functioning of a Public Consultative Council	<p>⇒ Approved activity regulations and name list of the members;</p> <p>⇒ Submitted statements about the management plan implementation and any problems, related to the park’s protection, warding, maintenance, land, forest and water use, as well as to the research activities, education and training programs, information services and other activities of the Park Directorate.</p>
15.	Functioning of a Scientific Council	<p>⇒ Provided scientific base for decision-making on the side of the park administration concerning the general park management matters or the solving of specific problems;</p> <p>⇒ Provided evaluations and statements on the qualities of the scientific and applied research, assigned by the park administration to different experts and expert teams;</p>
16.	Communications activity	<p>⇒ Selected journalists who reflect the park-related news in the local and national mass-media</p> <p>⇒ Regular information exchange and joint trips in the park with journalists;</p> <p>⇒ Maintaining a web site of the park – number of comments received, etc.</p>
17.	Joint initiatives with other park administrations	<p>⇒ Established traditions in the organizing of campaigns for forming / changing the public opinion on protected areas</p>
18.	Work in partnership	<p>⇒ Established “Club of the Pirin NP friends” ;</p> <p>⇒ Established system for joint actions, meetings, etc. with all concerned persons and institutions, having any attitude to the</p>

		park; ⇒ Provided additional funding sources; ⇒ Implemented joint projects with concerned physical or legal bodies
Relevant to achieving main goal VI: <i>Съблюдаване и спазване на законата и институционалната база</i>		
19.	Clarifying the ownership status of the buildings on the park's territory	⇒ Collected up-to-date information about the ownership and the use of the buildings; ⇒ Restored contacts of the NPD with the owners / users; Increased interest of the users in investing and improving the state of their infrastructure; ⇒ Observing the necessary sanitary-hygienic norms in the region of the buildings
20.	Effective applying of the legislation and control over the concessions	⇒ Removed illegal constructions and facilities ⇒ Legal base for fundraising from the profits of other park users

5.1.6. Criteria for evaluation of the goals and projects

The projects and activities pointed out in p. 5.1.5 are a subject to permanent monitoring and their implementation is a subject to annual reports on the side of the park employees. In this way in the following 5 years an evaluation of the goals implementation can be made.

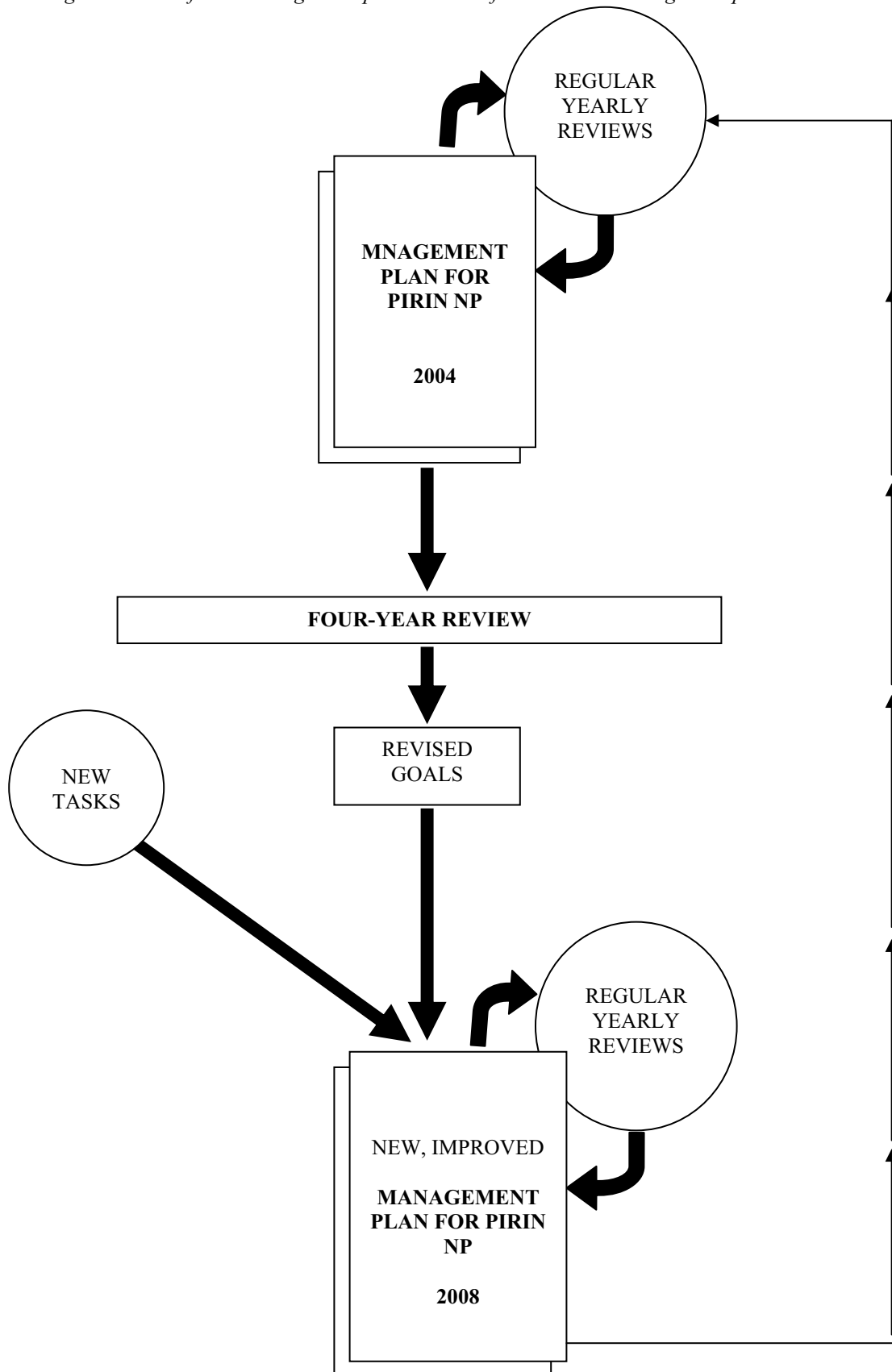
The revision of the MP may be assigned also by international bodies. It is obligatorily carried out in compliance with the requirements of the European Directives and international conventions, ratified by Bulgaria, given in p.1.3.4.

The review of achieving the goals and projects obligatorily analyses and evaluates:

- ⇒ To what extent the goals and the expected results have been achieved;
- ⇒ Which constraints and threats have been removed or their impact on the achievement of the goals has been decreased;
- ⇒ Are the methods for project and task implementation appropriate;
- ⇒ Is it necessary to include new projects and tasks;

Fig. 11 provides a scheme for reviewing the MP implementation.

Fig. 11. Scheme for reviewing the implementation of the Pirin NP management plan



5.2. REVIEW OF THE TASKS

The regular yearly reviews are done by the end of the first trimester of the preceding year. The report is prepared by the Park Direction and includes the responsibilities of the persons from the different levels.

MOEW check and evaluate the report.

The protocol of the check is certified by the NNPS Director.

Guidelines for filling in the report form:

1. **Code** – corresponds to the project/ activity number in the work plan in p.4.5. A new index may be added if the NP Direction considers the breaking down of the activities necessary.
2. **Project/Operational activity** - the name of the specific task
3. **Participants in the task** – the executors and partners are listed here
4. **Term** – the term, defined with the work plan or updated in case a previous report has shown a missed term and line № 9 recommends extension
5. **Implementation evaluation** – the state of the project according to the last submitted report
6. **Implementation evaluation** – the state of the project at the moment of reporting

In case the project has not been completed, the following lines should be filled in:

7. **% of task implementation** – reported on the basis of volume, time and means
8. **Problems** – the problems, which have arisen and hinder the implementation of the task on time and with the necessary quality, are described here
9. **Actions for solving the problem** – depending on the nature of the problems, consultations with experts, the consultative or scientific council, etc. are carried out. The approval of the activities is given by the Director.
10. **On what / whom does it depend** – Dependencies on different levels are defined with a view to solving the problems.

After filling in lines 7 – 10, an action scheme is drawn up for the following report period.

Scheme for current reporting and control on the implementation of the projects, activities and tasks, included in the management plan

The proposed scheme may be used on different levels of the Direction and for the purposes of the MOEW annual reviews of the MP implementation.

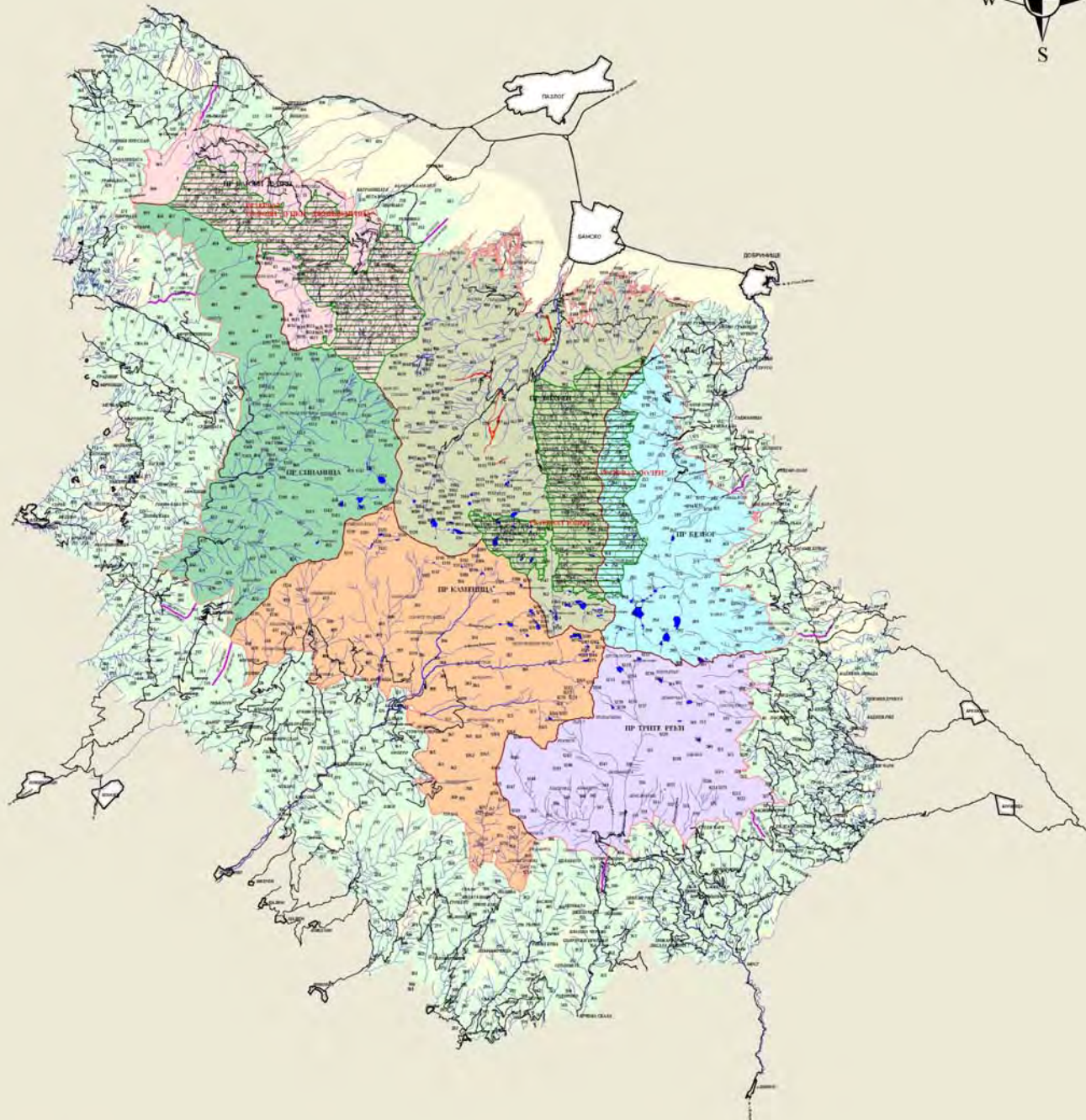
Park region:.....
 Report period
 Person responsible:.....

Code	Project/ Operational activity	Participants in the task	Term	State of implementation		% of task imple- menta- tion	Problems	Actions for solving the problem	От какво/кого зависи
				Previous report	At the moment				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Criteria for implementation evaluation:

	Work is being done on the task and it will be concluded on time
	The task is completed
	There is a danger for not completing the task on time
	The term is missed

The activities and tasks for the next period are defined on the basis of the listed criteria.
 The proposed scheme is appropriate for electronic reporting as well and does not require the use of other forms of control.



- УСЛОВНИ ЗНАЦИ**
- населено място
Settlement
 - пъсепъ
Paved Road
 - тежкотоварен път
Heavy-trucks Road
 - номер на отдел
Number of Forest Section
 - граница между отделы
Boundary between Forest Sections
 - граница между парков райони
Park Region Boundary
 - граница на резерват
Reserve Boundary
 - граница на Национален парк
Boundary of Pirin NP
 - граница между държавни лесничейства
Boundary of State Forestry Board
 - седище на Парковата дирекция
Park Directorate Office
 - хижа
Chalet
 - връх
Peak
 - езеро
Lake
 - долина, река
Valley, River
 - ски писти, проски и др.
Skiing route, forest openings
 - открити пространства в прилежащите на Националния парк територии
Open Lands in the Territories Adjacent to Pirin NP
 - гори в прилежащите на Националния парк територии
Forests in the Territories Adjacent to Pirin NP
 - територия на парков район (ПР)
Park Region Territory
 - резерват
Reserve

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ

НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН
ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОЕВГРАД
ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ

КАРТА № : 2 Обща информация

Граници на парка, прилежащи населени места, основни обекти

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

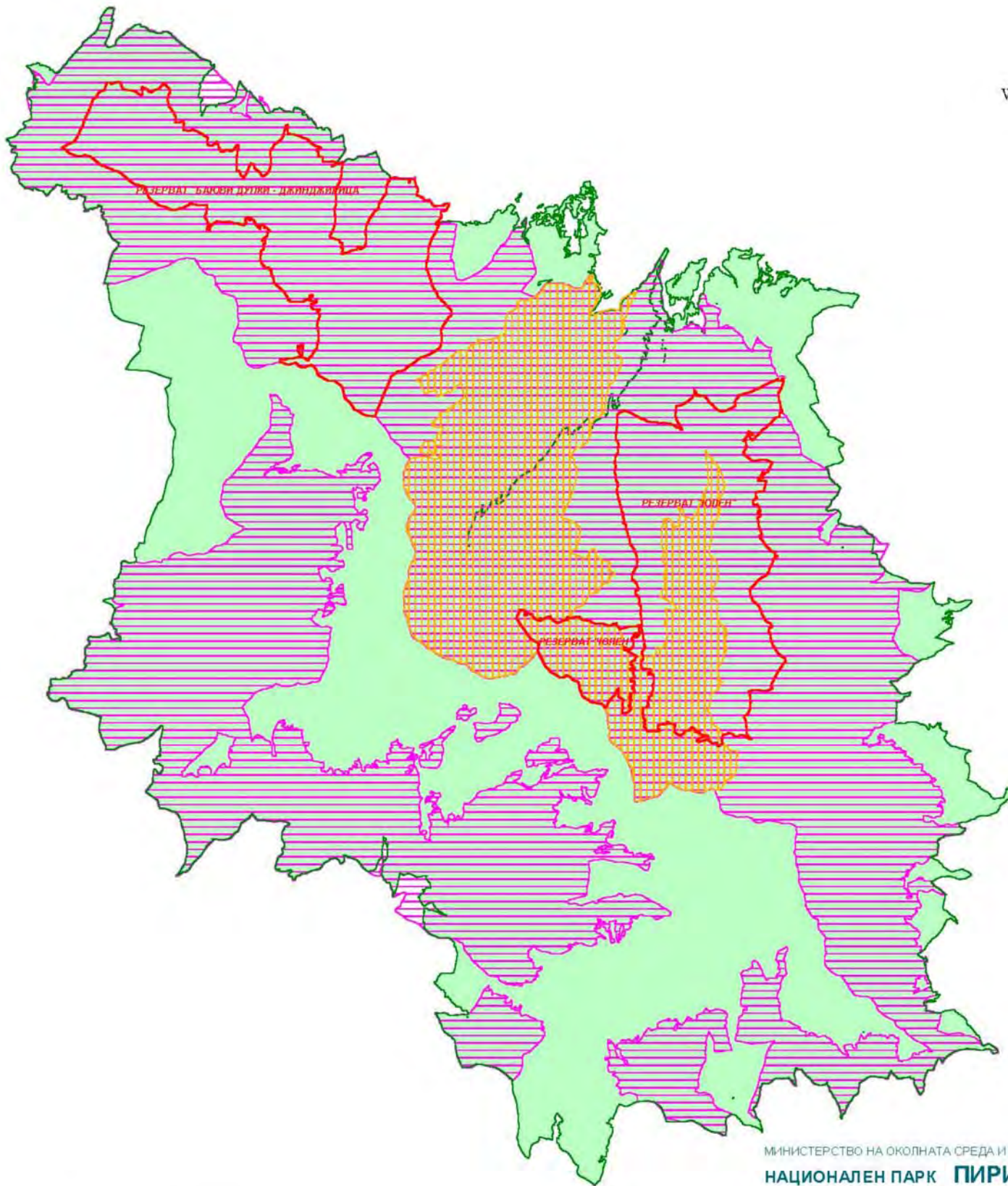
MAP № : 2 General Information

Park's borders, adjacent settlements, main sites

2003



Инициатори от България - национална програма за опазване на биоразнообразието.
Разработчик, събираща и разпространява на картите на околните обекти - Министерство на околната среда и водите.
* Географска информационна система и печат: фирма ПРОЛЕС със съдействието на ESRI
* Geographic information system and print: PROLES Ltd



ОБЯВЯВАНЕ НА НАРОДЕН ПАРК ВИХРЕН ВЪРХУ ПЛОЩ 6736 ХА
/ Заповед на КГП № 3074 /08.11.1962 г./

Declaration of Vihren People's Park on an area of 6736 ha /08.11.1962 /



ОБЯВЯВАНЕ НА НАРОДЕН ПАРК ПИРИН ВЪРХУ ПЛОЩ 26413,8 ХА
/ Заповед на МГОПС № 3011 /30.09.1974 г./

Declaration of Pirin People's Park on an area of 26413,8 ha /30.09.1974 /



РАЗШИРЕНИЕ НА ТЕРИТОРИЯТА НА НАРОДЕН ПАРК ПИРИН С 12639,9 ХА
/ Заповед на КОПС № 1036 /17.11.1987 г./

Enlargement of the territory of Pirin NP by 12639,9 ha /17.11.1987 /



ГРАНИЦА НА РЕЗЕРВАТ
Юлен - Заповед на МОС №223/26.08.1994 г. - площ 3156,2 ха
Байови дупки - Джинджирица - Заповед на КОПС № 976/26.12.1979 г. - площ 2873,0 ха

BOUNDARY OF RESERVE

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ

НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН

ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОВЕГРАД

ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ

КАРТА № 4 Обща информация

Обявяване на Парка и резерватите в него и промени на границите

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

MAP № 4 General Information

Designation of the Park and the Reserves within its borders, changes of the Park borders

2003

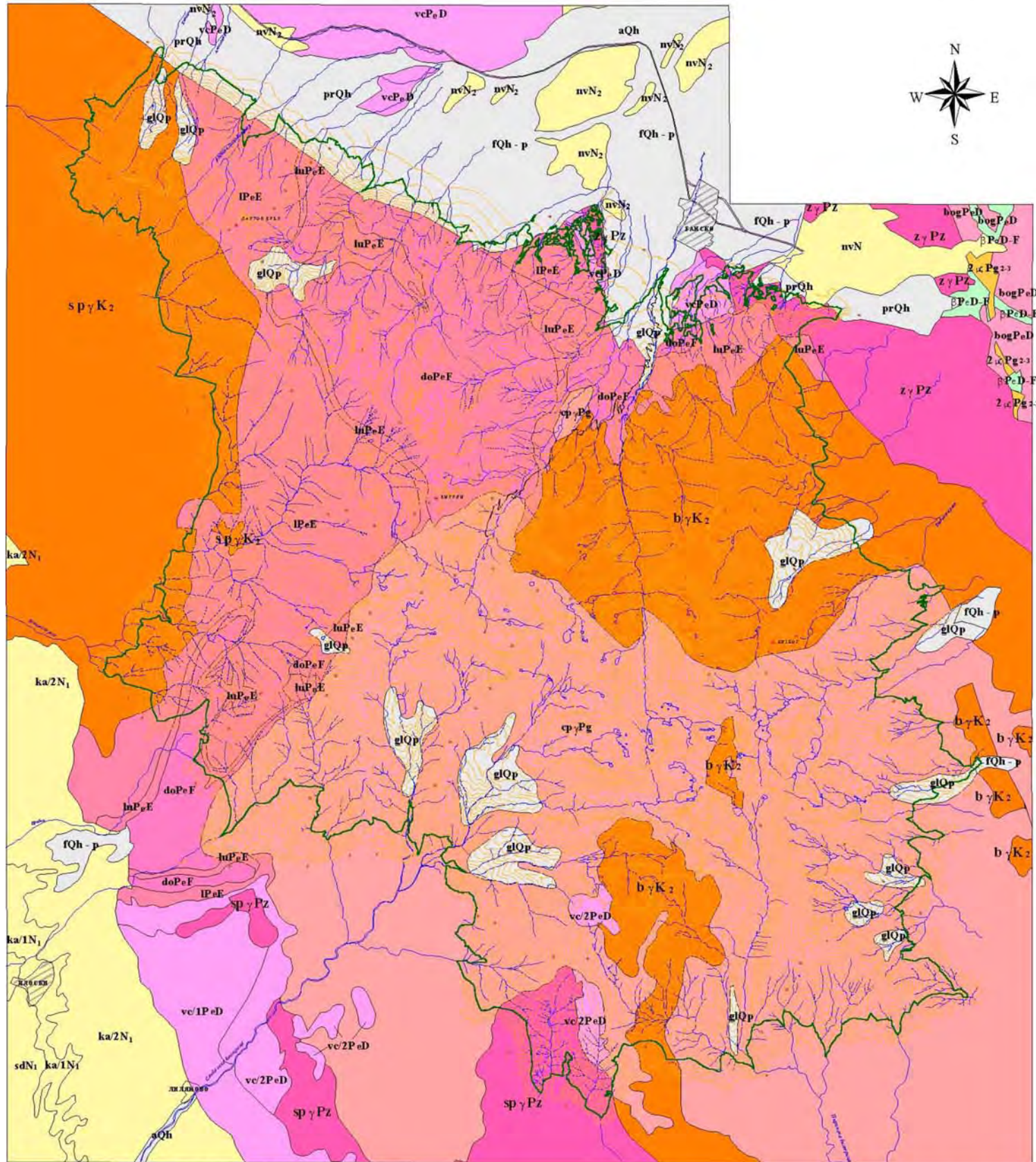
0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

Изработен от Българо - швейцарска програма за опазване на биоразнообразието

Равномащабно, преработка и разпространение на картите се извършва със съгласието на Министерството на околната среда и водите

* Географска информационна система и лекции: фирма ПРОБЕС със съдействието на ESRI

* Geographic information system and print: PROLES Ltd



У С Л О В Н И З Н А Ц И

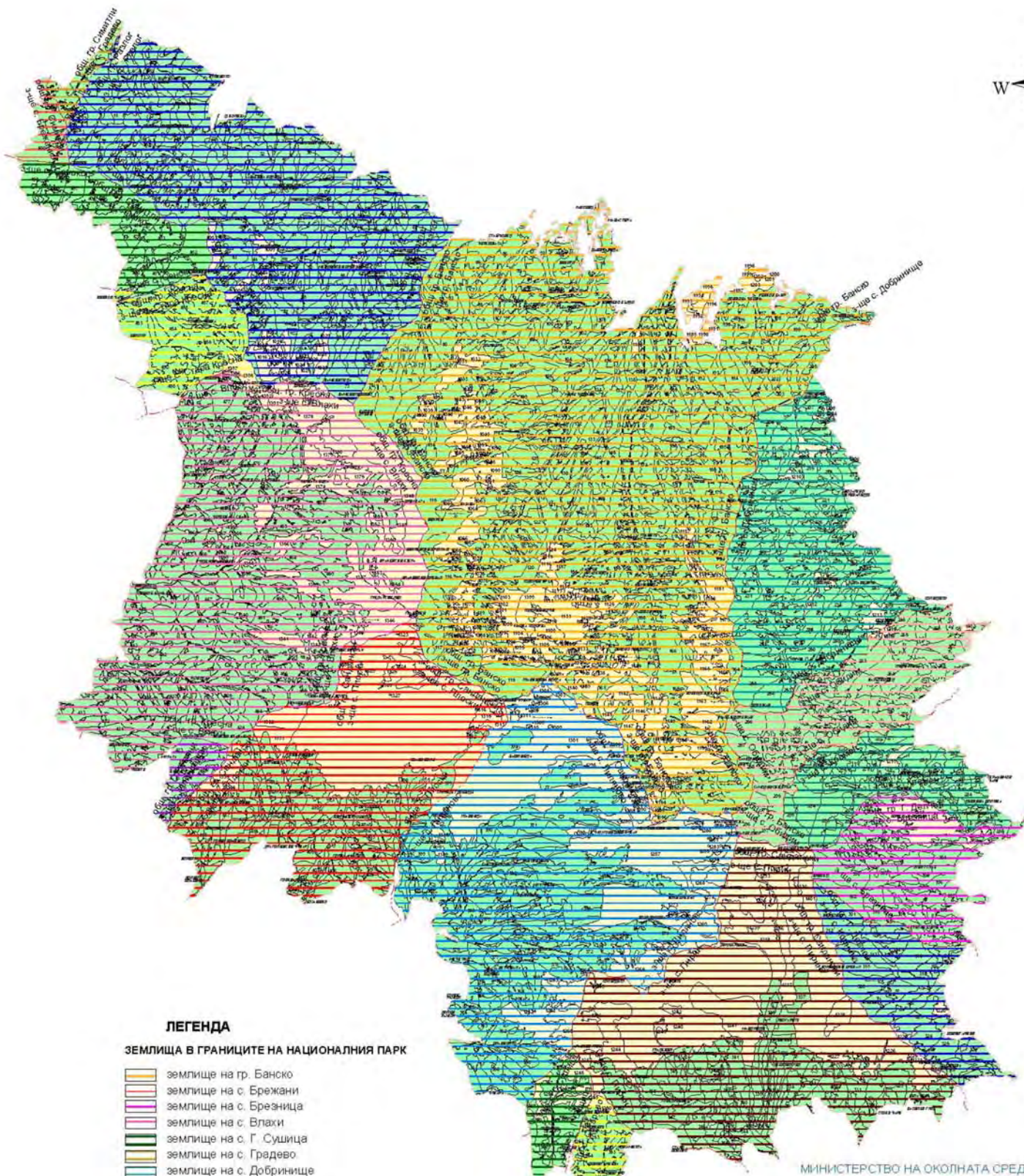
КВАТЕРНЕР	ПАЛЕОГЕН	ДОКАМБИРИЙ
aQh Алувиални образувания - руслове и наплавачни тераси (чакъл, пясък, глина)	2 (c, Pg 2-3) Вулкано-платоизменен комплекс (чакъл и глина)	βPcD-F Мезозойска надгрупа
prQh Педерозанни образувания - чакълени конуси (чакъл, пясък)	cp, Pg Централнопланински мезозойски (различават се по височина) до алувиално-биогенни тераси	doPeF КЕНОБЕРИДИДСКА ГРУПА
glQp Ледникови образувания (матури, ледникова)	sp, γK2 Горна креда	lnPeE СИТОВСКА ГРУПА
fQh - p Речни терасови образувания - чакълени конуси (матури, чакъл, пясък)	b, γK2 Порфиризирани в олигоцен тераси (бялоси конуси)	IPeE Беловодска надгрупа (с включеност на Беловодска надгрупа)
НЕОГЕН		
svN2 Надморската скапа (в долинно-планинска зона)	sp, γPz Палеогенова и кварцовитова (железиста) скапа (чакълени конуси)	vcPeD Високопланинска скапа (в анфиболитови, базалтови и фойзитови маси, чакълени конуси, алувиални конуси)
sdN1 Среденоска скапа (чакълени конуси)	z, γPz Порфиризирани и кварцовитова (железиста) скапа (железиста скапа)	vc/1PeD Ситовска група
ka/2N1 Каледонска скапа (пясък, чакъл, глина)		vc/2PeD Високопланинска скапа (в анфиболитови, базалтови и фойзитови маси, чакълени конуси, алувиални конуси)
		hogPeD Битуминоза терасовидна скапа (битуминоза скапа)

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ
НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН
 ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОВЕГРАД
ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ
 КАРТА № 5 Характеристика на аботиотичните фактори
Геолого - петрографска карта
PIRIN NATIONAL PARK
MANAGEMENT PLAN
 MAP № 5 Characteristic of the abiotic features
Geological map
 2003

Изработен от Българо - швейцарска програма за опазване на биоразнообразието

Размножаване, преработка и разпространение на картите се извършва със съгласието на Министерството на околната среда и водите

* Географска информационна система и печат: Фирма PRODEC със съдействието на ESRI
 * Geographic information system and print: PROLES Ltd



ЛЕГЕНДА

ЗЕМЛИЩА В ГРАНИЦИТЕ НА НАЦИОНАЛНИЯ ПАРК

- землище на гр. Банско
- землище на с. Брежани
- землище на с. Брезница
- землище на с. Влахи
- землище на с. Г. Сушица
- землище на с. Градево
- землище на с. Добринище
- землище на с. Илинденци
- землище на с. Корница
- землище на с. Кремен
- землище на с. Лиляново
- землище на с. Обидим
- землище на с. Пирин
- землище на с. Плоски
- землище на гр. Разлог
- землище на с. Стара Кресна
- землище на с. Сенокос
- землище на с. Сугарево
- земеделски земи в Националния парк
Agricultural Areas within the National Park
- гори в Националния парк
Forests within the National Park
- граница между отдели
Boundary of Forests Section
- граница на землище
Settlements Lands
- граница на община
Municipality Boundary

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ
НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН

ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОЕВГРАД

ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ

КАРТА № 3 Обща информация

фондова и административна принадлежност

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

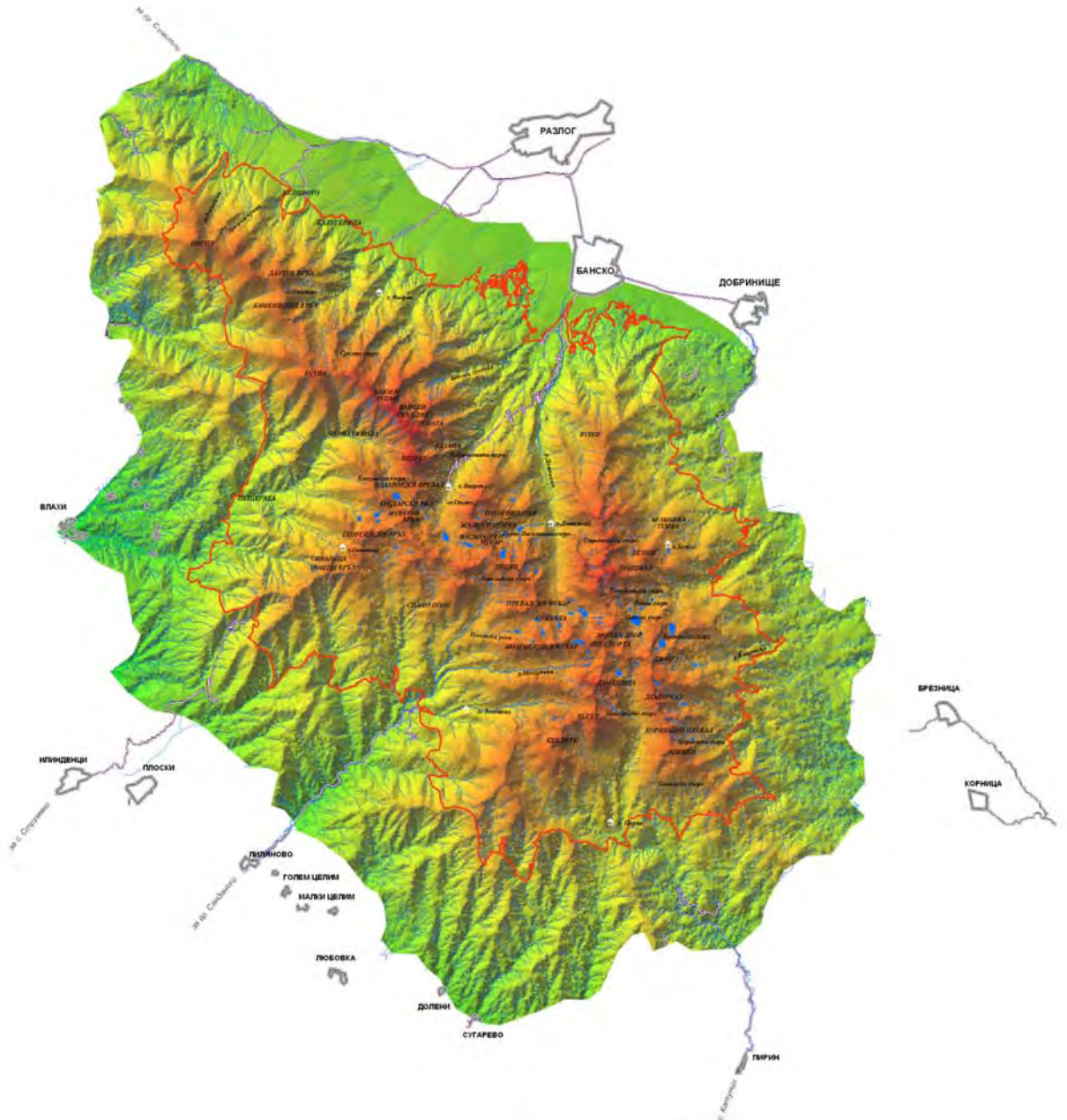
MAP № 3 General information
Fund and administrative affiliation

2003

Изработен от Българо - швейцарска програма за опазване на биоразнообразието

Разработено, преработено и разпространено на картите се извършва със съгласието на Министерството на околната среда и водите

* Географска информационна система и печат: фирма PROPEC със съдействието на ESRI
* Geographic information system and print: PROPEC Ltd

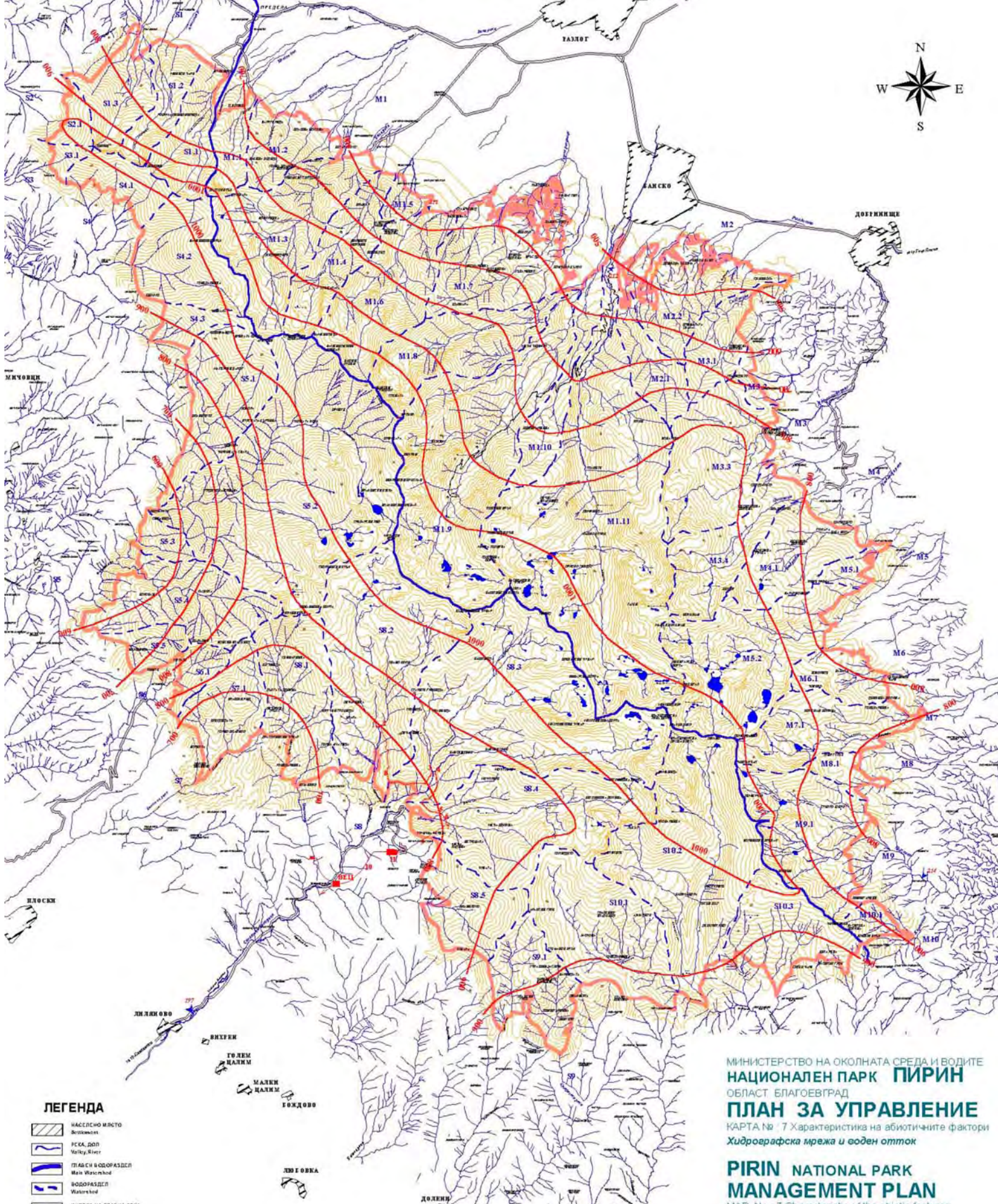


-  Граница на парк
Boundary of Pirin NP
-  Река
River
-  Шосе
Paved Road
-  Населено място
Settlement
-  Езеро
Lake
-  Хижа
Chalet

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДТЕ
НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН
ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОЕВГРАД
ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ
КАРТА № 6 Характеристика на абстрактните фактори
Релеф

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK
MANAGEMENT PLAN
MAP No. 6 Characteristics of the abstract factors
Relief
2003

Издание 01.05.2003 г. www.pirin.bg
© Министерство на околната среда и водите
Телефон: 074 661 11 11; 074 661 11 12; 074 661 11 13
Факс: 074 661 11 14



ЛЕГЕНДА

-  НАСЕЛНО МЯСТО
Settlement
-  РЪКА, ДОЛ
Valley, River
-  ПЛАСИ В ОБОРАЗЕЛ
Main Watershed
-  ВОДОРАЗДЕЛ
Watershed
-  M1
ИНДЕКС НА ГЛАВНА РЪКА
Main River Index
-  M1.1
ИНДЕКС НА РЪКА, ДОЛ
НАСЕЛНО МЯСТО/River, Valley Index
-  ДЕРИВАЦИЯ
Denivelation
-  212
ИДРОГРАФИЧНА СТАНЦИЯ №
Hydrographic Station No
-  ГРАНИЦА НА ПИРИН
Boundary of Pirin NP
-  ИЗОЛИНИИ НА ОТНОШНИ ВИСОЧИНИ 9 (жм) (ПСРНОД 1934 - 2000 *)
Outline - Contour lines

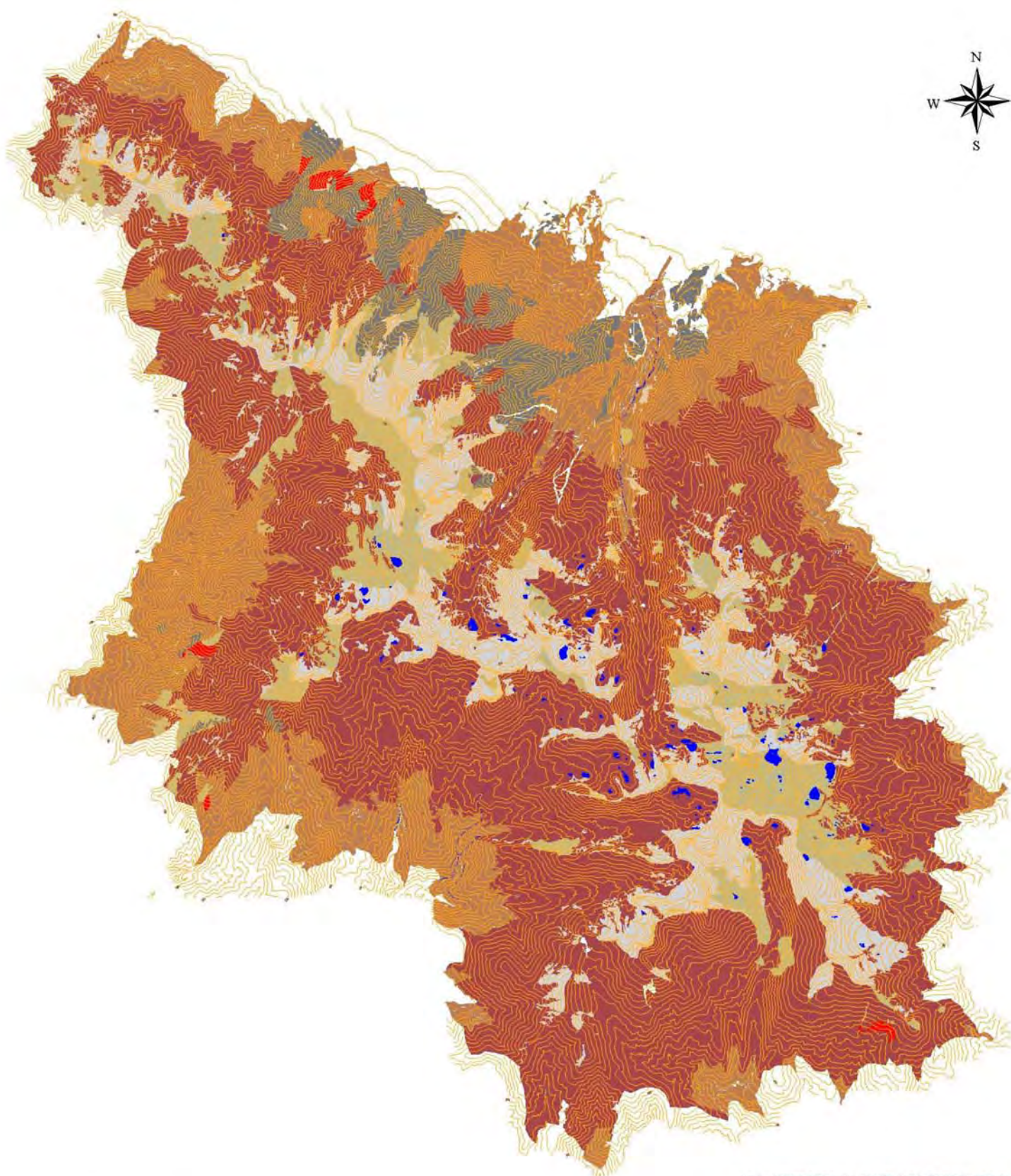
МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ
НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН
 ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОЕВГРАД
ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ
 КАРТА № 7 Характеристика на абиотичните фактори
Хидрографска мрежа и воден отток

**PIRIN NATIONAL PARK
 MANAGEMENT PLAN**
 MAP No 7 Characteristic of the abiotic factors
Hydrographic network - water flow








2003
 0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

Изработен от Българо - швейцарска програма за опазване на биоразнообразието

Размножаване, преработка и разпространение на картите се извършва със съгласието на Министерството на околната среда и водите
 * Географска информационна система и техник: фирма PROLECS със съдействието на ESRI
 * Geographic information system and print: PROLECS Ltd



ЛЕГЕНДА

	ПЛАНИНСКИ КАФЯВИ ГОРСКИ ПОЧВИ (CAMBRISOLS)
	ПЛАНИНСКИ ТЪМНОЦВЕТНИ ГОРСКИ ПОЧВИ (UMBRIC CAMBRISOLS)
	ПЛАНИНСКО - ЛИВАДНИ ПОЧВИ (RANKERS)
	ХУМУСНО - КАРБОНАТНИ ПОЧВИ (RENDZINAS)
	ЕРОЗИРАНИ ПОЧВИ (ERODED PLACES)
	СКАЛИ И СКАЛНИ ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ (ROCKS)
	ЕЗЕРО (LAKE)

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ
НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН
ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОЕВГРАД
ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ
КАРТА № 9 Характеристика на абиотичните фактори
Почви

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

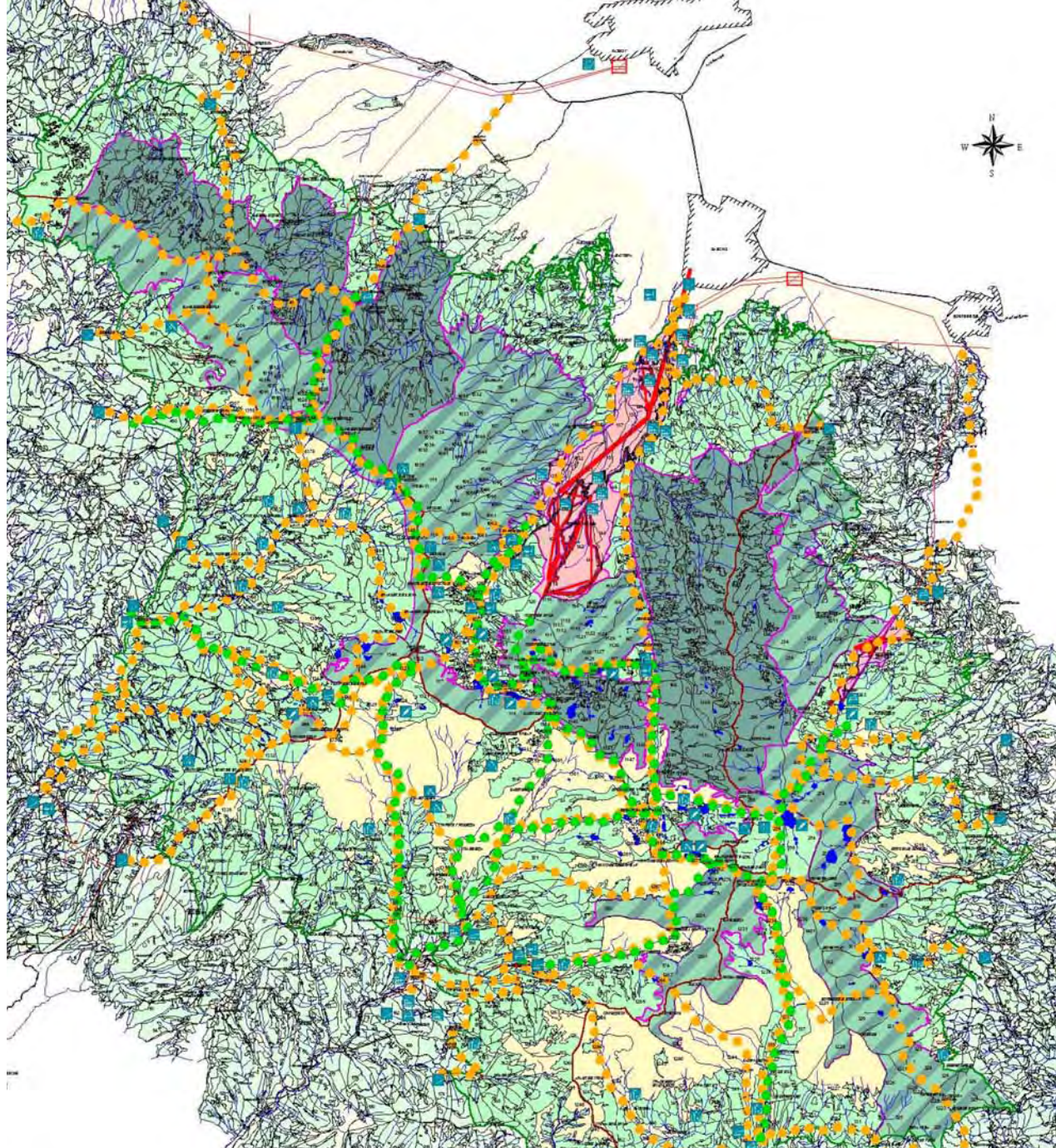
MAP No 9 Characteristic of the abiotic factors
Soils

2003
0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

Изработен от Българо - швейцарска програма за опазване
на биоразнообразието

Размножаване, преработка и разпространение на картите се извършва
със съгласието на Министерството на околната среда и водите

* Географска информационна система и печат: фирма ПРОЛЕС със съдействието на ESRI
* Geographic information system and print: PROLES Ltd



ЛЕГЕНДА

-  ТРАКТОР НА АСПАЛТОВ ПОВЪХ (ROADWAY OF ASPHALT)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (GRAVEL ROAD)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (DIRT ROAD)
-  РЕКА (RIVER)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (STREAM)
-  ТРАКТОР НА АСПАЛТОВ ПОВЪХ (ROADWAY OF ASPHALT)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (GRAVEL ROAD)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (DIRT ROAD)
-  ТРАКТОР НА АСПАЛТОВ ПОВЪХ (ROADWAY OF ASPHALT)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (GRAVEL ROAD)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (DIRT ROAD)
-  ТРАКТОР НА АСПАЛТОВ ПОВЪХ (ROADWAY OF ASPHALT)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (GRAVEL ROAD)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (DIRT ROAD)
-  ТРАКТОР НА АСПАЛТОВ ПОВЪХ (ROADWAY OF ASPHALT)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (GRAVEL ROAD)
-  ПЪТОВИ ПОВЪХИ (DIRT ROAD)

-  СЪВЕСТОУВАЕ ВОДОСЪ
-  СЪВЕСТОУВАЕ ВОДОСЪ
-  СЪВЕСТОУВАЕ ВОДОСЪ
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-  СЪВЕСТОУВАЕ ВОДОСЪ

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ
НАЦИОНАЛЕН ПАРК ПИРИН
 ОБЛАСТ БЛАГОЕВГРАД
ПЛАН ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ
 КАРТА № 19 Норми, режими, условия и препоръки
 за осъществяване на дейностите
ФУНКЦИОНАЛНО ЗОНИРАНЕ
PIRIN NATIONAL PARK
MANAGEMENT PLAN
 MAP № 19 Norms, regimes, conditions and
 recommendations for the implementation of activities
ZONING

2003
 Изработен от Българо - швейцарска програма за опазване
 на биоразнообразието
 Разновиди, преработен и разпространен на картите се извършва
 със съдействието на Министерството на околната среда и водите
 * Географска информационна система и проект: Фирма EP/GEOS със съдействието на ESR
 * Geographic information system and print: FROLET LTD

InterLang

Translation Company



Translation from Bulgarian

Excerpts

THE STATE GAZETTE, no.255 of 13 February 1934
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND STATE PROPERTIES

Department of Forests and Hunting

ORDINANCE

no. 1388

On the grounds of (i) Articles 20, 25 and 26 of *Forest Act*, (ii) Memorandum no. 31 dd. 28 September 1933 submitted by the Chief Inspector of Forest Affairs and (iii) the opinion of the Forest Council as expressed in Minutes 52 of 19 October last year;

I HEREBY ORDER:

To protect as a valuable natural monument at least part of the black and white pine stands in Pirin Mountain, which, owing to their attribution as felling areas of the nearby populated settlements, are doomed to disappear, the following are hereby declared as strictly protected vicinities: Bayuvi Dupki, Dunino Kuche and Banski Suhodol, said vicinities located in the lands of the towns Razlog and Bankso and being part of the felling areas of said two towns, with boundaries as follows:

Eastwards: the ridge, which starts from Peak Bayuvi Dupki, descends northeast through Peak Katzata (elevation 2420), continues along the eastern side of Ravine Banski Suhodol and along the bare crest descends to Ravine Bayuvi Dupki, up to the point where it merges with Ravine Banski Suhodol;

Northwards: from the point, where the streams of Ravines Bayuvi Dupki and Banski Suhodol merge into each other, the boundary ascends to the ridge at Meadow Dolnia Yalovarnik;

Westwards: from Dolnia Yalovarnik the boundary ascends along the ridge, passes through Gornia Yalovarnik (Haidushka Poliana) and, always along the ridge, reaches Peak Suhodol (elevation 2820).

Southwards: from Peak Suhodol (elevation 2820) the boundary turns eastwards and, always along the ridge of Pirin mountain, reaches Peak Bayuvi Dupki, embracing an area of about 7000 decares.

The forests in the above-stated boundaries and vicinities are hereby declared a Reserve and it shall not be allowed there to herd any livestock or cut any trees other than those naturally withered or felled by natural calamities.

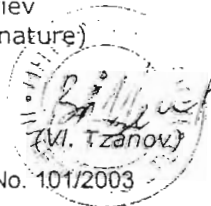
Sofia, 29 January 1934

1-/7905/-1

Minister (*signed*) K. Muraviev

True copy. Secretary: (*signature*)

Translation true, correct and in accordance with the original:



Translation work carried out to DIN 2345, DIN – Reg. No. 101/2003

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATERS

ORDER no. RD-395

15 October 1999

On the premises of Art. 42(5) in conjunction with Art. 18, Art. 41, Paragraphs 3 and 4, and §2(1) of the *Protected Territories Act*:

I. I hereby change the category of Peoples' Park Pirin, declared as such by Order no. 3074 dd. 08.11. 1962 issued by the Chairman of the Committee for Forests and Forest Industry (the State Gazette, no. 43/1963), and amended by the following Orders:

- no. 3011 dd. 30.09.1974 issued by the Minister of Forests and Environmental Protection (SG no.85/1974);
- no. 594 dd. 03.03.1976 issued by the Minister of Forests and Environmental Protection (SG no.24/1974);
- no. 1036 dd. 17.11.1987 issued by the Chairman of the Committee for Protection of the Environment under the Council of Ministers (SG no. 94/1987);

to a National Park bearing the same name.

II. I hereby reduce the area of National Park Pirin by 134.50 hectares, as follows:

II.1. From Razlog Municipality, Blagoevgrad District, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 21 a-c, 1 and 22 a-d; with a total area of 58.10 hectares;

II. 2. From Sandanski Municipality, Blagoevgrad District, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 378 a-c, 4 and 7; 379-a and 3-6; 380-a (section of 5.0 ha), 4 and 5; 397 f-h, j, k, m, 4 (section of 0.3 ha) and 5; 398-1; 399-j, 5 and 6; 404-8 (section of 0.2 ha); 405-f (section of 3.5 ha), 4 and 5, with a total area of 76.4 ha.

III. National Park Pirin shall comprise the following territories:

III.1 Forest lands with a total area of 29,999.40 hectares, as follows:

Blagoevgrad District

1. From Razlog Municipality, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 5-20; 21 d-g, 2 and 3; 22 e-h, 1 and 2; and 23-82, with a total area of 4,201.40 hectares;

2. From Bansko Municipality, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 83-299 with a total area of 12,234.00 hectares;

3. From Gotze Delchev Municipality, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 300-327 with a total area of 1,501.30 hectares;

Translation work carried out to DIN 2345, **DIN** – Reg. No. 101/2003

4. From Sandanski Municipality, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 328÷377; 378 d÷g, 1÷3, 5, 6 and 8÷11; 379 b÷j, 1, 2 and 7÷11; 380-a (section of 6.80 ha), b÷g, 1÷3 and 6÷17; 381÷396; 397 a÷e, i, k, n÷q, 1÷3, 4 (section of 0.3 ha) and 6; 398 a÷h and 2÷6; 399 a÷i, k, l and 1÷4; 400÷403; 404 a÷e, 1÷7, 8 (section of 0.3 ha); 405 a÷e, f (section of 6.8 ha), g, h and 1÷3; and 406÷420, with a total area of 6,231.40 hectares;

5. From Strumiani Municipality, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 421÷423 with a total area of 179.20 hectares;

6. From Kresna Municipality, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 424÷489 with a total area of 4,568.50 hectares;

7. From Simitli Municipality, as per the 1993 Park Layout Plan of Peoples' Park Pirin: Sectors 1÷4 and 490÷501 with a total area of 1,083.60 hectares.

III.2. Alpine pastures and meadows with a total area of 10,333.00 hectares, as follows:

Blagoevgrad District

1. From Razlog Municipality: 248.80 ha;
2. From Bansko Municipality: 2,485.30 ha;
3. From Gotze Delchev Municipality: 22.10 ha;
4. From Sandanski Municipality: 6,130.80 ha;
5. From Kresna Municipality: 1,446.00 ha.

The total area of National Park Pirin is 40,332.40 hectares.

Said total area includes the areas of the Reserves within the Park.

This Order repeals the following Orders: no. 3074 dd. 08.11. 1962 issued by the Chairman of the Committee for Forests and Forest Industry (the State Gazette, no. 43/1963), no. 3011 dd. 30.09.1974 issued by the Minister of Forests and Environmental Protection (SG no.85/1974), no. 594 dd. 03.03.1976 issued by the Minister of Forests and Environmental Protection (SG no.24/1974), and no. 1036 dd. 17.11.1987 issued by the Chairman of the Committee for Protection of the Environment under the Council of Ministers (SG no. 94/1987).

Within one year after the publication of this Order in the State Gazette, the Directorate of National Park Pirin must identify the borderlines of the Park *in situ* with durable and clearly seen markings.

The foregoing changes to be reflected in the State Register of Protected Territories.

Minister: E. Maneva

28107

Translation true, correct and in accordance with the original:



(Vi. Tzanov)

InterLang

Translation Company



Translation from Bulgarian

Copy!

ORDER

no. 3011

Sofia, 30 September 1974

To protect the specific character of the central parts of Pirin Mountain, in which the alpine nature, the biological values, the existing elements and the relict plant and animal species represent scientific and cultural values from the viewpoint of the perspectives for development of domestic and international tourism, as outlined in the approved guidelines for territorial development of "Recreation and Vacation Complex – Pirin Region", I hereby repeal Order no. 3074/8.11.1962 issued by the Chief Directorate of Forests under the Council of Ministers, and on the legal grounds of Art. 17/Art. 22 of the *Nature Protection Act* and Art. 5 of the *Forest Act*,

I HEREBY DECLARE

THAT the following areas shall be PEOPLES' PARK PIRIN:

1. From Forest Farm Bansko: Sectors 2, 3, 7÷11 inclusive, 16÷100 inclusive, 104, 105, and Parts I÷VIII inclusive, with a total area of 6,509.10 hectares;
2. From Forest Farm Dobrinishte: Sectors 1, 2, 13914, 15, 22÷29 inclusive, 30a, 31a, 31a÷31e inclusive, 31(1), 31(2), 32a÷32g, 33a÷33f, 34a,b,c, 36÷39 inclusive, 40b÷40g, 42, 144 ...147, 148, 155 and 211÷258 inclusive, with a total area of 3,823.20 hectares;
3. From Forest Farm Katuntzi: Sectors 1÷5 inclusive, 7÷9 inclusive, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 30÷38 inclusive and 55, with a total area of 1,069.40 hectares;
4. From Forest Farm Gotze Delchev: Sectors 1÷23 inclusive and 72, with a total area of 1,285.20 hectares;
5. From Forest Farm Sandanski: Sectors 12÷18 inclusive, 93, 100, 103÷108 inclusive, 117÷125 inclusive, 127÷137 inclusive, 137a, 138÷156 inclusive and 168÷172 inclusive, with a total area of 3,345.70 hectares;
6. From Forest Farm Gara Pirin: Sectors 162÷183 inclusive, 184 – the part above the road, 185÷195 inclusive, 197,198 and 200÷205, with a total area of 3,014.30 hectares;
7. From Forest Farm Simitli: Sectors 332, 332A, 333, 333A, 424, 425, 473, 505, 506A, 508, 509, 513, 514, 515 and 516 (*in handwriting: 1088.0 ha?*);

Translation work carried out to DIN 2345, DIN – Reg. No. 101/2003

8. From Forest Farm Razlog: Sectors 37D, 37L, 37(1), 38, 39, 40D-40L inclusive, 40(1), 40(2), 41-50 inclusive, 51 w/o Sub-sector (a), 54a-54z, 56, 57 w/o Sub-sector (a), 58-63 inclusive, 64 w/o Sub-sectors (1), (2) and (a), 65e, 65n, 65g, 65h, 65(4), 65(5), 66-73 inclusive, 75-83 inclusive, 90 w/o Sub-sectors (a), (1) and (2), 91d -91 inclusive, 92-101 inclusive, 102 w/o Sub-sector (e) and 103-118 inclusive, with a total area of 4,337.20 hectares;

9. From the Common Pasture Fund: the areas as agreed with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and included in Peoples' Park Vihren by virtue of said Order 3074/8.11.1962, with a total area of 1,541.70 hectares;

THUS the total area of PEOPLES' PARK PIRIN comes to 26,115.80 hectares (*in handwriting*: 264138).

The Forest Farms are requested to confirm *in situ* the boundaries of PP PIRIN with clearly visible markings.

PP PIRIN includes the Reserves Bayuvi Dupki, Seimen Tepe and Malka Dzhindzhiritza, continuing therein the existing preservation regime as prescribed per the *Nature Protection Act*.

As regards the regime in the other areas, a Detailed Development Plan will be created to block the territory of PP PIRIN and prescribe silviculture, forest-keeping and other activities as appropriate.

The exploitation of forest resources as well as the use of existing hovels, hotels, recreation homes and the like; the construction of new sites, the construction of new roads and the use of roads will all take place in accordance with said Detailed Development Plan and after defending each site individually with an appropriate Site Project in line with the requirements laid down in Section 2 of Ministerial Ordinance 31/19 October 1973.

Within the territory of the Park it shall be prohibited to:

1. Break, uproot and peel whole trees or parts thereof, carve names, notch, paint, nail, pick flowers, cut dwarf trees, drive and park motor vehicles outside the places determined by the Ministry of Forests and Environmental Protection, as well as any activities that lead to damaging or devastation of the flora;
2. Light fires outside the places allocated for the purpose;
3. Chase, hunt or kill any animals as well as collect or break bird eggs, or damage bird nests;
4. Hunt or shoot with firearms and other means outside the places (zones) allocated for this purpose;
5. Pollute ... (illegible);
6. Fish in certain water basins, which will be determined either in the Detailed Development Plan of the National Park or at discretion of the Forest Farm to ensure reproduction of the fishing wealth in the rivers of the Park;
7. Damage the existing roads or design new ones without permission of the Ministry of Forests and Environmental Protection as well as drive any kind of vehicle on the alleys allocated for pedestrians and skiers;
8. Damage by ripping-off, blasting, digging or scratching any rocks or rock formations situated within boundaries of the National Park;
9. Dig, excavate sand, gravel, clay, fuller's earth, or collect humus-containing soil;

- .0. Damage howsoever any existing state-owned or public buildings/structures;
11. Construct buildings or roads outside the places allocated for the purpose either in the Detailed Development Plan or in Projects duly approved and endorsed pursuant to Paragraph 2 of Ministerial Ordinance 31/73 and the *Nature Protection Act*.
12. Damage or erase, in whatever way and by whatever means, the official notices, signboards, guideposts or other markings, or affix new ones without permission of the relevant Forest Farms.

Until said Detailed Development Plan is created and approved, and the appropriate forest-keeping and other activities designed, the areas within the Peoples' Park shall be managed and used pursuant to the existing forest- and land-management plans. Where the measures foreseen in the latter are inconsistent with the regime of the Peoples' Park, the Forest Farms and the Regional Inspectorate of Forests and Environmental Protection shall propose for approval by the Ministry of Forests and Environmental Protection appropriate amendments to sustain the status and impact of the natural environment, and the cleanness of waters.

Any violators of this Order shall be penalized pursuant to the provisions of the *Nature Protection Act*.

This Order shall enter into force upon its publication in the State Gazette.

MINISTER: (signed) Y. Markov

[seal]

True copy: (signature)

Translation true, correct and in accordance with the original:



(VI. Tzanov)

Translation from Bulgarian

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

ORDER

No. RD-223

Sofia, 26 August 1994

On the premises of Art. 16 and Art. 22 of the *Nature Protection Act*, and for the purpose of preserving, without human intervention, specimens of forest, sub-alpine and alpine eco-systems on silicate rock substrates, as well as the habitats of rare, endangered and endemic species of the fauna and flora,

I HEREBY DECLARE

THAT the lands of Bansko, Sofia District shall be Reserve YULEN.

The Reserve shall comprise 3156.20 hectares of Peoples' Park Pirin as per the Park Layout Plan of 1990, as follows:

1. Forest lands: Sectors 160-a, b, d and 1; 161-a, b, c, d, e, f, and 3+20; 164; 165-a and 1+12; 166+182; 188-a, d, 3 and 4; 189-a, b, c, d and 2; 190; 191-f, g, h, i, k and l; 204; 206-a, b and c; 216-a; 217-a, b (section of 10.4 ha) and c; 218; 219; 220-a, b (section of 0.5 ha) and d (section of 2.7 ha); 229; 230; 231; 232; 233-a and 1; 236; 251; 252; 253; 254; 255; 256 and 257, with a total area of 2385 hectares.

2. Arable lands: Plots with the following cadastral plan numbers: 105 (section of 33.8 ha); 106; 107; 108; 132; 133 (section of 18.5 ha); 134+146; 149; 150; 151 and 159+187, with a total area of 771.20 hectares.

Any human activities shall be prohibited in the Reserve, except transit movement of tourists along the predefined tourist routes.

Within six months after the publication of this Order in the State Gazette, the Directorate of Peoples' Park Pirin must identify the borderlines of the Reserve with durable and clearly seen markings.

The site to be entered in the State Register of Protected Sites.

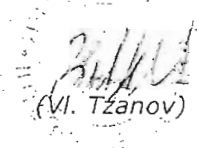
Any violator of this Order shall be penalized pursuant to Art. 31 of the *Administrative Violations and Penalties Act*, unless liable to a more severe penalty.

This Order shall enter into force upon its publication in the State Gazette.

MINISTER: Dr. V. Bossevski (signature - ill.)

[seal]

Translation true, correct and in accordance with the original:


(V. Tzanov)

Translation work carried out to DIN 2345, **DIN** -- Reg. No. 101/2003

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Order № 1036

17 November 1987

In accordance with Art. 17 and 22 of the Nature Conservation Act and on the basis of additional investigations, Orders № 3011/30.IX.1974 (SG № 85/1974) and № 594 of 3.III.1976 (SG № 24/1976) on Pirin National Park shall be amended as follows:

- I. The area of Pirin National Park under Order № 594 of 3.III.1976 shall be determined as 27442.9 ha in accordance with the 1979 Park Planning Project.
- II. An area of 12 639.9 ha shall be included within the boundaries of Pirin National Park, including the following:
 1. Forestry land with a total area of 4363.9 ha:
 - a) Kresna Forestry Reserve sections 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160 and 161 under the 1987 forestry planning project, with a total area of 1558 ha;
 - b) Dobrinishte Forestry Reserve (formerly Bansko Forestry Reserve) sections 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 101, 102, 103, 106, 107, 108 and 109 under the 1963 forestry planning project, with a total area of 878.7 ha;
 - c) Razlog Forestry Reserve section 235 under the 1981 forestry planning project with a total area of 13.3 ha;
 - d) Dobrinishte Forestry Reserve sections 3; 5 a, b, c (section 2 ha); 6 a, b (section 6 ha), 1; 8 o, p; 9 a, b, c, [ю] (section 0.8 ha); 11 a, b, c, d (section 9 ha), k; 12; 16 a (section 15 ha), b; 31 b; 32 h 1, 2; 34 d (section 2 ha); 41 b (section 12 ha), c, 4 (section 0.2 ha) and 6 under the 1974 forestry planning project, with a total area of 220.8 ha;
 - e) Katuntzi Forestry Reserve sections: 6, 10, 11, 13, 17, 520 under the 1974 forestry planning project, with a total area of 864.5 ha;
 - f) Melnik Forestry Reserve sections: 36, 37, 38, 61, 62 under the 1987 forestry planning project with a total area of 482.2 ha;
 - g) Sandanski Forestry Reserve sections: 159 a (section 8 ha), b, c, d, e, f, g, h, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; 160 f (section 2 ha), g (section 1 ha), i, k, l, 3; 166 c; 167 a (section 9 ha), c, d, e, f, g, 2 and 3 under the 1987 forestry planning project with a total area of 130.6 ha;
 - h) Mesta Forestry Reserve sections 18; 19; 20; 26; 27 a, 1; 28; 29; 30 and 31 under the 1985 forestry planning project, with a total area of 513.8 ha;
 - i) Gotse Delchev Forestry Reserve sections 36; 47 a, b, 1, 2; 48 and 67 under the 1976 forestry planning project, with a total area of 202 ha.
 2. Agricultural land: upland pasture located between the forestry land included in the Pirin National Park, with a total area of 8276 ha:

- a) from Katuntzi agro-industrial complex: 3000 ha;
- b) from Sandanski agro-industrial complex: 4000 ha;
- c) from Kresna agro-industrial complex: 1276 ha.

III An area of 16.1 ha shall be excluded from the boundaries of Pirin National Park, including the following:

- 1. Dobrinishte Forestry Reserve sections 36 d (section 3 ha); 39 b (section 7 ha) and 3, with a total area of 10.1 ha;
- 2. Sandanski Forestry Reserve section 177 a with an area of 6 ha.

The total area of the Pirin National Park shall be 40066.7 ha.

Until the adoption of a comprehensive park planning project in the forestry land included within the boundaries of the national park, only selective, regeneration and sanitary felling under currently valid forestry planning projects shall be permitted.

It shall be permitted to graze livestock on the upland pasture in the agricultural land, with the exception of goats.

The Pirin National Park Directorate shall mark the new boundaries of the national park with durable and clearly visible signs within six months of promulgation of this order in the State Gazette.

The amendments shall be entered into the State Register of Protected Natural Sites.

Infringement of this order shall be penalised in accordance with Art. 31 of the Administrative Offences and Penalties Act if not subject to heavier penalties.

This order shall enter into effect from the date of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

Chairman: N. Dyulgerov

InterLang

Translation Company



Translation from Bulgarian

In handwriting:
The State Gazette, no. 43/4.6.1963
Declared on 08.11.1962

ORDER
no. 3074

Pursuant to Art. 3 of the Decree on Protection of Homeland Nature

I H E R E B Y D E C L A R E

THAT the Vihren part of Pirin Mountain shall be PEOPLES' PARK VIHREN, such Peoples' Park to include: the basins of River Banderitza and River Damianitza, sectors 18 – 54 of Forest Farm Bansko with an area of 2908 hectares, and 3828 hectares of the alpine part of Pirin, the boundaries of said Peoples' Park being:

(a) E a s t : the economic boundaries of sectors 54, 53 and 51, Peak Komarevo, Peak Kaimakchal, Peak Strajite and Peak Malak Mangur Tepe;

(b) S o u t h : from Peak Malak Mangur Tepe westwards along the central ridge of Pirin Mountain, through the following Peaks: Djangal, Momin Dvor, Valevishki Chukari, Goliamata Strana, Valiavishki Chukar and Banderishki Chukar, up to Peak Murat Tepe;

(c) W e s t : Peak Ovinatia, Peak Vihren, Peak Kutelo, Palashica and the economic boundaries of sectors 25, 24, 23, 22, 18 and 19 of Forest Farm Bansko;

(d) N o r t h : arable lands of the town of Bansko.

Within the so-outlined boundaries, Peoples' Park Vihren comprises an area of 6212 hectares, spanning from absolute altitude 1100 meters to absolute altitude 2917 meters.

The territory of Peoples' Park Vihren to be marked *in situ* with durable and clearly seen signs, and the Peoples' Park as such to be entered in the State Register of Protected Sites.

Within the territory of Peoples' Park Vihren it shall be prohibited to:

1. Cut, break, uproot and peel whole trees or parts thereof, or cause damage to any tree in whatever manner and by whatever means, as well as carve signs, notch, paint, hammer nails or other objects and suchlike;
2. Herd livestock of any description and at any time;
3. Light fire at places other than the ones determined by the Forest Farm;
4. Chase, catch or kill any animal, collect or destroy bird eggs, or damage bird nests;
5. Hunt or shoot with any firearms, or blast any explosives;

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6. Pollute the rivers of dams, lakes, rivers and manmade ponds;
7. Damage or destroy any rocks and rock formations within the boundaries of the Park by ripping them off, digging, carving or scratching;
8. Damage the existing roads or build any new roads, or drive any vehicle on the alleys reserved for pedestrians and skiers;
9. Collect, dig or excavate any loam or soil;
10. Howsoever damage the existing state-owned or public buildings/structures;
11. Construct any buildings outside the plots allocated for that purpose in the Peoples' Park Development Plan;
12. Damage or erase, in whatever way and by whatever means, the official notices, signboards, guideposts or other markings, or affix new ones without permission of the Forest Farm.

Within the boundaries of the National Park, it shall be allowed to:

Subject to prior written permission of the Committee for Forests and Forest Industry:

- (a) pick certain plants for scientific purposes, in limited quantities;
- (b) curb the population of harmful game when it propagates to a threatening extent, in accordance with plans prepared in advance and approved by the Committee for Forests and Forest Industry;
- (c) afforest bare sites and renew the plantations.

The way of conducting the forest-keeping activities, the level of using the forests as well as the character and scope of afforestation, road systems, construction sites, etc. shall be determined when preparing the Working Plan of the Park.

Peoples' Park Vihren is included in the boundaries of Forest Farm Bansko, and shall be managed/operated by said Farm.

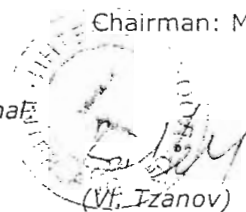
Any exceptions from this Order may only be allowed by the Committee for Forests and Forest Industry after consultation with the Committee for Protection of Nature under the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the State Committee for Construction and Architecture.

Any violator of this Order shall be penalized, pursuant to Article 9 of the Decree on Protection of Homeland Nature, with a fine of 200 Leva (the State Gazette, no. 74/13.09.1960).

This Order shall enter into force on the date of publication in the State Gazette.

Chairman: M. Dakov

Translation true, correct and in accordance with the original



(V. Tzanov)

InterLang

Translation Company



n°176169

Translation from Bulgarian

COMMITTEE FOR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT
UNDER THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

O R D E R

No. 976

Sofia, 26 December 1979

On the premises of Art. 16 and Art. 22 of the *Nature Protection Act*, and for the purpose of preserving the specific eco-systems and the valuable genetic fund in Peoples' Park Pirin, the territories of Reserves Bayuvi Dupki and Malka Dzhindzhiritza are hereby enlarged by 1084.10 hectares, and these are merged into a single Reserve Bayuvi Dupki-Malka Dzhindzhiritza, with an area of 2873.00 ha.

Said Reserve shall comprise the following Sectors of Forest Farm Razlog, based on the Forest Layout Plan of 1978: 41-48 inclusive; 58-63 inclusive; 69-f, g, i and j; 70; 71-d, e and f; 72-d, e, f and g; 73-f, g, h, i and j; 75-78 inclusive; 79-2; 80-a, b, c, d and e; 84-88 inclusive; 94-c, d, e, f and 1; 95-a, b, c and 1; 96; 97; 98-b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i and 2; 99-118 inclusive.

Boundaries of the Reserve: southern boundary - follows the main ridge from Peak Pirin to Dautov Peak, then the boundary between the pasture and the dwarf-tree area up to Lake Dautovo such as to include said lake in the Reserve, then continues along the right-hand tributary of Ravine Konarnika up to Pasture Konarnika, then along the borderline between said pasture and the forest goes up to Byala River, and then along said river goes to the ridge, which reaches Peak Razlozhki Suhodol, then follows the ridge up to the rocks that surround Pasture Okaden from the western side, crosses the white fir forest up to Ravine Razlozhki Suhodol and continues southwards to the skirts of Rock Massif Stulbitzite, reaches the main ridge and continues southeast up to Peak Banski Suhodol; eastern boundary - starts from Peak Banski Suhodol and follows the ridge, which separates Cirque Banski Suhodol from Cirque Bayuvi Dupki, continues through Locality Kotechki Chal and Locality Dunino Kuche up to the northern border mark of Sector 118; northern boundary - follows the unpaved road, which is the borderline Peoples' Park Pirin, up to Ravine Razlozhki Suhodol, continues along said ravine southwards, and then along the ridge reaches Locality Dolnite Poliani, continues eastwards through the upper end of the white fir forests, along the meadow above Chalet Yavorov up to Locality Do en Mezhdiski Preslap, continues northwards along the ridge, which descends into Byala River, then turns west along the boundaries of Sub-sectors 75-a, 73-f and g, 72-d, 71-d and 70-a up to Ravine Plashki Poliani, continues along said ravine southwest to the borderline with the white fir and mixed forests, and continues westwards along said borderline to end up at Valevitza River; western boundary - follows Valevitza

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River southwards to the dwarf-tree zone and along the lateral ridge climbs to Peak Pirin.

Within the territory of the Reserve it shall be prohibited to carry out any activities disturbing the indigenous character of the nature.

Transit movement of pedestrians is allowed along the following traditional routes:

1. Chalet Yavorov – Locality Pogledetz (or Yavorovi Poliani) – Kamenshki Cirque – up to the main ridge;
2. Chalet Yavorov up to Ravine Razlozhki Suhodol towards the main ridge;
3. Chalet Yavorov – Dautov Peak – Turnite Poliani ["the Dark Meadows"] to Locality Predela.

Once per season, livestock may be taken up to and returned from alpine pastures using the following tourist paths as marked *in situ*: No. 2, which crosses Sectors 94 and 95, and no. 3 to Pasture Konarnika, crossing Sectors 84, 86 and 87.

Within ten months after the publication of this Order in the State Gazette, the administration of Peoples' Park Pirin must:

- 1/ Mark *in situ* the new boundaries of the Reserve, including that the borderline with the pastures shall be marked at each 200 meters;
- 2/ Affix signboards limiting the traffic on the various routes and ... (*illegible*), crossing the Reserve.

This Order repeals Orders of the Ministry of Forests and Environmental Protection nos. 300 and 301 dd. 4 February 1976, published in the State Gazette no.15/1976.

The foregoing changes and the area of the Reserve to be reflected in the State Register of Protected Natural Sites.

Any violators of this Order shall be penalized pursuant to Art.35 and Art. 36 of the *Nature Protection Act* and Art. 31 of the *Administrative Violations and Penalties Act*.

This Order shall enter into force upon its publication in the State Gazette.

For the CHAIRMAN: (signature)

(Architect Iv. Dukovski)

[seal]

True copy: (signature)

[seal]

Translation true, correct and in accordance with the original:



(VI. Tzardov)

WHC REGISTRATION
Date 28/01/09
Id N° 225 bis
Copy 1 Item 03

*Courtesy
translation*



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

22 Maria Louiza Str., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria; Tel.: (+3592) 940 6541; Fax: (+3592) 980 9641

January 2009

Re: A signal for violations in Pirin National Park World Heritage property, submitted to the World Heritage Center by nongovernmental organizations

Dear Mr. Bandarin,

In relation to the signal submitted to the World Heritage Center by Bulgarian nongovernmental organizations, related to violations committed on the territory of Pirin National Park World Heritage property, I would like to provide you with relevant information:

I. Exclusion of territories from Pirin National Park and World Heritage property without consultation with the World Heritage Center.

In 1998, a new Protected Areas Act (PAA) entered into force in Bulgaria, regulating all the issues related to protected areas, such as ownership, management, designation, changes in the area and regimes, etc.

The Protected Areas Act introduces a modern protected areas classification in compliance with the international requirements.

In relation to the above, in 1999, with Order RD - 395 from 15.10.1999 of the Minister of Environment and Water the category of the existing at the time Pirin People's Park was changed into a National Park, with a territory of 40332.4 ha, later on recalculated to 40356.0 ha by the Management Plan of the National Park, as a result of better measurement.

**Mr. Francesco Bandarin
Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre
7 Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 FRANCE
Fax: + 33 (0) 1.45.68.55.70**

**CC
Ambassador Irina Bokova
Permanent Delegate of Bulgaria to UNESCO
1, Rue Miollis
75732 Paris CEDEX 15 FRANCE**

**National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria
for UNESCO
Mr. Georgi Grancharov
Director of Pirin national Park Directorate
4 Bulgaria St.
2770 Bansko, BULGARIA**

With the same Order from the territory of the National park were excluded the “Kulinoto ski zone” in the territory of Razlog municipality (58.1 ha) and the resort area (ex camping area) in the region of Sandanski municipality (76.4 ha). These territories were excluded according to the procedures, determined by the Bulgarian legislation.

The main argument for the exclusion of the territories was the lack of conservation value, because at the time the same were already occupied by different facilities and buildings.

The necessity of undertaking official steps in order to exclude these areas from the World Heritage property as well, was pointed by the IUCN expert who visited the site in 2007 as part of a previous nomination procedure mission.

As far as the other two territories pointed by the NGOs, in the region of Dobrinishte (10.1 ha) and also Sandanski (6 ha), the same were excluded from the territory of the Park as protected area with an Order 1036/ 17.11.1987 of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers, with the aim to adapt the boundaries of the park to specific features of the terrain (existing road).

Regardless of the exclusion of these comparatively small areas from the boundaries of the National Park, I would like to point out that with Order № 1036/ 17.11.1987 of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers, the territory of the park was also sufficiently extended. The territory which was added constituted about 12 639.9 ha (later on recalculated to 12 913.5 ha) and was composed of high mountain treeless zone, unique rock formations and huge forests stands, all characteristic with their high conservation value and worthy to be officially protected.

II. Violations of Pirin NP Management Plan, pointed in Annex 2

II.1. Modification of the Detailed Spatial Development Plan with the aim of construction Kulinoto Ski and Golf complex near Razlog

On 31 October 2007, “Balkanstroy” Company submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Water an official notification, pointing that the company has the intention to realize a project for development of a modern tourist resort, including ski runs, additional facilities and ski lifts, trails for mountain tourism, alternative forms of tourism (golf fields, mountain trails, etc.), specialized infrastructure, places for rest and recreation. The project was foreseen to be accomplished in two phases and the total area for its realization was estimated to 4250 ha (including those 4000 ha, foreseen for the construction of ski runs and lifts). In the notification was pointed that an official procedure for preparation of a Detailed Spatial Development plan (DSDP) was started, still, without pointing the official grounds of its assignment, as well as its territorial scale.

In the official reply of the MoEW (Ref. № OBOCY-2371/26.02.2008) to “Balkanstroy” Company are stated the motives, as follows:

- what pointed in the notification is not clear in terms of the subject and the grounds and therefore cannot be further on proceeded in line with Chapter 6 of the Environmental Protection Act – investment proposal or plan;
- it cannot be confirmed that “Balkanstroy” Company are meeting the requirements for being appointed as developer of an investment proposal or developer of a plan;
- the required check-up within the Regulation on the terms and order for carrying out of an assessment of plans, programmes, projects and investment proposals on their possible negative impact on the Natura 2000 sites, according to Article 6 of the EU Habitat Directive, showed that most of the constructions foreseen within the investment proposal, such as ski runs, lifts, other supplementary facilities are impermissible according to the regimes, stipulated by the Protected Areas Act and Management Plan of Pirin National Park.

It was indicated to “Balkanstroy” Company that further proceeding of the investment proposal as a whole, including its adoption or approval, could be provided only in case of removing the existing contradictions with the national legislation in the field of environment and Pirin National Park Management plan.

On 17 March 2008 “Balkanstroy” Company submitted to the MoEW a letter, containing additional information, which clarified that the company had started a procedure for development planning of the area, necessary for the realization of the investment proposal. The procedure was initiated in front of the Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad Region. In the additional information was quoted Permission № 30-00-301/01.03.2007 of the Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad, showing that the upper mentioned preparation of Detailed Spatial Development Plan was admitted on the ground of article 124, § 4 from the Territorial Development Act for “Ski and golf complex “Kulinoto”. A copy of the Permission was not attached as evidence.

Other relevant evidences in favour of the fact that the “Balkanstroy” Company meets the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act for being assigned as developer of a plan or of an investment proposal were also not attached.

In the letter was pointed that on the meeting of the *Expert council on territorial development* for Blagoevgrad Region, held on 28.01.2008 r., was adopted a draft project of Detailed Spatial Development Plan – plan for construction and plan for regulation of “Ski zone and golf complex “Kulinoto”.

In the letter was also stated that during the meeting were made positive statements, as well as recommendations and indications were given. After the check-up, provided afterwards, it became clear that the representative of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water for the town of Blagoevgrad who participated in the meeting clarified the requirements of the specific environmental legislation and informed the participants about the required procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment and the specific assessment provided according to Article 6 of the Habitat Directive. Besides, it was stressed that there was no statement from the specialized directorate – National Nature Protection Service, under the MoEW if the constructions are admissible according to the regimes of Pirin National Park as protected area.

In relation to the above, we consider that the MoEW provided in time, clearly stated and adequate instructions for the required procedures.

The Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad submitted a statement to the MoEW, with No 08 - 00 -505 from 21.04.2008 in which were stated considerations for the approval and the assignment of the Detailed Spatial Development Plan.

With a letter from 19.06.2008 to the Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad, who was supporting the project, the Ministry of Environment and Water stated that the constructions foreseen by the Detailed Spatial Development Plan were impermissible and do not comply with the regimes, determined for the national park. In the letter was also pointed that the “Balkanstroy” Company has no legal rights to initiate further procedures for the approval of the project under the Environmental Protection Act, Chapter 6. It was also pointed that further continuation of the procedure for adoption of the plan is impermissible, as well as the realization of any investment proposals included in this plan. In this relation, the Detailed Spatial Development Plan was never approved by the Ministry of Environment and Water or its regional departments, as well as other investment proposals concerning the area of Kulinoto within Pirin National Park and World Heritage property. At the present no construction is on-going at the place.

II. 2. Bansko ski zone

In the MoEW there is no information concerning the number of beds, since this kind of constructions has been carried out outside Pirin National Park and World Heritage property. The hotels and guest houses which provide accommodation within the town of Bansko are constructions on which the MoEW has no competence to influence on, since the municipality has the legal right to decide about them.

The MoEW has the competence only as far as constructions within Pirin National Park are concerned. In this relation, the Ministry has not approved the construction of facilities in Bansko ski zone, which are not foreseen in the approved Territorial Arrangement Plan (TAP) and concession contract, for which we provide you information below.

II. 2.1. Project “Construction of a four-seats lift in the area of Chalini Valog in “Bansko ski zone”

In the year of 2000 a Territorial Arrangement Plan (TAP) for the “Bansko ski zone” was approved, after carrying out of EIA following the requirements of the legislation that was in force at the time, including a public hearing was carried out.

On 12 December 2001, a concession contract was concluded between Republic of Bulgaria, represented by the Minister of Environment and Water and the Yulen Company. According to it the protected area, exclusively state property – part of Pirin National Park was given under concession for construction and exploitation of “Bansko ski zone”, according to what envisaged by the TAP, mentioned above.

It should be mentioned that in the period 1985-1987 in Pirin National Park above the town of Bansko were built several ski runs and cable lifts including the ski drag and run within the Chalino valog area, which further development was decided on in compliance with the TAP and the given concession.

The particular case in point is replacement of the existing old (from 1986) and amortized ski drag in the area of “Chalino valog” with a seat lift, which replacement was foreseen by the TAP and the concession contract.

The way of the seat lift follows the existing way of the ski drag which means that the replacement of the facility is within the concession area. Nevertheless, according to the Bulgarian legislation, in which the requirements of the European one were fully transposed (the Ordinance on the terms and procedure for carrying out EIA of investment proposals for construction, activities and technologies and the Regulation for terms and order for carrying out of an assessment of plans, programmes, projects and investment offers on their possible negative impact on the Natura 2000 sites, according to Article 6 of the EU Habitat Directive), for this particular investment proposal was carried out a screening procedure for EIA, as well as the upper mentioned assessment according to Article 6 of the EU Habitat Directive was applied, since the National Park and World Heritage property fall within Natura 2000 site.

Within the screening procedure under Article 6 assessment of the EU Habitat Directive, was decided that the investment proposal will not affect negatively the Natura 2000 site and particularly the habitats and species, which are subject for protection within this site. Arguments were also exposed that there is no need of carrying out of Environmental Impact Assessment, on which ground, the investment proposal was approved.

II. 2.2 Modification of the Spatial Development Plan of “Bansko ski zone” – construction of three drag lifts with lengths of 300 m, 330 m and 150 m.

As pointed out above, in the year of 2000, a *Territorial Arrangement Plan* for “Bansko ski zone” was approved after carrying out of EIA. The same envisaged development of

the ski runs and facilities, constructed during the 80's in "Bansko ski zone", in Pirin National Park.

This Plan consist of a textual part in which are described the existing and the newly proposed ski runs and cable lifts and a graphical part (sketches) on which are visualized the runs and facilities described in the textual part. In the textual part of the TAP, are pointed 3 ski drags already existing, with corresponding lengths of 300, 330 and 150 meter. In the second part of the TAP, consisting of sketches and graphs, the same drags were omitted. That is to say that there is a certain discrepancy between the textual and graphic part of the TAP as far as those three drags are concerned.

In relation to the above, with Decision 44 the Municipal Council of the town of Bansko, admitted the correction of this evident error of fact. In the Decision is clearly stated that that the correction of the evident error in fact **will be provided by means of adding of those facilities in the graphic part of the TAP (its sketches) in order to avoid the existing discrepancy.**

Obviously, in this case there is **no modification of the TAP of the "Bansko ski zone", aiming at the construction of three new ski drags**". The case is related only to elimination of an error, admitted because of not pointing the three ski drags in the TAP and particularly its graphic part, at the time of its approval.

In these circumstances, when no modifications in the TAP are envisaged, the correction of the evident error of fact is not subject to further proceedings foreseen by the Environmental Protection Act or the Biodiversity Conservation Act.

In relation to the above, we consider that in Pirin National Park and World Heritage property a new construction in violation of the environmental legislation in force has not been approved and correspondingly allowed.

II. 3. A project for the extension of the "Dobrinishte ski zone"

In the MoEW there is no information about such a project. Consequently, the MoEW has not considered or approved investment proposals within Pirin National Park and World Heritage Property in the region of Dobrinishte. At the present moment, no construction activities are on place.

III. Meeting of the Consultative Council of Pirin National Park launching a procedure for development of a new management plan, which legalize the infringements done hitherto in the ski zone of Bansko, as well as to set up new ski zones within the National Park and the World Heritage Site.

As for the meeting of the Consultative Council of Pirin National Park, held in July 2008, it should be pointed out that it is not in the competence of this council to make decisions, especially as far as investment proposals and changes in the management plan of the National Park are concerned.

The investment proposals are subject and can be approved only after carrying out of procedures, determined by the specialized legislation. The same are of competence only of the state authorities.

Similar is the situation related to possible changes in the management plan of the National Park, which is in the competence of the Ministry of Environment and Water and the Council of Ministers. In this relation, I would like to inform you that the MoEW has not initiated a procedure for changing the Management Plan of Pirin National Park.

The Consultative Council of Pirin National Park is a consultative body to the National Park Directorate, which supports the Directorate in the implementation of the Management plan (MP), by means of discussing the implementation of the MP, as well as issues related to the conservation, guarding, using of lands, forests and waters; working

with the public and information activities; organization of the recreational and tourist activities; conservation of biological diversity; safety and service of the visitors; research activities; educational programmes, etc.

IV. Reduction of the State budget funding to the Pirin National Park Directorate

There is a certain reduction of the funds, allocated from the State budget for activities in the national parks. This is mainly because there is already an opportunity for realization of such activities by means of funds, coming from Operational Programme “Environment”, where the structures of the MoEW including the National park administrations have been determined as beneficiaries.

More than € 100.000 million will be ensured within priority 3 “Conservation and restoration of the biodiversity” under the Operational Programme “Environment” for the period 2007-2013.

In this relation, it should be mentioned that recently was launched a call for proposals for projects for “Conservation and restoration of biological diversity in Bulgaria”.

The total amount of the financial support, which is about to be provided within the upper mentioned procedure is BGN 13 098 930. Other similar procedures will be launched soon, as well.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you for your support and co-operation for the protection of the World Heritage properties of Bulgaria.

Sincerely yours,

Dzhevdet Chakarov

Minister of Environment and Water

LAW FOR THE WATERS

Prom. SG. 67/27 Jul 1999, amend. SG. 81/6 Oct 2000, amend. SG. 34/6 Apr 2001, amend. SG. 41/24 Apr 2001, amend. SG. 108/14 Dec 2001, amend. SG. 47/10 May 2002, amend. SG. 74/30 Jul 2002, amend. SG. 91/25 Sep 2002, amend. SG. 42/9 May 2003, amend. SG. 69/5 Aug 2003, amend. SG. 84/23 Sep 2003, suppl. SG. 107/9 Dec 2003, amend. SG. 70/10 Aug 2004, amend. SG. 18/25 Feb 2005, amend. SG. 77/27 Sep 2005, amend. SG. 94/25 Nov 2005, amend. SG. 29/7 Apr 2006, amend. SG. 30/11 Apr 2006, amend. SG. 36/2 May 2006, amend. SG. 65/11 Aug 2006, corr. SG. 66/15 Aug 2006, amend. SG. 105/22 Dec 2006, amend. SG. 108/29 Dec 2006, amend. SG. 22/13 Mar 2007, amend. SG. 59/20 Jul 2007

Chapter one. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 1. This law shall provide the ownership and management of waters on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria as a national indivisible natural resource and the ownership of the water economic systems and facilities.

Art. 2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The objective of this law is to provide an integral water management in community interest and protection of people's health, and also to provide conditions for:

1. Provision of sufficient quantity of surface and underground waters of good quality for sustainable, balanced and reasonable water taking;
2. Reduction of water contamination;
3. Protection of surface and underground waters and the Black sea water space;
4. Termination of pollution of the aquatic environment with natural or synthetic substances;
5. Reduction of water outfalls, emissions and discharge of priority substances;
6. Termination of water outfalls, emissions and discharge of priority hazardous substances;

(2). The objectives under para 1 shall be achieved through:

1. Prevention of aggravation and protection and improvement of the condition of water environmental systems, of directly related to them land environmental systems and wet zones;
2. Encouragement of sustainable water use by means of long-term protection of available water resources;
3. Complex, multiple and effective use of water resources;
4. Implementation of measures for water environment protection and improvement;
5. Provision of continuous reduction of underground waters contamination and prevention of their contamination;
6. Reduction of consequences of floods and droughts.

Art. 2a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The objective under Art. 2 shall be achieved while observing the following principles:

1. Recognition of waters as essential for life resource and common heritage, which shall be subject to protection and safety;
2. Determination of each citizen's right of access to water for potable and domestic purposes as a priority of the state policy and of the policy, implemented by the local self-governing bodies;
3. Determination of river basins as a basic unit of integrated water management;
4. Coordination of activities for achievement of a good condition of waters in trans-boarder river basins on basin and national level and scheduling of measures on the grounds of parity and support for national interests protection;
5. Implementation of scientific technical achievements in water management;
6. Application of economic regulators for achievement of sustainable water use and protection;
7. Prevention or reduction of hazardous waters impact, and reclamation of damages;
8. Prevention or reduction of water contamination at the source of contamination;
9. Maintenance and reclamation of vegetation and soil layer, related to waters reproduction;
10. The contaminator shall cover the expenses related to the measures for prevention, control and reduction of contamination, and for reclamation of damages;
11. Recompense of water services;
12. Reimbursement of expenses for water services, including of expenses for resources and environmental protection;
13. Provision to the community of timely, correct and comprehensible information about the condition of waters, scheduled measures and achieved results following their implementation;
14. Relevance between water protection activities and their sustainable use.

(2) Management of activities, related to water survey, protection and management, hydro-economic systems operation and management, shall be carried out by persons having got higher education and acquired "master" educational qualification degree in respective fields and a professional qualification of "Master in engineering".

Art. 3. Waters on the territory of the country shall be:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the surface waters;
 1. the surface waters and the waters of river mouths;
 2. the ground waters, including the mineral waters;
 3. the internal sea waters and the territorial sea.
4. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) waters of the Danube river, Resovska river and Timok river within the state borders of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Art. 4. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 5. The use of waters shall be implemented through water economic systems including facilities for extraction, preservation, conveyance, distribution, discharge and treatment of waters, for utilisation of the water energy and for protection from the harmful

impact of waters.

Art. 6. The waters, the water sites and the water economic systems and facilities on the territory of the country shall be possible to be ownership of the state, the municipalities, individuals and legal persons.

Art. 7. The provision of the relations connected with the ownership of waters, the water sites and the water economic systems and facilities shall be based on the following principles:

1. public importance of water as valuable natural resource;
2. multipurpose use of waters and the water sites with regard to satisfaction of economic interests without damaging the public interests and the existing rights;
3. protection of the right of ownership in waters, water sites and water economic systems as far as exercising it is not damaging the entity and the unity of the hydrologic cycle and of the natural water system;
4. exercising of the right of ownership so that not be impaired the technological unity of the water economic system.

Art. 8. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The common water taking and use of the water sites and the water taking for satisfaction of own needs shall be gratuitous.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) For water taking and use of water sites for economic activity shall be paid a fee for the use of the natural resource as a guarantee for creating equal legal conditions for economic activity for all citizens and legal persons.

(3) The persons implementing the activities of para 1 and 2 shall be obliged to protect the environment.

Art. 9. (1) The waters of art. 3 shall be managed at national and at basin level.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Water management on a national level shall be carried out by the Minister of environment and waters.

(2) The management of waters at national level shall be exclusive right of the Council of Ministers exercised through the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(3) For assisting the activity of para 2 at the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall be established Supreme consultative water council.

(4) (Amend. - SG 108/01; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Supreme consultative water council shall include representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Waters, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Economy and Energy, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the municipalities, the non-profit legal persons, directly related with waters, etc.

(5) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue a Regulation for the structure and the activity of the Supreme consultative water council.

(6) The management at basin level within one or several watersheds shall be implemented by basin water management bodies.

Art. 10. (1) The state policy connected with the activities exploitation, construction, re-construction and modernisation of the water economic facilities shall be implemented by:

1. the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works - for water supply and sewerage systems and facilities of the settlements and for protection from the harmful impact of waters within the settlements;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry - for hydromeliorative systems and facilities and for protection from the harmful impact of waters out of the settlements;

3. (amend. SG 108/01; amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) the Minister of Economy and Energy - for hydro-energy systems and objects;

4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters - for the water taking facilities for mineral waters, public state property.

(2) The policy connected with the activities for exploitation, construction, reconstruction and modernisation of water economic systems and facilities - municipal ownership, shall be implemented by the mayor of the municipality.

Chapter two. RIGHT OF OWNERSHIP IN WATERS, WATER SITES AND WATER ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES

Section I. State ownership in the waters, the water sites and the water economic systems and facilities

Art. 11. Public state ownership shall be the following waters and water sites:

1. the waters of rivers and the adjacent land as well as the water in the reservoirs including these in dams and micro-dams;

2. natural lakes, lagoons, firths, swamps and marshy areas when they are located on land - state ownership;

3. the underground waters except the mineral waters regardless of whether they are located under state, municipal or private property.

4. the natural waterfalls and the adjacent strips depending on the natural landscape but not narrower than 10 meters on both sides of the waterfall;

5. the waters, in this number waste waters when they flow out of properties, public or private property and flow into waters - public state ownership.

Art. 12. (1) Public state property shall be the isles and the lands formed as a result of natural processes occurred in the rivers, the reservoirs and the isles in the internal sea waters and the territorial sea.

(2) Public state property shall be the continental shelf within the boundaries of the internal sea waters and the bank flooded strip of river Danube.

Art. 13. Public state property shall be the following water economic systems and facilities:

1. the complex and significant dams including their reservoirs and the collecting

derivations, according to a list of appendix No 1 which shall be inseparable part of this law;

2. facilities and structures - immovable properties for measuring the quantity and the quality of the waters - public state ownership;

3. systems and facilities for protection from the harmful impact of waters, constructed with state funds - protection dikes, corrections of rivers and drainage systems except these of art. 19, item 4, item d;

4. the inspection drillings constructed with state funds.

Art. 14. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Exclusive state ownership shall be:

1. the internal sea waters and the territorial sea;

2. the mineral waters according to the list of appendix No 2 which shall be inseparable part of this law.

Art. 15. Public state ownership shall also be the land taken by the most internal belt of the sanitary - protection zones of the water sources and the facilities for drinking household water supply, public state ownership, and of the water sources of mineral waters of art. 14, item 2.

Art. 16. (1) The state ownership in waters announced as public under this law shall not be possible to be announced as private state ownership.

(2) Out of the ownership announced as public state ownership under this law the state shall be able to own or to acquire also right of ownership in waters, water sites and water economic systems and facilities for which the law provides that they could be subject to private ownership.

(3) The owners of farm lands and forests on which dams and water economic facilities have been constructed, which have not been indemnified for this by the due order, shall be indemnified by the order of art. 10b and art. 35 of the Law for ownership and use of farm land and of the Law for restoration of the ownership in forests and the land of forest entirety.

Art. 17. (1) The waters, the water sites and the water economic facilities - state ownership, shall be registered according to the requirements of the Law for the state ownership.

(2) The mineral waters shall be registered on the basis of information conceded by the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(3) Copy of the acts for waters, water sites and the water economic facilities, compiled according to the provided order, shall be sent to the Ministry of Environment and Waters in two months term after the compiling of the acts.

(4) Para 3 shall be applied also for implemented corrections of the acts for state ownership.

(5) The Law for state ownership shall be applied for the waters, the water sites and the water economic systems and facilities - state ownership, as far as in this law other has not been provided.

Section II. Municipal ownership in waters, water sites and water economic systems and facilities

Art. 18. (1) The ownership of the municipality in the waters, water sites and water economic systems and facilities shall be public and private municipal ownership.

(2) The public municipal ownership in waters shall not be possible to be announced private municipal ownership.

Art. 19. Public municipal ownership shall be:

1. the waters and the water sites, in this number natural springs, lakes and swamps when they are located on lands - municipal ownership, and are not waters and water sites of art. 11;

2. the waters, in this number the waste waters flowing out of properties, public or private property, and are flowing in waters - public municipal ownership;

3. the mineral waters, without these of art. 14, item 2;

4. (suppl. SG 34/2001) the water economy systems and facilities on the territory of the municipality except these included in the assets of commercial companies or Water Users Associations and these being constructed with funds or credits of the commercial companies or of the Water Users Associations:

a) the facilities and the systems for water supply of the settlements in the municipality, including the water treatment stations for drinking water;

b) the facilities and the systems for drainage and treatment of waters from the settlements;

c) (suppl. SG 34/2001) the dams and the micro-dams except these of art. 13, item 1 and those included in the assets of the commercial companies by the date this law enters into force or of the Water Users Associations, without the waters contained;

d) the protection dikes and the facilities and the systems for fostering the river beds within the settlements;

e) water transfer and distribution networks for mineral waters;

f) the lands of the most internal belt of the sanitary - protection zones of the water sources and the facilities except these of art. 15.

Art. 20. (1) At concluding a concession contract for waters, water sites, water economic systems and facilities - public municipal ownership, the municipal council shall determine:

1. the places for common use of waters and water sites;

2. the existing rights for use of the waters in the water reservoir.

(2) If the municipal council does not fulfil the conditions of para 1 the concessionaire shall not be able to prohibit the exercising of the rights pointed out.

(3) (revoked – SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006)

(4) (revoked – SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006)

(5) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) To the person concluded concession contract shall not be possible to be imposed more strict conditions for the water taking and/or use than these pointed out at the coordination.

Art. 21. (amend., SG 81/00) (1) The mineral waters under art. 19, item 3 shall acquire title deed as public municipal property only in the presence of an issued certificate and/or a complex balneological assessment by the Ministry of Health and/or economic assessment by the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(2) The order and the way of issuing the certificate and the assessments under para 1 shall be determined by the ordinance under art. 135, item 2.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Special right of water taking of mineral waters - public municipal property shall be granted only for approved exploitation resources of mineral waters.

(4) (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) The rationale of the concession under art. 21 of the Law for the Concessions for mineral waters - public municipal property shall be developed according to the methodological instructions approved by the Ministry of Environment and Waters for the preparation of concession rationale for granting concession for mineral waters.

(5) (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) The proposal of the mayor of the municipality according to art. 38, para 1 of the Law for the Concessions shall be coordinated with the Minister of Environment and Waters regarding the parameters of the concession and the conditions of guarding and monitoring of the mineral water.

(6) For granting right of using the waters under para 1 the owner of the real estate where the water source is located shall have an advantage in equal other conditions.

Art. 22. (1) Private municipal ownership shall be properties, waters, water sites and water economy systems and facilities acquired by the municipality apart from the properties described in art. 19.

(2) (suppl. SG 34/2001) Regarding waters, water sites and water economy systems and facilities - municipal property, shall be applied the Law for the municipal ownership as far as in this law and in the Law for the Water Users Associations other has not been provided.

Section III. Private property of waters, water sites and water economy systems and facilities

Art. 23. The owner of the land shall be the owner of the waters and water sites on the property unless they are property of the state or municipality.

Art. 24. Private property shall be:

1. (amend., SG 81/00) the waters springing in the boundary of the private property except the mineral waters, while flowing in it if they are not captured or included in the water supply systems;

2. the lakes not fed by or through which do not flow state or municipal public property waters;

3. the precipitation waters collected within the boundaries of the property and the facilities constructed for that purpose;

4. waters flowing out of the water sites of items 1, 2 and 3, up to their inflow point into public state or public municipal ownership waters;

5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) lands, occupied by the waters of items 1, 2, 3 and 4;

6. the wells in the real estate;

7. the facilities and systems for use, transport and treatment of the waters which serve the respective property, as well as the facilities for prevention and mitigation of the consequences of the harmful effect of waters.

Art. 25. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 26. The ownership, use and disposition with the waters, the water sites and the water economy systems and facilities - private property, shall be implemented according to the general provisions about ownership as far as in this law other has not been provided.

Section IV. Ownership in waters, the water sites and the water economy systems and facilities

Art. 27. The right of ownership in water site, water economy system or facility shall be possible to belong also in common to two or more persons when these objects are located in a co-owned property. In this case the ownership of the water site, the water economy system or facility shall follow the ownership of land unless other has not been provided.

Art. 28. (1) At implementing of subdivision of a co-owned property in which there is water site the detachment of real parts of the water site shall not be admitted.

(2) At implementing of subdivision of a co-owned property in which there is water site the co-owner who has right to bigger share of the property shall have priority for assigning the water site.

(3) The other owners shall receive the money equivalent of their shares in 14 days term after the subdivision contract is concluded, respectively after the court decision about the subdivision enters into force.

Art. 29. For the issues not provided in this law shall be applied the corresponding provisions of the Law for the ownership.

Section V. Acquisition of rights of ownership in water sites, water economy systems and facilities

Art. 30. (1) The acquisition of the right of ownership in water sites, water economy systems and facilities shall be implemented through a legal transaction for the land in which they are located or as inheritance.

(2) No acquisition in prescription shall be admitted for water sites, water economy systems and facilities - public state and municipal ownership.

Art. 31. (1) When the waters of the river as a result of natural processes, in this number natural disasters, form a new bed and leave the old one the newly taken place shall become public state property and the left place shall remain public state property.

(2) In this case the affected owner shall be obliged to inform the body of art. 10, para 1, item 1 or 2, which shall in 6 months term on the basis of a technical - economic analysis undertake activities for correction of the occurred changes.

(3) (amend. SG 47/02) In case the undertaken measures lead to returning of the river to the old bed the affected owner of land shall restore the right of ownership in the parcel. If this is technically impossible or economically unfavourable, the affected land owners shall be substituted with equal land from the state or the municipal land entirety by the order of art. 10b of the Law for the ownership and use of farm land.

Art. 32. The owner of private water site shall not acquire the ownership in the land which the water covers in extraordinary floods.

Section VI. Restrictions of the right of ownership

Art. 33. (1) The exercising of the right of ownership shall be possible to be restricted in the following cases:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) at implementing investigation and obtaining of underground waters and taking of spring waters in a private property;

2. at construction of new sites connected with the use, preservation or with the protection from the harmful impact of waters as well as for more expedient utilisation of the water resources.

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) within the boundaries of sanitary – protection zones of water supply facilities for potable water and for water for domestic purposes and for mineral waters.

(2) If the implementation of the measures of para 1 deprives durably the owner from the use of the whole property or part of it, the property shall be compulsorily alienated by the order of the Law for the state ownership.

(3) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In cases pursuant to para 1, item 3, when the owner of the property is not permanently deprived from the whole property or part thereof, he/she shall be compensated according to a procedure, set out in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 6.

(4) (prev. text of para 03 - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The orders of the competent body issued on the ground pointed out in this section shall not be implemented before the act ordering the alienation of the affected property enters into force and before the payment of the defined remuneration.

Art. 34. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Exploring and obtaining of underground waters and taking spring waters in a private property shall be possible to be implemented only after obtaining a permit for accomplishing the corresponding activity.

(2) The activities of para 1 shall be implemented on the ground of a written contract with the owner where are defined the conditions for accomplishing the activity and the due indemnification.

(3) The competent body according to the provisions of this section shall offer to the owner a draft contract which shall obligatory contain:

1. the necessary exploration and / or construction - mounting activities;
2. the part of the property which will be at disposal to the contractor for implementing the exploration of the construction;
3. the part of the property which will remain taken by the constructed facilities after the finish of the exploration or the construction;
4. the term for finishing the exploration or the construction;
5. the necessary works for reclamation of the terrain after accomplishing the exploration or the construction;
6. the money indemnification if during the exploration or the construction the owner is deprived from the opportunity to use his property as well as the order for payment of the indemnification;
7. annual money indemnification if part of the property remains taken by the constructed facilities after finishing the exploration or the construction; the money indemnification of this item shall be terminated after the restoration of the property in its original state;
8. other conditions which could create a guarantee for protection of the property and the calmness of the owner of the property.

(4) The affected owner shall be able to answer in one month term after receiving the proposal.

(5) If the affected owner does not accept the proposal within the term of para 4 shall be applied the rules for restriction of ownership and indemnification provided in this section.

Art. 35. (1) When there is no other opportunity shall be necessary water taking of spring waters in a property which is not state or municipal property to satisfy the drinking-household water supply of the region, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works shall, on the basis of technical and economic investigations, issue an order for implementing the necessary activities for accomplishing the water taking.

(2) With an order of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works shall obligatory be determined the circumstances pointed out in art. 34, para 3.

(3) The Minister of Regional Development and Public Works shall issue the order of para 1.

(4) The contractor of the construction shall be responsible for the damages caused to the owner of the affected property at non observing the rules for construction and of the conditions of the order of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

(5) (amend. - SG 81/00; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The person in which property is accomplished the water taking shall have right to gratuitous water taking in extent not more than 10 cubic m per 24 hours regardless of the received indemnification.

Art. 36. (1) For accomplishing of exploration of underground waters in a private property the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall issue an order with which are obligatory determined the circumstances of art. 34, para 3.

(2) The exploration of the underground waters shall be implemented accounting at maximum the interests of the owner.

(3) The person implemented the exploration shall bear responsibility for the caused

damages in detraction from the conditions of the order of the Minister of Environment and Waters and from the special normative acts regulating the exploration of underground waters and the implementation of the reclamation works on the affected areas.

Art. 37. (1) The obtaining of underground waters in a private property shall be implemented only for waters with guaranteed drinking qualities, used for drinking and after accomplishing the construction works determined by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works under the conditions and by the order of art. 35.

(2) The existing in the region of other opportunity for obtaining underground waters for drinking and household water supply from a property - state or municipal ownership, shall be ground for repealing the order of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

Art. 38. (1) When is necessary the construction of new sites connected with the preservation of waters, or with the protection from the harmful impact of waters, as well as for satisfaction of such state or municipal needs that cannot be satisfied in another way, shall be admitted compulsory alienation of private properties, parts thereof or existing water economic facilities after preliminary and equal in value indemnification.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In the cases of para 1 the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works or the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry depending on their competence shall make request for compulsory alienation of the affected immovable property by the order of the Law for the state ownership.

(3) Basis for the compulsory alienation shall be the approved water economic plans containing technical and economic research, proving that the state or the municipal need cannot be satisfied in another way.

Chapter three. USE OF WATERS AND WATER SITES

Art. 39. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The use of waters and water sites shall include water taking and use of the water site.

Art. 40. The use of waters and the water sites shall be:

1. common and individual according to whether the titularies of the right are unlimited number of persons or individually defined persons;

2. with permission or without permission according to whether the law provides issuing of individual administrative act as prerequisite for creating the right to use or the right to use is created by force of another legal fact;

3. (revoked – SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006)

Art. 41. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The common water taking and use of water sites shall be the right of the citizens to use the waters and/or the water sites - public state or municipal ownership, for personal needs, recreation and water sports, watering of animals and swimming.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The conditions and the order for use of para 1 of the waters and the water sites shall be determined for public state ownership

by the regional governor and for public municipal ownership - the municipal council, in compliance with the issued permits for water taking and use of water sites and in the way guaranteeing the preservation of the life and health of the population and of the environment.

(3) The regional governor - for the public state ownership, and the mayor of the municipality - for the public municipal ownership, shall be obliged to announce:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the water sites, conceded for common water taking and use determining the places for this purpose;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the requirements, the conditions or the prohibition for certain kind common water taking or use;

3. the permitted found individual rights to use as well as the rights to use which are forthcoming to be conceded;

4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the scope and the designation of the adjacent land of the water sites of item 1 with regard to implement certain kinds common water taking or use, respectively restriction or prohibitions of other kinds of use as well as requirements to objects and activities compatible with the common water taking and use;

5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the places for passing through private properties in the cases when for the common water taking and/or use the access to the water site is implemented through such properties after preliminary coordination with the owner of the property; if there is no consent the provisions of the Law for the territorial and urban development shall be applied.

(4) The announcement of para 3, items 1, 2 and 5 shall be implemented also by putting boards at the defined places, and of items 3 and 4 - by a public register.

Art. 42. (amend., SG 70/04.; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The owner of a water site the water in which is public ownership as well as the owner of a private water site, shall be obliged to announce the restrictions for the common water taking or use, respectively the prohibition for this, through a publication or in another way. The restrictions and the prohibitions shall be possible to be imposed due to technological and hygienic-epidemiological considerations.

Art. 43. (1) The individual use of the waters and the water sites shall exist when the corresponding right is implemented by certain titular.

(2) (amend., SG 81/00) The physical persons being owners or users of an immovable property, located within the boundaries of settlements shall have the right to free of charge water taking of up to 10 c.m. per 24 hours for their own needs for the located on it surface and underground waters.

(3) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The provision of para 2 shall not apply with regard to taking of mineral waters.

(4) (prev. text of Para 03 - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Apart from the cases of para 2 for the individual use of the waters and the water sites fees shall be paid, determined with a tariff of the Council of Ministers.

(5) (prev. text of Para 04 - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) At proven breaches of para 2 the body of art. 52, para 1, item 3 shall be able to oblige the titular to mount measuring devices.

Art. 44. (1) (amend., SG 81/00; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Permit for water taking shall be required in all cases except for:

1. the cases set forth in Art. 43, para 2;
2. the activities related to population protection in case of announced crisis pursuant to the procedure set out in the Law of crises management.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The water taking shall include taking away waters from the water sites and/or detraction from them as well as the utilisation of water energy.

(3) For transformation of water energy into electric energy through turbines with power up to 20 kW without detraction from the water flows permit by the order of this law shall not be required.

4) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The construction of a well for individual gratuitous underground water taking shall take place without a permit being necessary but after the owner notifies the Director of the respective Basin Directorate.

(5) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The owner or the user of the property where a well has been constructed under the conditions of para 4 shall be obliged in three months term after the construction to announce it to the respective Basin Directorate for entering in the register pursuant to Art. 118d, para 3, item 5.

(6) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When the property is within the boundaries of the sanitary-protection zones of mineral waters taking facilities as well as in the regions with liquidated geotechnological obtaining of uranium a permit for hydro-geological investigation, for construction of the underground water taking facilities and for water taking by the order of this law shall be required.

Art. 45. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 46. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Permit for use of water site shall be issued for:

1. construction of new, reconstruction or modernisation of existing systems and facilities for:

- a) adjusting the outflow;
- b) linear infrastructure crossing water sites - aqueducts, bridges, transfer networks and conduits;
- c) survey and monitoring of underground waters;
- d) protection from the harmful impact of waters;
- e) discharge of waters;
- f) ports and quays;
- g) recreation and water sports;
- h) water taking from surface or underground waters;
- i) re-injection and for injection of waters, for artificial feeding of underground waters and for discharging of contaminants in underground waters in cases pursuant to Art. 118a, para 2.

2. aqua-cultures and related to them activities;
3. outfall of waste waters in surface waters
4. removal of alluvial deposits from surface water sites;
5. re-injection or injection of waters in underground water sites;

6. artificial feeding of underground waters;
7. discharging of contaminants in underground waters in cases pursuant to Art. 118a, para 2.

8. injection of natural gas or liquefied oil gas in underground water sites;
9. other objectives apart from the general use, including human activities, in the course of implementation of which significant impact on the natural condition of waters or water site is observed.

(2) Construction of structures, civil engineering facilities, buildings and others, where there is or it is possible to have a contact with underground waters, shall be carried out pursuant to the provisions of the Law of the spatial planning with meeting the requirements for underground waters protection as per Chapter eight.

(3) The permit pursuant to para 1, item 3 shall be issued by the order of this law except for in the cases when issuing of an integral permit pursuant to the provisions of the Law for environmental protection is provided.

(4) No permit for usage of water site is required under Para 1, Item 3 in case of outfall of domestic waste waters for objects outside residential areas and settlements with:

1. maximum daily water quantity of up to 10 m³ per 24 hours and up to 50 equivalent residents, and

2. provided minimum primary treatment of waste waters.

Art. 46a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Presentation of a permit pursuant to Art. 44 and 46 shall be a prerequisite for project approval and for granting a construction permit pursuant to the provisions of the Law of the spatial planning.

Art. 47. (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Concession for obtaining of mineral waters - exclusive state ownership, shall be granted through holding an open procedure under the terms and conditions and pursuant to the provisions of the Law of the Concessions.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Concession for obtaining of mineral waters shall be granted when water taking is intended for:

1. bottling of natural mineral water and/or soda and other beverages including in their contents mineral water;

2. extraction of valuable substances;

3. (suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Obtaining of hydro-thermal energy for heating supply pursuant to the provisions of Art. 125 of the Law of energy at hydro-geothermal energy power exceeding 5 MW.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Concession for obtaining mineral waters shall be granted accounting for the needs of the medical establishments for hospital care and the common water taking for drinking and filling.

(4) At granting of concession for obtaining mineral water - exclusive state ownership, part of the concession payment, not less than 30 percent, defined with the decision of the Council of Ministers for opening of procedure for concession granting, shall be paid by the concessionaire to the municipality on which territory is established the concession right.

(5) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Water taking facility and internal belt of its sanitary-protection zone shall be included in the subject of concession under para 1.

(6) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When carrying out the procedure

under para 1 and evaluation of quotations the heaviest rate shall have the following criteria:

1. The amount of concession payment;
2. The term of concession;
3. The amount of provided guarantee;

(7) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The provisions of para 5 shall not apply in cases, when the water taking facility and the internal belt of its sanitary-protection zone are included in another granted concession.

(8) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006; revoked – SG 108/06, in force from 01.01.2007)

Art. 47a. (new - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) Concession for construction or concession for service for water economy systems and facilities and connected with water sites, as well as for hydro-technical, hydro-energy, hydro-melioration, water supply and sewerage systems and facilities shall be granted under the conditions and the order of the Law for the Concessions.

Art. 48. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The water users shall have the obligation to:

1. use rationally the water resources, decrease the water losses, taking care of the preservation of the environment;

2. use the waters and the water sites in compliance with the objectives and the conditions of conceding;

3. maintain the necessary water quality in compliance with the normative requirements and the conditions of the permit;

4. (Suppl. - SG 41/01) not admit breaching of public interests and acquired rights, including the rights for carrying out economic fishing and other fishery activities under the conditions and by the order of the Law for the fishery and aquatic species;

5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine with a project the sanitary - protection zones, the facilities for drinking-household water supply and these for mineral waters, used for healing, prophylactic, drinking and daily needs, bottling, hygienic purposes, sport and recreation, and to maintain in the necessary status the defined internal belt and the flooded strips along the banks in compliance with the normative requirements;

6. measure and keep account of the taken and used waters, the transported and discharged waters, the levels of the underground waters, and for hydro-technical support facilities - about the water levels up to the maximum level as well as about the polluting substances, according to the explicit conditions pointed out in the permit;

7. (amend. - SG 70/04) implement technological, hydro-technical, agro-technical, water preservation, hygienic-epidemiological and other measures when this is provided in the conditions at conceding the use;

8. ensure free access to the state and municipal bodies empowered to apply the provisions of the law;

9. conclude contracts with the subscribers at conceding water services;

10. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) notify timely the subscribers about breach of the contracted regime of the water taking.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The water users being water supply and sewerage system operators pursuant to Art. 2 of the Law for water supply and

sewage services regulation and provide water supply service of drinkable water and water for domestic purposes shall be obliged to:

1. Undertake all necessary measures to provide safe and clean drinkable water to users;

2. Carry out monitoring of the quality of water for drinking and for domestic purposes and provide the results of the accomplished monitoring to the bodies pursuant to Art. 155a and 189 following the procedure set forth in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 3;

3. Inform concerned users in case of identified discrepancies in the quality of water for drinking and for domestic needs, provided that these discrepancies can cause health risk.

(3) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 12.08.2007) In cases when water for drinking and for domestic purposes has any discrepancies from the requirements set out in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 3 and there is no alternative of water supply, the persons under para 2 can provide the service of water supply for drinking and domestic purposes only upon granting a permit pursuant to Art. 155a, para 1, item 1.

Art. 49. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In the sense of this law public interests are violated when as a result of water taking or use is created a danger of:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) restriction of the common water taking or use;

2. threatening the defence and the security of the country;

3. breaching the conditions of the river basin management plans;

4. negative impact over the banks, the facilities, the water quality or protected territories or lavish water use.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Public interests are violated also with production and distribution in the commercial network bottled natural mineral waters, carbonated or other beverages, containing mineral water without the corresponding certificate without legal grounds and not in compliance with the statutory provisions.

(3) Acquired rights shall be:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) rights to water taking and use for which permits have been issued and which are exercised by the force of this law

2. (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) concession;

3. real rights established according to the civil legislation.

Chapter four. PERMIT REGIME

Section I. General provisions

Art. 50. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Permit shall be issued for water taking and for use of water site.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) For issuing the permits for water taking and for use of water site fees shall be paid, determined with a tariff of the Council of Ministers.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When the nature of the activity for which a permit is applied for includes simultaneous water taking and use of the water site one

common permit shall be issued, containing the conditions for water taking and for use of the water site.

(4) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) At permitting the water taking shall be observed the following order for satisfaction of the requirements:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) for drinking and domestic purposes;
 1. drinking-household water supply;
 2. healing and prophylactics - only for mineral waters;
3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) for agricultural purposes;
4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) other purposes, including for industrial purposes, recreation and hydro-power generation.

(5) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The priorities of para 4 shall be applied observing the environmental protection requirements.

Art. 51. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) For implementing borehole and/or mining activity in regions with significant underground water resources coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Waters with regard to the conditions for use of the water sites containing underground waters shall be required.

Art. 52. (1) Permit shall be issued by:

1. The Council of Ministers - for the needs of defence and the national security;
2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of environment and waters for:

- a) water taking;
 - aa) from the dams pursuant to Appendix No. 1;
 - bb) From mineral waters pursuant to Art. 14, item 2 provided that they are not under granted concession;
 - cc) For the purpose of backwatering of newly constructed water sites;
- b) transfer of waters between river basins;
- c) use of a water site, including for:
 - aa) the dams pursuant to Appendix No. 1;
 - bb) internal sea waters, for the territorial sea and for the Danube river, except for their use for waterborne transportation purposes;
 - cc) discharging of contaminants in underground waters in cases under Art. 118a, para 2;

- dd) hydro-geological surveys;
- ee) construction and reconstruction of facilities for underground waters;
- ff) re-injection or injection of waters into underground waters;
- gg) injection of natural gas or liquefied oil gas into underground water sites;
- hh) outfall of waste waters into the Danube river, Black sea and dams under Appendix No.1.

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Director of the Basin Directorate for all other cases of water taking and use of water sites - public state ownership, out of these pointed out in item 2.

(2) Permits for use of water sites - parts of Danube river, the internal sea waters or the territorial sea, shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters after consent by the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Transport.

Art. 53. The waters of the complex and important dams according to appendix No 1 shall be used by order and in a way established with an order of the Minister of Environment and Waters at a proposal by the interested water users.

Art. 54. The construction of derivations for transfer of waters between river basins shall be implemented with a decision of the National Assembly.

Art. 55. At issuing permits the bodies of art. 52, para 1 shall account for:

1. the existing water resources;
2. the needs of the candidate for water user, respectively user of water site;
3. the condition of the water site;
4. the acquired rights.

Art. 56. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The permit for water taking under Art. 44 and the permit for use of a water site under Art. 46 shall contain:

1. Name of issuing body;
2. Reference number and date of issue of the act;
3. Legal and factual grounds for issuing the act;
4. Full name and permanent address of the permit holder – for natural persons, respectively company and seat – for legal persons and sole entrepreneurs, registered under the Commercial Law;
5. Personal ID number of physical persons or Unified Identification Code of legal persons and one man companies;
6. Purpose of use;
7. Water site – subject of use;
8. Place of use, including geographical location of facilities or area subject to use;
9. Locality, administrative territorial and territorial unit, code according to the Unified classifier of administrative territorial and territorial units – for each place of use;
10. Parameters of permitted use;
11. Facilities for water use, facilities technical parameters and equipment;
12. Validity of the permit;
13. Liability for payment of a fee and individual criteria for determination of the fee for the granted right of use of waters;
14. Obligations to carry out internal monitoring and specific requirements to the monitoring points and to the monitoring program;
15. Terms and conditions, under which the right of use of waters shall be granted;
16. Controlling body.

(2) The permit for water taking under Art. 44, apart from the requisites under para 1, shall also contain the following:

1. distribution of permitted volumes;
2. minimum allowable run-off into the river – in case of water taking from surface waters;
3. maximum allowable lowering – in case of water taking from underground waters;
4. Initial date of exercising of the water taking right;
5. Terms and conditions of installation of measuring facilities for the taken water

quantities;

(3) The permit for use of a water site for discharging of contaminants in underground waters under Art. 46, para 1, item 7 and permit for re-injection or for injection under Art. 46, para 1, items 5 and 8, apart from the requisites under para 1, shall also contain the following:

1. way of discharging, re-injection or injection;
2. specific measures with explicit indication of the nature and concentrations of substances in discharged waters;
3. characteristic of the underground water body, in which waters are being discharged, and proximity to other underground water bodies, which may be affected;
4. terms and conditions of installation of measuring devices for the discharged, re-injected or injected quantities.

(4) The permit for use of a water site for outfall of waste waters into surface waters under Art. 46, para 1, item 3, apart from the requisites under para 1, shall also contain the following:

1. data about the object, generating waste waters, about its owner and its user;
2. data from the permit for water taking or from the contract for provided water service;
3. individual emission limitations of all typical properties of waste waters by streams and outfall points;
4. term for achievement of individual emissions limitations;
5. terms and conditions of installation of measuring devices for out fallen water quantities.

(5) In the permits other terms and conditions shall be set out pursuant to the provisions of Art. 135.

(6) Diagrams and/or maps in an appropriate scale can be attached to the permit depending on the specifics of the permit for water taking or for use of a water site.

(7) Integral part of the permit for water taking from the complex and important dams under Appendix No. 1 shall be regime schedules, issued by the Minister of environment and waters.

Art. 57. (1) The permit shall be issued for a term:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) up to 35 years for backwatering of and water taking from complex dams for hydro-energy and hydro-melioration objectives;
 2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) up to 25 years - for water taking with objective drinking-household water supply
 - 2a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) up to 6 years for using a water site for outfall of waste waters into surface water bodies;
 3. up to 10 years - in the other cases.
- (2) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 58. (1) Permit shall not be required, but only 30 days preliminary written notification of the basin directorate is necessary, if the owner or the user of an immovable property has the intention to implement the following activities:

1. development, modernisation or technological renovation of the existing installations and technological processes leading to insignificant changes of the quantity and quality of the used waters, determined in the already issued permit;

2. use of surface waters putting temporary detracting facilities necessary for the construction of certain construction site if the taken water quantity is less than 10 l/s and the achieved outflow after the use influences insignificantly the quality of the waters.

(2) In the cases of para 1, items 1 and 2 the owner or the user of the immovable property where is implemented the use of waters and the water sites shall present information about the planned activities from which to be evident what is the amount and the character of the activity and what measures are provided for the preservation of waters.

(3) If the director of the basin directorate decides that the planned activity does not meet the requirements of para 1 he shall inform the owner within the term of para 1 about the necessity of issuing the permit.

Art. 59. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The permit shall be issued on the basis of documents under Art. 60, para 9, prepared on the grounds of official and updated data of meteorologic, hydrologic, hydro-chemical and other investigations.

(2) Documents of art. 60, para 9 shall be prepared by persons, having professional qualification "master in engineering" in the subject, related to the type of requested permit and shall be registered pursuant to:

1. the provisions of the Law for the chamber of architects and engineers in investment engineering – when for the issuing of the permit presentation of an investment project as set forth in the Law of the spatial planning is required;

2. the procedure and under the provisions of Art. 118d – in cases of issuing permits for underground waters.

Section II. Conditions and order for issuing the permit

Art. 60. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For opening the procedure for issuing a permit the candidates shall submit an application, in which data required in art. 56, para 1, items 4 – 9, as well as a mailing address, telephone and fax number for contacts with the physical person or with the person, managing and representing the company pursuant to Art. 56, para 1, item 4 shall be indicated.

(2) To the applications of para 1 shall also be attached:

1. Document of a paid fee for issuing of the permit;

2. certified copy of updated certificate of entering into the commercial register – for legal persons and sole entrepreneurs, issued within three months prior to submission of application;

3. copy of the identification card of BULSTAT register;

4. enforced decision about the environmental impact assessment or a decision for non-implementing environmental impact assessment in the cases set forth in the Law of Preservation of Environment for investment proposals and/or permits, directly related to the requested permit;

5. updated outline or lay out of properties, where the activities shall be carried out, certified by the respective competent body;

6. document, certifying facilities owner consent in cases, when water taking or the use of water site is related to usage of existing facilities.

(3) When the application is for granting a permit for water taking from surface waters,

to the application shall also be attached:

1. Documents, certifying consent of owners of properties, which shall be affected by the backwatering and construction of facilities, provided that the facilities have not been constructed;

2. Coordinating justifications of competent bodies, related to existing infrastructure being affected and optional changes of the purpose of use of agricultural lands and of forests and lands of forest reserves, which are to be affected;

3. Comparative assessment of energy benefits and environmental damages – in case of electricity production with water power plants.

(4) When the application is for granting a permit for use of surface water site, except for outfall of waste waters, to the application shall also be attached:

1. In the cases under Art. 46, para 1, item 2:

a) coordinating justifications issued by the General staff of the navy of the Republic of Bulgaria and by the Executive Agency "Maritime Administration" in cases of use of sea waters;

b) coordinating justification issued by the Executive Agency Fisheries and Aquacultures with regard to the zones of fishing business and zones of fish farming in large dams, determined pursuant to the provisions of regulation under Art. 15 of the Law of the Fishery and Aquacultures;

2. in cases under Art. 46, para 1, item 4, when the water site is used for excavation of alluvial deposits – comparative assessment of benefits of activities and environmental damages;

3. in cases under Art. 46, para 1, item 4, when the water site is used for recreation and water sports through sailing facilities – preliminary contract for transportation of waste waters and domestic waste and/or a project of waste waters treatment in cases when these are generated as a result of the operation of the sailing facility;

4. in cases under Art. 46, para 1, item 9, when the water site is used for construction of facilities – coordinating justifications issued by the competent bodies, related to existing infrastructure being affected and optional changes of the purpose of use of agricultural lands and of forests and lands of forest reserves, which are to be affected;

(5) When the application is for granting a permit for water taking from underground waters, to the application shall also be attached:

1. Documents, certifying consent of owners of properties, which shall belong to the sanitary-protection zones – in case of water taking for the purposes of independent drinking-household water supply;

2. Development plan, approved pursuant to the provisions of the Law of the spatial planning – in case of water taking from mineral waters.

(6) When the application is for granting a permit for usage of a water site for construction of facilities for underground waters under Art. 46, para 1, item 1, letters "c", "h" and "i", to the application shall also be attached:

1. deed of ownership or certified by a notary public written consent of the owner of the property, on which the facilities are to be constructed;

2. documents under para 5, item 1 – in case of construction of facilities for the purposes of independent drinking-household water supply.

(7) When the application is for granting a permit for usage of a water site under Art. 46, para 1, item 5, 7 and 8, to the application shall be attached a report on the results of hydro-geological survey, including assessment of risk of underground waters contamination.

(8) For granting the permit under Art. 46, para 1, item 3 for objects under engineering to the application of para 1 shall be attached feasibility studies pursuant to Art. 138 of the Law for the spatial planning.

(9) For granting the permit under Art. 44 and 46 to the application in para 1 shall be attached documents set forth in the regulation under:

1. Art. 135, item 1a – in cases under para 3 and 4;
2. Art. 135, item 2 – in cases under para 5, 6 and 7;
3. Art. 135, item 13 – in cases under para 8.

(10) Comparative assessment of benefits of activities and environmental damages shall be carried out under conditions and pursuant to the procedure, set out in the regulation in Art. 135, item 1a.

Art. 61. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The application of art. 60 shall be submitted to the competent body acting in the area where the permit pursuant to Art. 52, para 1 has been issued;

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The body of para 1 shall check within one month whether the contents of the application and of the attached documents under Art. 60 meet the requirements of this law.

(3) When the requirements of art. 60 are not met the body of para 1 shall inform the applicant to remove the defects in 14 days term.

(4) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Failing to correct insufficiencies within the deadline set in para 3, documents shall not be considered and no procedure shall be initiated, about what the applicant shall be notified in writing.

Art. 62. (1) The body of art. 61, para 1 shall assess the application considering:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the forecasts of the enforced river basins management plants;

2. the compatibility with the public interests, in this number the needs of the population in the region of the water taking;

3. the compliance with the requirements for protection of the environment regulated by international agreements and the internal legislation;

4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the opportunity for joint use of the existing facilities and those predicted for construction for the required water taking and / or use;

5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the available water resources as quantity and quality;

6. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) compliance of the water quantity applied for with the purposes of the water taking;

7. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the existing of other opportunities for satisfaction of the requirement for water taking and / or use.

(2) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

(3) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

(4) (amend. - SG 81/00; revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

(5) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 62a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Within one month after expiration of the term pursuant to Art. 61, para 2 and provided that no reasons for rejection are present, the body under Art. 61, para 1 or an authorized by it person shall prepare a notification, containing:

1. the purpose of the stated use of waters;
2. the water body, in which use of waters is foreseen;
3. systems or facilities, through which usage shall be implemented;
4. point of use of waters, locality, administrative-territorial and territorial unit, the code as per the Unified classifier of administrative-territorial and territorial units – for each point of use;
5. design parameters of usage, including:
 - a) quantity of waters;
 - b) individual emissions limitations and deadlines of their achievement – in permits for outfall of waste waters;
 - c) decrease of the water level – in permits for water taking from underground waters.
6. conditions, under which a permit for use of waters can be granted;
7. place, where written appeals and proposals from interested persons can be submitted;

(2) The notification under para 1 shall be sent to the mayor of the respective municipality for public announcement;

(3) Within three days after the notification receipt the mayor pursuant to para 2 shall be obliged to:

1. arrange for public announcement by placing the announcement in designated for this purpose points;
2. notify in writing the body pursuant to Art. 61, para 1 about the exact date of announcement.

(4) In cases, when competent to grant a permit pursuant to Art. 44 or 46 is the Minister of environment and waters, the announcement shall be promulgated in the State gazette.

Art. 63. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Announcement and promulgation under art. 62a shall not be done when:

1. the water taking and / or use is for the needs of the defence and of the national security;
2. the water taking is from the mineral waters under Art. 14, item 2.

Art. 64. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Within 14 days after the announcement the interested persons shall be able to:

1. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)
2. appeal against the issuing of the permit;
3. propose conditions under which to be issued the permit with regard to be guaranteed personal or public interests.

(2) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 65. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 66. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 67. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Within 14 days after the expiration of the term under Art. 64, para 1, the body pursuant to Art. 52, para 1, item 2 and 3 shall grant a permit, provided that the requirement set forth in this law are met.

(2) Body pursuant to Art. 52, para 1, item 2 and 3 can appoint a commission for consideration of submitted appeals under Art. 64, para 1, item 2 and 3, which shall issue a resolution thereof. In this case the time for issuing a resolution shall be extended by one month.

Art. 68. The body of art. 52, para 1, items 2 and 3 shall refuse to issue the permit when:

1 (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) acquired rights pursuant to Art. 49, para 3, item 1 and 2 have been affected, including for satisfying citizens' own needs pursuant to Art. 43, para 2;

2. (amend. - SG 34/01, in force from 11.08.2006, amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)the application is not for private water site and for the water taking and/or the use applies an Irrigation Association or a Water Users Association registered as co-operation or commercial company;

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) over the water taking and/or the use of the corresponding water site are imposed restrictions with which the objective of the application is incompatible;

3a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) pursuant to the provisions of Art. 62 impossibility to satisfy the request has been identified;

4. the requirements pointed out in the law are not observed.

5. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) construction of water taking facility for underground waters is required for:

a) independent drinking-household water supply – provided that there is enough capacity of constructed water supply system;

b) water supply of objects, for which no discharge and treatment of waste waters is provided;

6. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) it is found out that environmental damages overcome the benefits from activities, for which water use is designated, in cases when such comparative assessment is required;

7. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the purpose of water taking from mineral waters is satisfaction of citizens' own needs.

Art. 69. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 70. The decision of the body of art. 52, para 1, items 2 and 3 shall be sent in writing in one week term to the applicant, the corresponding municipal administration as well as to the interested persons participated in the procedure of issuing the permit.

Art. 71. (amend. - SG 30/06, in force from 12.07.2006) The decision of the body of

art. 52, para 1 shall be subject to appeal by the order of the Administrative procedure code.

Section III. Change and extension of the permit

Art. 72. (1) (prev. text of Art. 72, amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)
Change of the permit shall be possible:

1. to be implemented officially by the body of art. 52, para 1, items 3 under the conditions of Art. 74 and 75;

2. under application by the person in favour of which it has been conceded

(2) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In cases under para 1, item 2 the body of para 1 shall check also the fulfillment of conditions of the granted permit.

Art. 73. (1) The body of art. 52, para 1 shall change the issued permit when in the status of the water source have occurred such changes that make impossible the implementation of the permitted activity.

(2) The body of art. 52, para 1 shall be able to change the issued permit also in case when regardless of the observed conditions of the permit contradictions with the public interests occur.

Art. 74. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Till the start of the procedure for change of the permit the body of art. 52, para 1 shall prescribe conditions and/or restrictions with regard to the water taking and define terms for implementing the measures.

(2) The prescribed conditions or restrictions have to met the following requirements:

1. proportionality of the imposed restrictions and the expected benefits;

2. least intervention in existing rights;

3. the restrictions shall be imposed pointing out their consequence in compliance with the changing water economic relations.

Art. 75. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The change of the permit shall be announced by the order of art. 62-a in cases when parameters of the permit for use of waters are modified.

Art. 76. (1) In one month term after the announcement or the promulgation the body of art. 52, para 1 shall be able to change the issued permit.

(2) When coordination with or opinion of another body has to be required or an issue of its competence is to be solved the term of para 1 shall stop till the decision.

Art. 77. (1) Till the issuing of the decision about change of the permit the body of art. 52, para 1 shall consider the appeals of the person in favour of which it has been issued, the applications and the appeals as a results of the announcement or the promulgation of art. 75 presented in writing.

(2) The considering of the documents of para 1 shall not lead to stopping of the term of art. 76, para 1.

(3) (amend. - SG 30/06, in force from 12.07.2006) The decision about change of the permit shall be possible to be appealed against by the order of the Administrative procedure code.

Art. 78. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) An application for extension of the permit validity shall be submitted to the body that has issued it not later than 6 months before its expiration.

(2) The body of Art. 52, para 1 shall extend the permit validity in case:

1. the application has been submitted within the terms under para 1;
2. there is no breach of normative provisions, plan predictions or public interests;
3. the conditions of the granted permit are fulfilled

Art. 78a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Modification and extension of the validity or granting a permit pursuant to the provisions of Art. 78, para 2 shall be made after depositing of due fees under Art. 194.

Section IV. Termination of the effect of the permit

Art. 79. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The effect of the issued permit shall be terminated with a decision of the body of art. 52, para 1 at:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) termination of the right of the water user of ownership or use of property, where the activity is carried out or water taking facility is located, as well as at explicitly declared refusal from the right to use the corresponding water site;

2. expiry of the term of the issued permit;

3. (suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) decease of the physical person, respectively termination of the legal person or deletion of the sole entrepreneur;

4. natural or artificial vanishing of the water site;

5. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

(2) In the cases of para 1, items 1 and 3 to the persons acquired the rights of ownership or use of the immovable property, respectively the legal successors of the persons of item 3 shall be given one month term to declare before the body of art. 52, para 1, items 2 and 3 whether they wish to use the rights of the issued permit. If the applicants meet the requirements for issuing the permit it shall be issued on their behalf.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The body of art. 52, para 1 shall be able to rule taking away the permit for water taking or use of the water site if at least one of the following conditions exists:

1. not use of a constructed water economy system for a term of one year;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) implementing water taking and/or use out of the objectives pointed out in the permit;

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) breach of the conditions of the permit;

4. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) non-experiencing of the rights, granted with the permit, within the set time period;

5. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) non-experiencing of the rights, granted

with the permit, within the set parameters of use;

(4) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Taking away could refer to a part of the water taking and/or the use in which case the body of art. 52, para 1 shall determine this part.

Art. 80. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In the cases of taking away the permit the body of art. 52, para 1 shall be able to define a term for titular of the permit to remove the facilities and to restore the status of the water site.

(2) In 7 days term the decision of para 1 shall be sent to the corresponding regional governor.

(3) After the elapse of the term of para 1 the regional governor shall be able to order the implementation of the prescribed activities for the account of the water user.

(4) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) If the preservation of the facilities for water taking and use of a water site is in public interests the body of art. 52, para 1, items 2 and 3 shall make motivated request for alienation of the property by the order of the Law for state ownership.

Art. 81. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In case of termination of the right of water taking and/or use the corresponding easement rights shall be terminated.

Art. 82. (amend. - SG 30/06, in force from 12.07.2006; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The decision of the body of art. 52, para 1, for taking away the right to water taking and/or use shall be subject to appeal by the order of the Administrative procedure code.

Section V. Restriction of the rights ensuing from the permit

Art. 83. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The rights of water taking ensuing from the permit could be additionally restricted after the permit is issued.

(2) The restriction of para 1 shall be admitted for preservation of the life and health of the population, the defence and security of the country and the cultural - historic heritage.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The restriction of the water taking and/or use shall be imposed regardless of the procedure of section III of this chapter.

Art. 84. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The restriction of the water taking shall be implemented with a decision of the body issued the permit.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The decision of para 1 shall change limits for water taking for certain periods of time.

(3) The limits of para 2 shall be utmost admissible amounts of water abstraction which are determined for one or more water users.

(4) The term for the restriction shall not be possible to exceed the duration of the reasons imposing the restriction.

Art. 85. At determining the limits shall be accounted for the status of the water site,

the priority of the drinking and household water supply, the declared water demands and the conditions in the corresponding permits.

Art. 86. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) At occurrence of circumstances threatening the life and the health of the population in separate regions of the country the Council of Ministers shall be able to determine restrictions for the use of waters affecting all water users as well as their subscribers if there are such.

Art. 87. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In the cases of this section the affected water users and their subscribers shall not be able to require responsibility from the state for the caused damages.

Chapter five. WATER USERS ASSOCIATIONS

Art. 88. (revoked – SG 42/03)

Art. 89. (revoked – SG 42/03)

Art. 90. (revoked – SG 42/03)

Art. 91. (revoked – SG 42/03)

Art. 92. (revoked – SG 42/03)

Chapter six. SPECIAL RIGHT OF WATER TAKING AND USE OF WATER ECONOMY SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES (TITLE AMEND. - SG 65/06, IN FORCE FROM 11.08.2006)

Art. 93. The assessment of the expedience of opening a procedure for granting a concession for water economy systems and facilities shall be complied with:

1. water economy plans entered into force;
2. existing water economy relations within the considered range.

Art. 94. When the competent bodies start official procedure for granting concessions for existing or for construction of new water economy systems and facilities in State Gazette shall be promulgated a message where are pointed out:

1. the waters or the water sites connected with the subject of the concession;
2. the investment intention and the estimated value of the construction;
3. the extent of the state participation if such is provided.

Art. 95. (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) When a procedure for granting a concession is opened for a water economy system with complex designation the preparatory activities shall be implemented in coordination and the proposals of art. 38, para 1 of the Law for the concessions by the competent ministers if they are different.

Art. 96. (1) To the proposal for granting concession for water economy systems and facilities shall additionally be attached water economy analysis containing:

1. predictions for the corresponding territories and water areas according to development and water economy plans entered into force;
2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) data of the specialized maps, registers and information system about the subject of concession;
3. water and water economy balances;
4. schemes and options with the basic parameters of the subject of concession;
5. technical - economic rationale and assessments.

(2) The water economic analysis of para 1 and the draft decision for granting concession shall obligatory be coordinated with the Ministry of Environment and Waters before submitting the proposal to the Council of Ministers.

(3) To the proposal for granting concession for mineral waters - exclusive state ownership shall be attached also a statement of the municipality on which territory the mineral waters are located.

Art. 96a. (New, SG 81/00) (1) (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) Concession for water economic systems and installations which are state or joint state and municipal property and belong to a unified technological system or have a unified system of management on the territory of more than one municipality shall be submitted by the Council of Ministers by the order of the Law for the concessions.

(2) The permits for the activities of water supply and sewerage in the cases when they are carried out on the territory of more than one municipality shall be submitted by the Council of Ministers within the range of the concession under para 1.

(3) The proposal for granting concession under para 1 and of permit for activity under para 2 shall be made by the body under art. 10, para 1 upon decisions for consent of the municipal councils of the municipalities on whose territories are located the installations and for which the permit is requested.

(4) In the decision under para 3 the municipal council can pose specific requirements regarding the concession and/or the permit, as well as for the development of the water supply system on the territory of the respective municipality.

(5) Chairman of the commission for holding the tender or the competition shall be the body under art. 10, para 1.

(6) The commission under para 5 shall include one representative each of the respective municipalities, of the Ministry of Finance, of the body under art. 10, para 1 and of the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(7) The representatives of the municipalities in the commission under para 5 and their body shall be determined by a decision of the respective municipal council.

(8) The decisions of the municipal councils under para 3 and 7 shall be adopted by a majority of more than half of the total number of the counsellors.

(9) (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) The representatives of the

municipalities under para 7 shall participate in the preparation of the concession contract project.

(10) The owners shall retain all their rights on the subject of the concession except the explicitly constituted or ceded by the concession contract.

(11) The distribution of the concession remuneration among the owners of the subject of a concession shall be proportional to the part of their ownership and shall be determined by the decision of the Council of Ministers.

(12) (new – SG 18/05) The concession contracts for water supply and sewerage services shall be prepared in compliance with the requirements of the Law of concessions, the Law of municipal property and the Law of regulation of the water supply and sewerage services and the by-law normative acts for their implementation.

Art. 97. The person to whom special right to use water economy system and facility has been conceded shall not be able to hamper other activities within the range of the subject of the concession permitted under this law.

Art. 98. (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) At granting concession for obtaining mineral waters - exclusive state ownership and public municipal ownership the regional governors and the mayors of municipalities shall undertake the necessary measures for realisation of the concession according to their competence.

Art. 99. At establishing a concession for mineral waters the concessionaire shall have the right to concede water services under conditions provided in the concession contract.

Art. 100. (revoked – SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006)

Art. 101. (1) (amend. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) The concessionaire shall have right to use free of charge the information determined with the decision of the Council of Ministers for opening the procedure of granting concession.

(2) After the termination of the concession the whole information connected with the use of and protection of the waters and the water sites collected additionally by the concessionaire shall be conceded to the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 102. (amend., SG 81/00; revoked - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006)

Chapter seven. LAND EASEMENTS CONNECTED WITH THE WATER SITES

Section I. General provisions

Art. 103. (1) The land easement shall be the encumbrance imposed on an immovable property called subservient property in favour of another immovable property called dominant,

belonging to another owner.

(2) The land easement shall ensue from the law or from a legal contract.

(3) Land easement shall be possible to be acquired in prescription after exercising it for 10 years.

Art. 104. (1) The easements provided by law shall have as subject public or private benefit.

(2) (suppl. SG 34/2001) The easements established for public benefit shall refer to ensuring access for common use of the water sites - public ownership, and to construction of the infrastructure necessary for this, as well as for maintenance water economy systems and facilities designated for ensuring the service water supply for the population and for irrigation.

Art. 105. The land easements for private benefit by law shall be these ensuing from the location of the land and the right of way and to transfer water.

Art. 106. At exercising the easements the following rules shall be observed:

1. the change of the ownership of a property shall not terminate the effect of the easements neither with regard to the dominant nor with regard to the subservient property;

2. if the owners of the subservient property are several persons an easement with legal transaction could be established only with the consent of all owners;

3. the easement granted with a legal transaction shall be obligatory for the legal successors of the owner of the subservient property;

4. the titular of the easement shall be obliged at implementing the activities necessary for exercising it to cause the possible least disturbance for the owner of the subservient property and to take the expenses necessary for this except otherwise agreed;

5. the easements shall be inseparable rights; they could be exercised entirely in favour of each part of the dominant property and shall encumber entirely each part of the subservient property even if the properties are separated;

6. the easement could be used only for the needs of the dominant property;

7. the owner of the subservient property shall not have the right to move the easement;

8. the easements established with a legal transaction shall be extinguished:

a) at objective impossibility to be exercised;

b) at amalgamation of the two properties as a result of a legal transaction;

c) after the expiry of the term of the contract;

d) after non exercising for a term of 10 years.

Art. 107. (1) The local suability of the disputes about exercising the easements under this chapter shall be determined by the location of the dominant and the subservient property.

(2) The indemnifications under this law shall be determined according to the current market prices.

Section II. Easements ensuing from the location of the properties

Art. 108. (1) The owners of the properties located higher shall not have the right to hamper the natural runoff of waters and to encumber the restrictions suffered by the lower properties in connection with this.

(2) The owners of the lower properties shall be obliged to accept the water running off naturally from the upper properties.

Art. 109. (1) If the banks or the facilities for withholding water in the dominant property are in condition which does not ensure protection from the impact of waters its owner shall be obliged to make the necessary construction works in such way that the owner of the subservient property does not suffer any damage.

(2) (amend., SG 81/00) If the obliged owner does not implement the necessary construction works the owners of the subservient property, if suffering a damage shall be able to implement the necessary works in the dominant property for their account with preliminary permission by the court after hearing the interested persons.

(3) The rule of para 2 shall be implemented also when in a property as a result of the construction of a sludge pond or tailings pond or solid waste deposit occur accumulations changing the water flow and as a result of this the water causes or could cause damage to neighbouring immovable properties.

(4) The owners participated in the expenses for implementing the necessary works for fortification of banks, repair of facilities or cleaning up of sediments shall have right to indemnification for damages from the person caused the demolishing of the banks or the facilities or the accumulation of sediments.

Art. 110. (1) The owner through which property runs a water flow shall be able to use it according to the requirements of the law without impairing the same right of the owner of the immovable property situated below.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In the cases of para 1 the owner of the lower property shall be able to implement works with which is influenced the natural state of the water site according to the conditions of the water taking permit and without causing damage to the owner of the higher situated property.

Art. 111. The owner of a water site shall dispose with its waters without causing damages to neighbouring immovable properties.

Section III. Right of water conveyance

Art. 112. (1) Each owner shall be obliged to grant water conveyance rights through his property to all who have permanent or temporary need to do this.

(2) If the construction of pipelines or facilities for transferring water is necessary to be constructed easement strips shall be determined with extent not bigger than the diameter of the pipeline increased with 60 cm on which shall not be permitted construction and planting of perennial plantations.

(3) The water conveyance right through other's property shall be established with an agreement of the owners of the dominant property and of the subservient property and if such

an agreement cannot be reached - with an act of the body of art. 52, para 1, item 3 observing the procedure of art. 34 and 36 without ruling the alienation of the property concerned.

(4) The exercising of the rights of the act of the body of art. 52, para 1, item 3 shall be admissible only after the payment of the determined indemnification.

Art. 113. (1) The conveyance of water through other's property shall be implemented in a way corresponding to the terrain accounting for the existing buildings and perennial plantations

(2) The owner of the dominant property in the case of para 1 shall be obliged to pay the price of the land which will be occupied, increased with one fifth in addition to the direct damages and these ensuing from the subdivision of the land if surface water is conveyed. For the part of the land which will be taken by the gathering of the dug up land shall be paid half of the price increased with one fifth.

Art. 114. Unless otherwise agreed the following rules shall apply to the water conveyance right:

1. the titular of the water conveyance right shall be obliged after the expiry of the term to restore the initial state of the respective property;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) in case it is necessary to carry out new works or to change the quantity of the flowing water due to a change in the water taking permit, the changes in the encumbrance of the subservient property may not be carried out before payment of the sum due for this;

3. The owner of the subservient property has a right to require the determination of the water bed by placing permanent boundaries at the expense of the titular of the easement; the latter is obliged to construct the necessary facilities if the owner of the subservient property does not have free access to his property resulting from the water conveyance.

Art. 115. The owner of the property, through which other's waters flow as a result of the exercising of an easement may use them in accordance with the requirements of the law, thereby taking over part of the costs of construction and maintenance of the facilities if not agreed otherwise.

Chapter eight. PRESERVATION OF WATERS AND WATER SITES

Art. 116. (1) (suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) All waters and water sites shall be preserved from depletion, pollution, and damage with objective to be maintained the necessary quantity and quality of waters and healthy environment, preservation of the ecosystems, preservation of the landscape and prevention of economic damages, including.

1. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) achieving a good environmental condition of surface waters;

2. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) good quality and chemical condition of underground waters;

3. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) reduction of the need in waters treatment prior to their use;

4. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) provision of water environmental systems development and related to them ground environmental systems

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) For achieving the objectives under para 1 the following shall be determined:

1. minimum allowable run-off into rivers;
2. rules and measures of protection of waters quantity and quality, including waters, designated for drinking and domestic waster supply;
3. zones of water protection.

Art. 117. (1) For the protection of the water ecosystems and the humid zones shall be determined the minimum admissible flow in the rivers.

(2) The runoff of para 1 shall be determined in the water basins management plans in compliance with the methodology of art. 135, item 1.

(3) for the objective of para 1 shall be implemented the following measures:

1. restriction of the extent of regulation of the runoff;
2. determining obligatory water quantities to be discharged from the dams;
3. introduction of restrictions for transfer of water quantities from one river basin to another;
4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) introduction of a prohibition for issuing new permits for water taking and restriction of the already issued permits;
5. carrying out of afforestation measures.

(4) Developing the water economy balances the minimum water quantities for watering shall be provided with priority.

Art. 117a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For protection of waters quantities and provision of their effective use, when providing water services new water consumption rates shall be set out.

(2) Water consumption rates under para 1 shall be set out in an Ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

Art. 118. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) In view of waters protection the Minister of environment and waters shall set in an order priority and priority hazardous substances.

(2) waters and water sites shall be protected from contamination and deterioration through:

1. termination of introduction of priority hazardous substances into waters;
2. continuous reduction of introduction of priority substances into waters;
3. limitation of introduction of hazardous and other substances into waters;
4. construction of water treatment stations for waste waters;
5. establishing of a regime for use and preservation of the flooded strips along the banks;
6. regulating prohibitions for depositing wastes and dangerous substances at places where could happen pollution of waters;
7. determining measures for not admitting artificial mixing of underground waters with different quantities.

(3) For the implementation of activities under para 2 the Minister of environment and waters shall approve:

1. project categories of surface waters;
2. programmes for decrease of contamination of the waters and the water sites.

(4) The Minister of Environment and Waters and the Minister of Health shall determine the maximum admissible concentrations and emission standards for radio-nuclides in waters and water sites.

(5) The order under para 1 shall be subject to promulgation in the "State Gazette".

Art. 118a. (New - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For protection of underground waters from contamination the following shall be prohibited:

1. (in force from 22.12.2013) direct discharge of contaminants in underground waters, except for the cases under para 2;

2. disposal, including depositing of priority substances, which can cause indirect discharge of contaminants in underground waters;

3. other activities on the ground and on the underground water site, which can cause indirect discharge of priority substances into underground waters;

4. use of materials, containing priority substances, during construction of structures, engineering construction facilities and others, in which contact with underground waters is existing or is feasible;

5. mixing of underground waters of different quality through constructed water taking facilities;

6. injection of natural gas or liquefied oil gas into underground waters, except for the cases under para 3 and 4.

(2) Direct discharge of small quantities of contaminants into underground waters shall be allowable, when this is done for scientific purposes for characterization, protection and reclamation of water bodies and these quantities are strictly limited to the amount, required for the respective purpose.

(3) Injection for protection of natural gas or liquefied oil gas shall be allowable into parts of the earth interior, which due to natural reasons are permanently inappropriate for other purposes;

(4) Injection for protection of natural gas or liquefied oil gas into parts of the earth interior, apart from the cases under para 3, shall be allowable, when there is a priority need in providing gas supply and in a way, providing prevention of future risk of deterioration of underground waters quality.

(5) In cases under para 4 injection shall be carried out after carrying out a hydro-geological survey and assessment of risk of underground waters contamination, proving that the condition of underground waters, in which the injection is being done, shall not get deteriorated and there is no risk of deterioration of the condition of other underground waters in the area of injection.

(6) In cases under para 2, 3 and 4 permit shall be granted under the conditions and the procedure set forth in this law.

(7) The permit for injection and re-injection of waters shall be granted also in case of:

1. injection of waters, containing substances, resulting from the oil and gas survey extraction or from mining works;

2. injection of waters due to reasons of technical nature into parts of the earth interior,

from with oil and gas have been extracted or other substances or due to natural reasons they are permanently inappropriate for other purposes.

(8) Injected waters under para 7, item 1 cannot contain substances, different from those, obtained as a result of oil and gas survey and extraction or mining works.

(9) Permit for re-injection shall be granted in case of:

1. de-watering of mines, quarries and construction engineering facilities;
2. use of waters for production of hydro-geothermal energy.

(10) The permit under para 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9 shall not be granted, provided that as a result of this activity preconditions for non-achieving the objectives for environmental protection of the respective water body are established.

Art. 118b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For protection of underground waters a contamination threshold shall be set out.

(2) Contamination threshold can be set out in the ordinance under Art. 135, item 2 on a national level or for each area of water management or for a part of an international area of basins management.

(3) Contamination threshold under para 1 on a basins level shall be set in the river basins management plans.

(4) Updating of the list of substances, for which contamination threshold under para 3 and their concentrations are set shall be carried out with the updating of river basins management plans.

Art. 118c. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) No water taking from underground waters shall be permitted, when:

1. the general water taking from an underground body exceeds its operational resources;

2. water taking facility is not included into the register of water taking facilities under Art. 118d

3. there is a risk of:

a) non-achievement of objectives for environmental protection for related to the underground water body surface waters;

b) deterioration of these surface waters condition;

c) damage of ground environmental systems, directly depending on the underground water body;

d) lowering of the underground water levels in the areas, from which waters of wet zones, zones of protection of economically significant water organisms, protected territories and protected zones are charged;

4. lowering of the water level and temporary or permanent change of the flow direction in the underground water body create a risk of attraction of salty or contaminated waters.

Art. 118d. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The Minister of environment and waters shall keep a register of:

1. experts, preparing documents under Art. 60, para 9 for granting permits for underground waters;

2. business companies, carrying out hydro-geological surveys, construction or re-construction of underground water facilities;

3. experts, carrying out independent control when carrying out hydro-geological surveys, construction or re-construction of underground water facilities.

(2) In the register under para 1, item 1 and 3 shall be included persons, who:

1. have got higher education with accomplished educational qualification "master" degree in "Hydro-geology" and a professional qualification of a "master in engineering";

2. have carried out for at least two years over the past 5 years activity related to the field of qualification under item 1.

(3) Directors of Basin Directorates shall keep a register of water taking facilities for underground waters on the territory of the respective area of basins management, including of facilities, which are:

1. equipped for operation;

2. non-equipped for operation;

3. conserved;

4. liquidated;

5. for satisfying citizens own needs.

(4) Entering into registers under Art. 1 and 3 and deletion of persons from the register under para 1 shall be done under conditions and following the procedure, set in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 2.

(5) Water taking facilities for underground waters, which are not entered into the register under para 3, shall be liquidated.

Art. 118e. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Abandoning and liquidation of water taking facilities for underground waters shall be made by and at the expense of their owner.

(2) Activities pursuant to para 1 shall be carried out under a project, approved by the Director of the respective Basin Directorate and following a procedure, set out in the ordinance under Art. 135, item 2.

Art. 118f. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Directors of Basin Directorates shall keep a register of dikes and shoots in non-corrected sections of the rivers outside settlements and residential zones.

(2) The procedure and the way of management and use of facilities under para 1, as well as of facilities, having lost their initial purpose of use, shall be set out in the ordinance under Art. 135, item 1a.

Art. 119 (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For protection of waters, designated for drinking-household water supply, in the river basins management plans shall be set out:

1. all water bodies, used for drinking-household water supply and have an average daily flow rate exceeding 10 cubic meters or are used for water supply to more than 50 people;

2. water bodies which are foreseen to be used for drinking-household water supply;

3. monitoring programs of water bodies of average daily flow rate exceeding 100 cubic meters;

(2) For surface waters designated for drinking-household water supply, water supply and sewage system operators pursuant to Art. 2, para 2 of the Law for regulation of water supply and sewage services shall provide treatment under the conditions and following the procedure set in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 4 until quality of waters for drinking and domestic purposes is achieved, as set forth in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 3.

(3) Protection of waters, designated for drinking-household water supply and of mineral waters shall be done by determination of:

1. water bodies under para 1, item 1 and 2 and water bodies, containing mineral waters, as zones of waters protection;

2. sanitary protection zones around water taking facilities for drinking-household water supply and around water taking facilities for mineral waters, used for healing, prophylactic, drinking and domestic purposes, bottling, hygienic purposes, sports and recreation.

(4) Measures for protection of water bodies under para 3, item 1, the procedure and the way of identification of sanitary protection zones under para 3, item 2, restrictions and limitation within their boundaries shall be set out in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 6.

Art. 119a. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Water protection zones are:

1. water bodies and sanitary protection zones under Art. 119, para 3;
2. zones of waters for swimming;
3. zones, in which waters and sensitive to biogenic components, including:
 - a) exposed zones;
 - b) sensitive zones;
4. zones of protection of economically essential kinds of fish and other water organisms;
5. protected territories and zones, announced for protection as living places and biological species, in which maintenance or improvement of waters condition is an essential factor for their protection.

(2) Directors of Basin Directorates shall:

1. keep register of zones under para 1;
2. prepare brief scanning of the register, which shall include maps, on which the location of zones under para 1 is shown and the grounds for announcing them as such.

Art. 119b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) For the territories and zones under Art. 119a, para 1, item 5 special requirements to the waters condition can be set, which shall have to be achieved and/or maintained, with an order for their determination, issued pursuant to the provisions of the Law of protected territories or the Law of biological diversity.

Art. 120. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For protection of surface waters from contamination emission rates and individual emission limitations shall be set out.

(2) Individual emission limitations in the permits for outfall of waste waters, granted following the provisions of this law, and in integrated permits, granted pursuant to the provisions of the Environmental Protection Law shall be set out after a complex approach and

cannot be less severe than the set emission rates.

(3) Emission rates under para 1 shall be set out in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 12.

Art. 121. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 122 (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Individual emission limitations can be set out as more severe than the emission rates, provided that this is required for:

1. achieving the environmental protection objectives;
2. use of surface waters for drinking-household water supply, non-scheduled in the river basin management plan.

Art. 123. Achieving the emission rates by dilution of the waste waters before their outfall in the water basins shall not be allowed.

Art. 124. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For protection of waters from contamination maximum allowable concentrations of substances in industrial waste waters, discharged into sewage systems or into waste waters treatment plants of settlements and residential zones shall be set out.

(2) Maximum allowable concentrations under para 1 shall be set out in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 11.

Art. 125. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) In the sewerage system and waste waters treatment plants under Art. 124 shall be included only waste waters, which can be treated by the existing technological system applied at the treatment plant and do not threaten operating personnel health and safety, in consideration of the specific conditions and of:

1. the permit for outfall of waste waters from the sewage system or the water treatment plant, granted pursuant to the provisions of this law;
2. flow rate, type and level of contamination of waste waters;
3. capacity and efficiency of the existing sewage system and/or treatment plant;
4. opportunities to use in agriculture and/or environmental friendly deposition or any other type of treatment plants sludge treatment.

(2) The persons discharging production waste waters in the sewerage system of a settlement according to a contract with the person which has discharge permit shall be obliged to send a copy of the contracts to the Basin Directorate.

(3) The Director of the Basin Directorate shall be able to prescribe change of the conditions of the contracts if he decides that the standards for discharge of production waste waters in the sewerage system of the settlements are violated as well as when these standards are not violated but there is a danger of demolishing of the sewerage system and pollution of the underground waters.

(4) When due to unlawful or obviously badly designed discharge of industrial waste waters in the sewerage system damages to the environment or to the person owner of the

sewerage system are caused, the sewerage enterprise in favour of which the discharge permit has been issued and the person discharged the industrial waste waters shall be jointly responsible for the caused damages.

(5) At proven breaches of the contractual conditions by the persons discharging production waste waters in the sewerage system of the settlement the titular of the discharge permit shall be able to require the one discharging of waste waters to carry out own monitoring for his own account after coordination with the Director of the corresponding Basin Directorate.

Art. 125a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) It shall be prohibited to involve new users, out falling waste waters, to the sewage systems of settlements and residential zones in cases when the sewage system cannot provide waste waters discharging and treatment, with observing the conditions of the granted pursuant to the provisions of this law permit for outfall of waste waters.

Art. 126. (1) The persons implementing operation of the sewerage networks and the treatment facilities shall be obliged to maintain them in technical and operational fitness and to ensure continuously their normal operation.

(2) At implementing planned prophylactic repair works of the facilities pointed out in para 1 as well as at necessity for changes of the treatment technology the obliged persons shall inform in writing the basin bodies about these works at least 30 days before starting the works.

Art. 127. (1) At design, construction, reconstruction and modernisation and extension of production enterprises, sewerage systems of settlements and other sites shall be simultaneously designed, constructed, reconstructed and extended the necessary facilities for waste water treatment.

(2) Prohibited shall be the entering into operation of sites and the implementation of activities without treatment facilities being approved by the due order except in the cases when they are not necessary.

Art. 128. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 129. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 130. (1) Th water treatment facilities and the sewerage systems shall be operated observing the requirements of this law.

(2) The persons owners or users of treatment facilities shall be obliged to implement laboratory analyses and monitoring of the functioning of the treatment facilities as well as to preserve the results of the analyses and the monitoring under the conditions of art. 174.

(3) The body issued the waste water discharge permit shall be able to determine and change the conditions of the activities of para 2.

Art. 131. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) At emergency cases

creating prerequisites for pollution of waters the owner or the person operating the site - source of the pollution, including tailings pond, sludge pond and solid waste deposits, shall be obliged to undertake the necessary measures for restriction or liquidation of the consequences of the pollution according to the preliminary prepared emergency plan and to inform immediately the Basin Directorates and the bodies of the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) If an incidental pollution of the water downstream the river has occurred, the Director of the Basin Directorate and the local bodies, which have received the information about the pollution under para 1, shall be obliged to inform in time the water users about the character of the pollution and the measures which might be taken for reducing the damage from the pollution.

Art. 132. The persons, from whose economic activities are generated waste waters, shall be obliged to construct the necessary treatment facilities in accordance with the requirements for discharge into the water site, when on the respective territory there is no sewerage system.

Art. 133. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 134. In the river bank and coastal flooded areas shall be forbidden:

1. the storage of pesticides, depositing and treatment of waste;
2. the construction of cattle-breeding farms;
3. the construction of economic and housing buildings;
4. the washing and maintenance of transport vehicles and equipment;
5. the planting of perennial vegetation with shallow root system.

Art. 135. In order to maintain the quantity and the necessary quality of the waters:

1. the Minister of Environment and Waters shall approve the methodology for determining the minimum allowable run-off in the rivers;

1a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Council of Ministers shall adopt ordinance for surface waters use;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Economic and Energy shall issue a regulation on the investigation, use and protection of the underground water;

3. the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works shall issue a regulation on the quality of water for drinking-household purposes;

4. the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Health and the Minister of regional Development and Public Works shall issue a regulation on the qualitative requirements for the surface waters intended for drinking-household water supply.

5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall issue a regulation on the protection of waters from pollution by nitrates from agricultural sources;

6. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Council of Ministers shall adopt

a regulation for the protection zones of waters, designated for drinking-household water supply and of mineral waters;

7. (suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters and the Minister of Health shall issue a regulation on quality management of the waters for swimming;

8. (suppl., SG 81/00; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall issue a regulation on the quality of waters inhabited by fish and shell species, organisms;

9. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue a regulation on characterisation of surface waters;

10. the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works and the Minister of Health shall issue a regulation on the quality of the coastal marine waters;

11. the Minister of Environment and Waters and the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works shall issue a regulation on the procedure and the method for determining of limits for discharge of industrial waste waters into the sewerage systems of the settlements;

12. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Economy and Energy shall issue a regulation on the emission limits for the admissible concentration of harmful and dangerous substances in the waste waters, discharged into the water sites;

13. the Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue an Ordinance on the issuing of permits for discharge of waste water into water sites and determining of the individual emission restrictions for point sources of pollution;

14. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue a regulation on waters monitoring;

15. (new, SG 81/00) the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works shall issue an ordinance for the conditions and the order of using water supply and sewerage systems;

16. (new, SG 81/00) the Minister of Environment and Waters and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall issue an ordinance for the quality of the waters for irrigation of the agricultural crops.

Art. 136. The Ministers of art. 135, item 11 shall issue instructions for the parameters, which determine the best available technologies for water protection from the activities in the sectors for which they are responsible.

Chapter nine. PROTECTION FROM THE HARMFUL IMPACT OF WATERS

Art. 137. The protection from the harmful impact of waters includes:

1. protection from floods;
2. protection of icing;
3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) protection of the river courses and

banks from erosion;

4. protection of the banks and coasts from the action of the waves;
5. protection from dangerous increasing or decreasing of the level of the underground waters;
6. protection of the water catchment areas from water erosion;
7. protection from artificial self-discharge of ground waters.

Art. 138. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The protection activities under art. 137 shall be operational and permanent.

(2) The operational protection is carried out during floods, icing and natural disasters, caused by waters and shall be managed by the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The operational protection shall be carried out in accordance with an emergency action plan. The emergency plans shall be prepared by the owners or the users of the water economic systems and hydro-technical installations and shall be coordinated with the bodies of the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents. Bodies of the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents shall be able to prescribe the updating of the emergency plans.

(4) The permanent protection includes:

1. construction and maintenance of dikes and other hydro-technical and protection facilities;
2. establishing and maintenance of observation, forecast and warning systems;
3. regulation of the level of the underground water at dangerous increase or decrease;
4. activities for protection of the water catchment areas from water erosion;
5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) maintaining the flow capacity of the river courses.

Art. 139. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The hydro-technical and protection facilities of art. 138, para 4, items 1 and 3 shall be maintained by the owner or the user unless in the permit under art. 50 or the concession contract otherwise is agreed.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The persons of para 1 shall maintain also the river course at a distance up to 500 m downstream from the facility.

(3) When other persons have benefits from the facilities of para 1 they shall owe a part of the costs in proportion with the received or expected benefits.

(4) When the permit for construction of the facilities of para 1 is issued after the actual identification of an activity, which bears damages from the construction and the operation of the facilities, their owner shall be obliged to indemnify the incurred damages.

Art. 140. (1) The systems of art. 138, para 4, item 2 shall be maintained by the state.

(2) The activities of art. 138, para 4, items 3 and 4 shall be controlled by the Basin Directorates.

(3) The activities of art. 138, para 4, items 4 and 5 shall be implemented with order by the corresponding regional governor.

Art. 141. (1) The owners and the users of water economic systems and hydro-

technical facilities, including tailings ponds and slag ponds, shall be obliged to maintain them in technical order, as well as to provide them with the necessary measuring and control equipment for monitoring of their activity.

(2) (amend. SG 108/01; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of Environment and Waters, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and the Minister of Economy and Energy shall in two years term issue an ordinance for the conditions and the order for implementing the technical operation of dam walls and the facilities thereof.

(3) The obligations of para 1 shall also be for the owners of water reservoirs which degree of clogging does not allow their further use according to their designation. In this case the owner shall prepare and carry out a project for reclamation.

Art. 142. (suppl., SG 81/00; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) At discharge of waters from the hydro-technical installations during the passing of high waves, at emergency conditions or during repair works, the owner or the user of the latter shall inform in advance the respective municipal administrations, Basin Directorates and bodies of the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents, and for the border crossing rivers - also the border police.

Art. 143. For protection from the harmful impact of waters shall be forbidden:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) To disrupt the natural state of the river courses and banks and the coastal and river bank flooded strips;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) To reduce the flow capacity of the river courses, including through barrages and rapids, without the respective permit;

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) To use the river courses as disposal sites for waste, earth and rock mass;

4. To carry out construction over the covered river sections;

5. To preserve or store materials which can substantially increase the destructive force of water during floods.

Art. 144. On the dikes shall be forbidden:

1. to cross them with vehicles outside the designated for this purpose places;

2. to till or disrupt their surface;

3. to put poles or traffic signs;

4. to plant trees or bushes;

5. to allow the passing of domestic animals outside the designated for this purpose places;

6. to construct wells or fish-farms;

7. to dispose of waste and other materials and things.

Art. 145. (amend. and suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When there is a danger of flooding, caused by the passing of large water quantities, as a result of unforeseen and extraordinary circumstances, the Minister of Environment and Waters or the Director of the respective Basin Directorate shall be able to order the respective water user to carry out the necessary works on the banks of the water sites, notwithstanding the conditions written down

in the permit, if there is no other possibility to prevent of the harmful consequences.

Art. 146. (1) It shall be forbidden to locate new houses, villas and farm buildings in the flooded terraces of the rivers.

(2) The Basin Directorates shall inform the competent bodies, which issue the permits for construction of housing, recreation and farm buildings about the location and the range of the river bank flooded strips.

Chapter ten. WATER MANAGEMENT

Section I. General provisions

Art. 147. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 148. The water management shall be realised at national and basin level.

(2) The areas of the river basins are determined by the natural location of the watersheds between the catchment areas of one or several main rivers on the territory of Republic of Bulgaria.

(3) The river basins determined by the present law shall not follow the administrative-territorial division of the country and shall also be the basis for environmental management according to the basin principle.

(4) (new. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When a region of basin management under para 2 includes trans-border water stream, this region shall be referred to an international region of basin management.

(5) (prev. text of Para 04 - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The management of the water economic systems shall be done on technological and basin principle, in accordance with the conditions of the permits for use and protection of the waters and the water sites.

148a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The republic of Bulgaria shall participate in development and coordination in cooperation with other countries, of policies, programs and strategies of trans-border waters on the grounds of principles under Art. 2a, item 4.

(2) Representatives of the Republic of Bulgaria in international commissions, coordinating activities under para 1 shall be officials, appointed under a nomination of the Minister of environment and waters and the Director of the respective Basin Directorate.

Art. 149. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The management of the waters, the water sites and the water economic systems and installations shall be implemented on the basis of river basin management plans.

(2) The plans of para 1 shall be public and related to other plans within the scope of the respective territorial level, including to the plans for regional development, the territory development, the forestry development, the park development and other plans.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The plans, which do not comply

with the present law and with the river basins management plans shall be possible to be changed by the Council of Ministers following a proposal by the Minister of Environment and Waters.

Art. 149a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For the development of management plans under Art. 149 shall be set out:

1. environmental protection objectives;
2. waters, designated for drinking and household water supply;
3. water protection zones;
4. programs of measures.

(2) For the development of river basins management plans characteristic of the area of basin management shall be carried out.

Section II. Water management bodies

Art. 150. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) State policy of water management shall be implemented by the Minister of Environment and Waters, whereas the cases under Art. 148a, para 1 - in cooperation with the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(2) Drafts of international contracts, as well as of other international acts, such as declarations, programs and memorandums, related to waters on Bulgarian territories and their management shall be agreed upon following the provisions of the Law for international contracts.

Art. 151. (1) (new – SG 18/05) The National Assembly shall approve National strategy for management and development of the water sector with which shall be determined the basic objectives, stages, means and methods for development of the water sector.

(2) (prev. art. 151 – SG 18/05) For the management at a national level:

1. the Council of Ministers shall:
 - a) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006);
 - b) (suppl. - SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006) grant concessions for obtaining mineral waters which are exclusive state property;
 - c) approve national programmes in the sphere of protection and sustainable use of waters;
 - d) permit the use of waters for the purposes of the defence and the security of the country;
 - e) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine restrictions in the use of waters in unforeseen or exclusive circumstances, concerning different districts of the country;
 - f) (amend., SG 70/04) determine the quantity of mineral waters of art. 14, Item 2, to be used by medical establishments for hospital care at a grounded proposal by the Minister of Health;
 - g) determine the tariffs for the fees, collected on the grounds pointed out in this law;
 - h) propose for approval to the National Assembly National strategy for management and development of the water sector;
 - i) (new – SG 18/05) approve sector strategies in compliance with the basic objectives, determined in the strategy of para 1.

2. the Minister of Environment and Waters shall:
- a) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) implement state policy of water management;
 - b) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) elaborate and submit for adoption by the Council of Ministers the National strategy of water sector management and development;
 - c) approve the river basin management plans;
 - d) develop national programmes in the sphere of protection and sustainable use of waters;
 - e) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) prepare the national balance of waters;
 - f) (amend. and suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) issue permits for water taking and/or use within the scope of the cases provided for in the present law, as well as regime schedules of water taking from the complex and important dams, specified in Appendix No. 1;
 - g) (suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine the order and the way for use of the waters of the complex and important dams, determined in appendix No 1 of the present law, including the order of emergency water discharging;
 - h) establish the necessary organisation, ensure the financing and make proposal for granting of concessions in the cases, provided for in the present law;
 - i) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) establish specialized databases, maps, registers and information system of waters;
 - j) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) organise and manage the monitoring of waters;
 - k) elaborate the state policy for bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the field of use and protection of waters;
 - l) publish a periodical bulletin about the status of the water resources of the Republic of Bulgaria;
 - m) approve the design parameters and schemes for the water economic systems and installations;
 - n) coordinate the starting of procedures for granting of concessions for water economic systems and installations, which are public state property;
 - o) coordinate the implementation of the activities of art. 51.
 - p) (new, SG 81/00; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) approve the exploitation resources of mineral waters deposits and develop their water balances;
 - q) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) agree upon and coordinate implementation of projects by the bodies under Art. 10, regional governors, municipality mayors and scientific organizations, related to the use, protection and prevention of waters harmful effects;
 - r) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine the regions of basin management, related to an international area of basin management;
 - s) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine sanitary – protection zones:
 - aa) of water taking facilities for mineral waters;
 - bb) of water taking facilities, located within the borders of national parks;
 - cc) of complex and important dams under Appendix No. 1, used for drinking and household water supply;
 - dd) in cases, when the sanitary-protection zone is located on the territory of more than

one Basin Directorate;

t) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine exposed zones for protection of waters from contamination with nitrates by agricultural sources;

u) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine sensitive zones for protection of waters from contamination with biogenic substances;

v) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) draft a list of priority and priority hazardous substances;

w) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) approve water analysis methods in cases, when no Bulgarian standards are available, as well as methods of analysis of water monitoring data;

x) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) generate and maintain control-information system of fees under Art. 194, para 1, items 1 – 3;

y) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) coordinate actions of bodies under Art. 10 with regard to water use;

z) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) keep the register under Art. 118d, para 1;

ab) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) set out limitations for use of waters and water sites and specific measures for their protection.

(3) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of environment and waters through the executive Director of the Executive Environmental Agency shall:

1. carry out laboratory and field surveys for determination of the condition of waters;
2. carry out monitoring of waters on a national level;
3. maintain geographical information system for waters on a national level;
4. prepare annual book of the condition of waters.

(4) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of environment and waters through the regional inspection offices of environment and waters within their territorial scope shall:

1. carry out monitoring of waste waters;
2. control objects, generating waste waters, parameters and fulfillment of conditions and requirements set out in the granted permits for outfall of waste waters and integrated permits, granted pursuant to the provisions of the Environmental protection act;
3. control emergency discharge sequences of waste waters;
4. maintain a data base of carried monitoring and control of waste waters condition;
5. update lists of objects, generating emissions of priority and priority hazardous substances.

(5) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of environment and waters through the Directors of the Directorates of National Parks within the territory of the national park shall:

1. control observation of prohibitions and limitations within the sanitary-protection zones;
2. carry out monitoring and control of environmental components and factors, affecting waters condition;

(6) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of environment and waters or an authorized by him/her official shall participate in the National expert council of spatial planning and regional policy in case of consideration of:

1. investment projects for construction, re-construction and reclamation of:
 - a) water supply and sewage systems and facilities;

- b) hydro-energy and hydro-technical systems and facilities;
 - c) dams and related facilities;
 - d) facilities for transfer of waters between river basins;
 - e) facilities for protection from damaging effect of waters;
 - f) ports, local water ways and underground depots for dragged masses
2. lay out drawings and plans of the territory of the Black sea coast, including beaches and sand dunes and related to them water areas, as well as adjacent to the maritime lakes, lagoons, firths and wet zones.

Art. 152. (1) Determined shall be the following regions for basin management of the waters:

1. Danube region with centre Pleven - covers the water catchment areas of the rivers Iskar, Erma, Nishava, Ogosta and to the west of Ogosta river, Vit, Osam, Yantra and Roussenski Lom and the territory west of the underground watershed of the malm aquifer;

2. Black sea region with centre Varna - covers the territory east of the underground watershed of the malm aquifer and the water catchment areas of the rivers flowing into the Black Sea from the North to the South border including the internal sea waters and the territorial sea;

3. East Aegean Sea region with centre Plovdiv - for the water catchment areas of the rivers Toundzha, Marts and Arda;

4. West Aegean Sea region with centre Plovdiv - for the water catchment areas of the rivers Mesta and Struma.

in the town of Blagoevgrad - for the water catchment areas of the rivers Mesta and Struma;

(2) The boundaries of the regions shall pass along the watersheds of the water catchment areas of the rivers within the national boundary and the underground watershed of the malm aquifer shall coincide with the western boundary of Shoumen and Dobrich regions and the eastern boundary of Razgrad and Silistra regions.

(3) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In cases when underground waters do not follow specific river basin, they shall be identified and with an order of the Minister of environment and waters shall join the closest and the most relevant region of basin management.

(4) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Within each region of basin management the Minister of environment and waters can set out sub-basins for one or more of the rivers under para 1.

Art. 153. For the basin water management in the regions of art. 152 shall be established:

- 1. Basin Directorates under at Ministry of Environment and Waters;
- 2. Basin Councils.

Art. 154. (1) The Basin Directorates shall be established with an order by the Minister of Environment and Waters, which shall be published in State Gazette.

(2) The activities, organisation of work and the personnel of the Basin Directorates shall be determined with a Regulation issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(3) The Director of the Basin Directorate shall present to the Minister of Environment and Waters annual report about the activities of the Directorate.

(4) The activity of the Basin Directorates shall be coordinated by the Chief Waters Directorate at the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 155. (1) (prev. text of Art. 155 - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Director of the Basin Directorate shall:

1. (amend. - SG 29/06) establish the boundaries of the waters and the water sites which are public state property, together with the technical services and the services of geodesy, cartography and cadastre of the municipalities;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) develop the river basin management plan;

3. grant permits pursuant to this law;

4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) plan and participate in carrying out monitoring of waters, summarize and analyze data, including:

a) of precipitations and of levels of surface and underground waters;

b) of chemical and environmental condition of waters;

c) of waste waters.

5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) maintain specialized data base, maps, registers and information system of waters and keep registers under Art. 182, para 1, item 1;

6. collect fees for the granted permits;

7. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) develop programs of measures towards improvement, protection and maintaining of condition of waters;

8. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine surface waters, designated for drinking and household water supply in coordination with the Directors of the Regional inspection offices for public health protection and control;

9. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine waters to be inhabited by fish and shell species;

10. manage waters being exclusive state ownership, which are not subject to concession;

11. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) manage waters monitoring points and stations including for monitoring and forecasts of risk factors, which may cause damaging effect on waters;

12. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) determine sanitary-protection zones around the facilities for drinking and household water supply, except for those under Art. 151, para 2, item 2, item t).

13. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) approve operational resources of underground water bodies, except for the deposits of mineral waters;

14. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) develop water balances, except for balances of deposits of mineral waters;

15. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) hold public discussion on river basins management plans;

16. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) seal water meters for taking readings of the used water quantities of underground waters and check the readings, as well as the readings of measurement devices for surface waters and of facilities for outfall of waste

waters;

17. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) issue periodic bulletin about the condition of waters;

18. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) generate and maintain a data base of the carried by the Basin Directorate control and of the control, carried out pursuant to the provisions of this law by other persons, authorized by the Minister of environment and waters;

19. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) organize acceptance of constructed water taking facilities for underground waters;

20. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) effect cooperation with competent basin management bodies of foreign countries regarding waters management in international basin management regions.

(2) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Director of Basin Directorate or authorized by him/her official shall participate in regional, municipal or district councils of spatial planning, with submitting a written justification of the Basin Directorate in cases when are to be considered:

1. investment projects for construction, re-construction and reclamation of:

a) water supply and sewage systems and facilities, including water treatment plants for drinking and waste waters;

b) hydro-energy and hydro-technical systems and facilities, for which permits have been granted pursuant to the provisions of this law, including for protection from harmful effect of waters;

2. lay out drawings and plans of the territories, including ports, beaches and sand dunes and related to them water areas.

Art. 155a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The Minister of health shall:

1. (in force from 12.08.2007) permit use of waters for drinking and household purposes in cases, when they do not comply with the legislative requirements, set in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 3;

2. approve materials, chemicals and biocides, which get in contact with waters, designated for drinking and household purposes according to a procedure, set in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 3.

3. manage the monitoring of quality of waters, used for drinking and household purposes, of waters for swimming and of mineral waters, used for healing, prophylactic, drinking and household purposes, bottling, hygienic purposes, sports and recreation and summarize the results on a national level;

4. issue certificates and balneological assessments of mineral waters;

5. coordinate sanitary-protection zones under Art. 151, para 2, item 2, item "t";

6. develop in cooperation with the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works and the Minister of Environment and Waters a National action plan for improvement of quality of waters for drinking and household purposes.

(2) Use of waters under para 1, item 1 can be permitted also by authorized by the Minister of Health directors of regional inspection offices of public health protection and control.

(3) The Minister of health through regional inspection offices of public health protection and control shall:

1. inform users in case of identified discrepancies in the quality of waters under para 1, item 3, when these discrepancies can cause risks for health;
2. carry out monitoring and control of quality of waters under para 1, item 3;
3. generate and maintain a data base and summarize the results of accomplished monitoring and control;
4. coordinate sanitary-protection zones around the facilities for drinking and household water supply, except for the cases under para 1, item 5;
5. control observance of sanitary-hygienic requirements within the borders of sanitary-protection zones;
6. provide to the Basin Directorates of waters management:
 - a) periodically information about the accomplished monitoring and control of surface waters, designated for drinking and household water supply, and of waters for swimming;
 - b) within 7 days information about cases of discrepancy in quality of the water, used for drinking and household purposes, when there are reasons to presume that this is due to modified condition of the water body, from which water taking is done.

Art. 156. (1) The Basin Council shall be a state public consultative commission for supporting the activities of the Basin Directorate.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Basin Council shall include representatives of the state administration, the municipal administration, the water users and the non-profit legal persons within the range of the basin as well as representatives of the scientific organisations connected with the water issues.

(3) The activities, the structure, the organisation of work and the staff number of the Basin Council shall be determined in a structural regulation, issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(4) For their activity the members of the Basin Council shall not receive remuneration.

Section III. Environmental protection objectives (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 156a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Objectives under Art. 149a, para 1, item 1 for environmental protection with regard to quantity and quality of waters shall be determined for:

- surface waters for:
- a) prevention of deterioration of the condition of all surface water bodies;
 - b) protection, improvement and reclamation of all surface water bodies in order to achieve good c) condition of waters;
 - d) protection and improvement of waters in all artificial and considerably modified water bodies and achievement of satisfying environmental potential and good chemical condition of surface waters;
 - e) prevention, progressive reduction and termination at once or by stages of contamination by emissions, outfalls and discharging of priority and priority hazardous substances;
2. underground waters for:

a) avoiding or control of discharging of contaminants in underground waters and prevention of deterioration of the condition of all underground water bodies;

b) protection, improvement and reclamation of all underground water bodies, providing balance between water taking and feeding of underground waters and achieving good condition of waters;

c) identification and reversing as soon as the contamination threshold is reached of each significant and continuous tendency of increase of concentration of each contaminant with regard to continuous reduction of contamination of underground waters.

(2) Measures and deadlines for achievement of environmental protection objectives under para 1 shall be set out in the river basins management plans.

(3) In cases, when for one water body more than one objective pursuant to para 1 is set, the most strict one shall be accepted.

Art. 156b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The surface water body can be determined as artificial or considerably modified, when:

1. the modifications of hydro-morphological characteristics of the water body can have significant adverse effects on:

a) the environment;

b) maritime traffic, port facilities and places of recreation and sports;

c) activities, for implementation of which backwatering for drinking and household water supply, for watering or for electricity production shall be required;

d) regulation of waters, protection from floods, dewatering of lands;

e) other activities, as important as these for sustainable development;

2. Benefits from modified characteristics of the water body cannot be achieved with any other means due to technical feasibility or economical inefficiency.

(2) Determination of bodies under para 1, as well as of reasons and grounds for determination of each water body and their updating shall be set out in the river basins management plans.

Art. 156c. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Terms under Art. 156a, para 2 can be extended with the update of river basins management plans for gradual achievement of environmental protection objectives in cases, when deterioration of the condition of concerned water body has been terminated and the following conditions are available:

1. the competent body identifies that it is impossible to achieve an improvement of water bodies condition within the set time limits under Art. 156a, para 2, when:

a) the required improvements can be implemented only on a stage-by-stage basis over a longer period due to reasons of technical nature;

b) the improvement of water bodies condition within the set time limits is economically inefficient;

c) natural conditions do not allow improvement of the water body condition within the set time limits;

2. in the river basin management plan are indicated:

a) extension of the time limit and respective reasons are justified;

b) scheduled measures for stage-by-stage adjustment of water bodies to the intended condition within the time limits under item 3, time schedule of their implementation and the reasons of each considerable delay;

3. the extension is for a period not longer than two subsequent updates of the river

basin management plan, except for the cases, when the natural conditions do not allow achievement of objectives within these time limits;

4. review of implementation of all measures is included in the updated river basin management plan.

Art. 156d. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Environmental protection objectives can be less strict for certain water bodies, when during the analysis and the review under Art. 156h, items 1 and 2 it is identified, that they are considerably affected by human activity or for which the natural conditions are such, that the achievement of environmental protection objectives under Art. 156a, para 1 is impossible or economically inefficient or when the following conditions are fulfilled:

1. environmental and social and economical needs, provided for by this activity, cannot be implemented by such means, guaranteeing considerably better environmental protection at comparable expenses;

2. effects are available, which could not be avoided due to the nature of the human activity or of the contamination and the following is achieved:

a) the best possible environmental and chemical condition of surface waters;

b) the smallest possible changes in the good condition of underground waters;

3. no further deterioration of the condition of waters of the concerned water body is occurring;

4. reasons for setting out less strict environmental protection objectives are indicated in the river basin management plan and these objectives are subject to revision every 6 years.

Art. 156e. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Temporary deterioration of the water bodies condition shall not be deemed breach of this law, when it is caused by non-foreseeable or extraordinary circumstances, including floods or long-lasting droughts in cases when:

1. all practical measures have been undertaken for prevention of further deterioration of waters condition and achievement of objectives of environmental protection for other water bodies, not affected directly by these circumstances, is not hindered;

2. all circumstances, which may be determined as non-foreseeable or extraordinary, are indicated in the river basin management plan;

3. measures to be implemented in case of occurrence of non-foreseeable or extraordinary circumstances are included in the program under Section V and shall not hinder restoration of the water body condition after these circumstances lapse

4. consequences of these circumstances shall be considered annually, and in cases under Art. 156c, item 1 all practical measures shall be undertaken for the most rapid possible restoration of the water body condition;

5. in the next river basin management plan update a brief overview of consequences of these circumstances, of the undertaken and of the scheduled measures pursuant to item 1 and 4 is included.

Art. 156f. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) There is no breach of this law in cases, when:

1. no good environmental condition of surface waters or good environmental potential

of considerably modified water bodies is achieved or there was no prevention of deterioration of their condition resulting from:

a) new modification of physical properties of the surface water body;
b) new activities for sustainable development of the population having social and economical effect;

2. no good condition of underground waters is achieved or deterioration of their condition as a result of change of their level was not prevented.

(2) In cases under para 1 it is required that:

1. all practical measures for reduction of the adverse effect on the water body condition have been undertaken;

2. the reasons of the identified changes or discrepancies are explicitly indicated and explained in the river basin management plan and the objectives are being revised every 6 years;

3. the reasons of these changes or discrepancies are in public interest or benefits thereof for human health and safety or for consistent development prevail over the benefits for the environment and for the community from achievement of objectives under Art. 156a, para 1;

4. benefits, achieved with these changes or discrepancies in the water body condition due to technical reasons or excessive consumption cannot be achieved by any other means, undertaking of which is more favourable for the environment.

Art. 156g. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The provisions of Art. 156b – 156f shall apply only to individual water bodies, specified in the river basin management plan, provided that achievement of environmental protection of other water bodies is not hindered.

Section IV. Characterization of the region of basin management of waters (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 156h. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) For each region of basin management of waters or for the part of the international region are made:

1. analysis of its characteristics,
2. review of effect of human activity on the condition of surface and underground waters, and

3. economic analysis of water intake under Art. 192, para 2, item 1.

Art. 156i. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The analysis under Art. 156h, item 1 shall be carried out under the conditions and according to a procedure, set out in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 2 and the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 9.

(2) When carrying out analysis under para 1 shall be determined:

1. surface and underground water bodies;
2. strongly modified and artificial surface water bodies;
3. the types of surface water bodies of each category:
 - a) rivers;

- b) lakes;
- c) transitional waters;
- d) in-shore waters.

Art. 156j. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The revision of the effect under Art. 156 h, item 2 shall include determination of water bodies, for which there is a risk of non-achievement of the set objectives for environmental protection.

Art. 156k. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Information under Art. 156h – 156j shall be reviewed and, if required, shall be updated every 6 years after the first update.

Section V. Program of measures for water protection and recovery (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 156l. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For each region of basin management and for each part of the international region of basin management a program of measures shall be drafted, in consideration of analyses under Section IV and the objectives under Section III.

(2) The Minister of environment and waters can set measures, which shall be applicable in all regions of basin management of waters and/or for the parts of international regions of basin management.

Art. 156m. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Each program shall include general and, where applicable, supplementary measures.

(2) The general measures shall provide the fulfillment of the minimum obligatory requirements and shall include:

1. measures, required for the application of normative acts with regard to waters protection;
2. measures, providing application of the principle of the more complete repayment of expenses for water services, including for the resource and environmental protection;
3. measures for supporting effective and sustainable use of waters for achievement of objectives related to environmental protection pursuant to Section III;
4. measures for protection of waters for drinking and household water supply, including measures for their quality protection with regard to reduction of the degree of treatment in order to obtain waters of drinking properties;
5. control of water taking of fresh surface and of underground waters, backwatering of fresh surface waters, including:
 - a) granting permits for water taking;
 - b) entering permits under item "a" into registers under Art. 182 and 183;
 - c) periodic revision and updating of control;
6. control of artificial feeding of underground waters, including:
 - a) granting a permit for artificial feeding of underground waters;
 - b) periodic revision and updating of control;
7. control of emissions by setting prohibitions for introduction of contaminants from

point sources of contamination or requirements for granting permits and their periodic revision and updating;

8. setting prohibitions for introduction of contaminants from diffusive sources of contamination and measures for contamination prevention or control, including by bringing to application of requirements for the cases, when such are not provided in the national legislation, as well as their periodic revision and updating;

9. measures for prevention and reduction of all other considerable adverse effects on the condition of waters, set out during the revision under Art. 156h, item 2 in order to provide compatibility between hydro-morphological conditions in water bodies and obtaining relevant environmental condition or good environmental potential of water bodies, defined as artificial or strongly modified.

10. measures for termination of contamination of surface waters with priority substances and for gradual reduction of contamination with other substances, which may hinder achievement of objectives for environmental protection for surface water bodies, defined in Art. 156a;

11. other measures for prevention of technical losses of contaminants and for prevention and/or reduction of the effect of emergency contaminants as a result of floods, including:

a) systems of identification and warning of such events;
b) all relevant measures for reduction of risk for water environmental systems in case of unexpected accidents;

(3) Supplementary measures are intended and are applied in addition to the general measures for achieving the objectives under Section III and can be:

1. legislative measures;
2. administrative measures;
3. economical and/or financial measures;
4. agreements related to environmental issues;
5. measures for emissions control;
6. codes of good practices;
7. recovery and establishment of wet zones;
8. measures for water taking control;
9. measures for usage management, including encouragement of application of water-saving technologies in agriculture, industry and household, in the regions, affected by drought;
10. measures for efficiency and re-use of waters in industry;
11. construction projects;
12. de-salting plants;
13. rehabilitation and reconstruction projects;
14. artificial feeding of underground waters;
15. educational projects;
16. surveying, development and demonstration projects;
17. other measures.

(4) Programs of measures can contain, apart from the measures under para 2 and 3, also other measures providing further protection and recovery of waters, including for fulfillment of international agreements, under which Bulgaria is a party thereof.

Art. 156n. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) When information from the

monitoring or any other data show, that objectives for environmental protection of a certain water body cannot be achieved through the foreseen measures and/or within the set time period, a program shall be worked out for it, including:

1. study of reasons of possible non-fulfillment;
2. review and, if required, amendment of conditions of granted permits;
3. review and, if required, modification of monitoring programs;
4. undertaking any other measures, including setting out more strict individual emissions limitations pursuant to the procedure set in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 13.

(2) When the reasons under para 1, item 1 are a result of extraordinary and unforeseeable circumstances, including floods and long-lasting droughts, pursuant to the provisions of Art. 156e supplementary measures may not be implemented.

Art. 156o. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Implementation of programs of measures cannot result directly or indirectly in an increase of contamination of surface and sea waters, neither to environmental pollution.

Art. 156p. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Programs of measures shall be worked out within the frames of river basin management plans.

(2) Programs shall be subject to review and, if required, in consideration of achieved results, shall be updated every 6 years.

(3) All new or revised measures, included in the updated program, shall be implemented within three years after their approval.

Section VI. River basins management plans (Prev. text of Section III, title amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 157. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) River basins management plans shall be developed for each region of basin management of waters and shall include:

1. general description of characteristics of the region of basin management pursuant to Section IV, including:

- a) of surface waters:
 - aa) maps indicating the location and borders of surface water bodies;
 - bb) maps of environmental regions and of types of surface water bodies;
 - cc) determination of reference conditions for the types of surface water bodies;
- b) of underground water maps indicating the location and borders of underground water bodies;

2. brief overview of significant kinds of pressure and impact as a result of human activity on the condition of surface waters and underground waters, including:

- a) assessment of contamination from point sources;
 - b) assessment of contamination from diffusion sources, including revision of use of lands;
 - c) assessment of effect on quantities of waters, including water taking;
 - d) analysis of other effects as a result of human activity on condition of waters;
3. list and maps of zones of protection of waters;

4. maps of networks of monitoring of surface waters, underground waters and of zones of protection of waters;
5. cards with monitoring results of:
 - a) environmental and chemical condition of surface waters;
 - b) quantitative and chemical condition of underground waters;
 - c) zones of protection of waters;
6. list of objectives for environmental protection for surface and underground water bodies and zones of protection of waters, including cases under Art. 156c – 156f and related to this information;
7. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) brief overview of economical analysis of water taking;
8. brief review of programs of measures for achieving environmental protection objectives, including:
 - a) list of measures under Art. 156m, para 2, item 1;
 - b) report on effects and list of measures under Art. 156m, para 2, item 2;
 - c) list of measures under Art. 156m, para 2, item 4
 - d) list of measures under Art. 156m, para 2, item 5 and 6, with indication of registers of permits for water taking and of cases, when water taking or backwatering do not have significant effect on condition of waters;
 - e) list of measures under Art. 156m, para 2, item 7 and 9;
 - f) description of cases of permitted direct discharge of contaminants in underground waters pursuant to Art. 118a, para 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9;
 - g) list of measures for prevention of waters contamination with priority substances;
 - h) list of measures for prevention or reduction of the effect of emergency contaminations;
 - i) list of measures under Art. 156n;
 - j) description of supplementary measures;
 - k) description of measures under Art. 156o for prevention of contamination of sea waters;
9. register of all other similar programs and plans within the scope of the region of the basin management, related to individual sub-basins, sectors, problems or types of waters, along with a description of their content;
10. list of measures subject to public discussion, achieved results from their implementation and related to that modification of the plan;
11. title and address of the competent body for waters management;
12. contact persons and procedures for obtaining documentation and information under Section VII, as well as about the programs of measures and information from the monitoring, carried out in compliance with the provisions of Section VIII and the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 14.

Art. 158. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When developing river basins management plans prognostic studies of water needs for different economical sectors and for administrative-territorial units shall be used.

(2) For the purposes of para 1 all administrative units and state-financed scientific institutes shall be obliged to provide for free all available relevant information.

Art. 159. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) River basins management plans shall be reviewed and updated every 6 years.

(2) Plan updating, except for the information under Art. 157, shall also contain:

1. list of all amendments and updates over the period from the promulgation of the preceding plan, including a brief overview of circumstances under Art. 156c-156f;

2. assessment of the level of achievement of environmental protection objectives, including presentation of cards containing the results of the monitoring for the period of operation of the preceding plan, and explanation of the reasons of non-fulfillment of non-achieved objectives;

3. list of measures, set out in the preceding plan, which have not been undertaken and explanation of the reasons;

4. list of supplementary measures under Art. 156n, set out in the preceding plan.

Art. 160. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) River basins management plans and their updates shall be approved by the Minister of environment and waters.

Art. 161. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 162. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 163. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 164. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 165. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 166. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 167. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 168. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Section VII. Public information and consultations (new – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 168a. (new – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When developing, carrying out the revision and updating of river basins management plans information to the public should be provided about the scheduled measures and achieved results of their implementation.

Art. 168b. (new – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For each region of basin

management shall be promulgated and announced to the public, including to water users, for consultations and written comments:

1. time schedule and working program for the development of the river basin management plan and public discussions to be held;

2. provisional review of identified problems, related to waters management;

3. draft plan of river basin management.

(2) The information under para 1 shall be provided to the public:

1. on item 1 – at least three years before the start of the period, to which the plan refers;

2. on item 2 – at least two years before the start of the period, to which the plan refers;

3. on item 3 – at least one year before the start of the period, to which the plan refers;

(3) The information under para 1 shall be released on the Internet site of the respective Basin Directorate and on the Internet site of the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(4) The announcement, that the information under para 1 has been released, shall be issued in at least two central daily newspapers and in the electronic mass media.

(5) In cases under para 1, item 3 upon request access to documents and the information, used for the development of the draft river basin management plan, shall be provided.

Art. 168c. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Documents under Art. 168b, para 1 shall be made public for comments for a period of 6 months.

(2) Each person within the time under para 1 can consult the respective Basin Directorate about the documents under Art. 168b, para 1 and to submit written comments.

(3) Comments under para 2 shall be an integral part of documents to the river basin management plan.

Art. 168d. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) When updating the river basin management plan the provisions of Art. 168b and 168c shall apply.

Section VIII. Monitoring of waters and of zones of protection of waters (Prev. text of Section IV, title amend. – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 169. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Monitoring of waters and of zones of water protection shall provide coordinated and comprehensive review of the condition of waters in each region of basin management.

(2) Monitoring shall be carried out pursuant to approved by the Minister of environment and waters programs, developed by the Basin Directorates in consideration of the specific of water bodies and their characteristics.

(3) Review under para 1 and programs under para 2 shall be part of the national environment monitoring system.

Art. 169a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For the monitoring of

surface waters programs of control, operative and, if required, surveying monitoring shall be developed;

(2) Programs of surface waters monitoring shall include:

1. hydrological and morphological observation, including the volume, water quantity and water level for determination of environmental and chemical condition and water body environmental potential;

2. observations of environmental and chemical condition and environmental potential;

Art. 169b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For monitoring of underground waters programs of control and operative monitoring.

(2) Programs of underground waters monitoring shall include observations for chemical and quantitative condition of the underground water body.

Art. 169c. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For the zones of water protection programs under Art. 169a and 169b shall be supplemented with observations, related to the specifics of the zone, set out in the law and in the act of its establishment.

(2) Water protection zones, characterized as water bodies in risk, shall be included in programs of operative monitoring of surface and underground waters.

(3) In cases under para 1 monitoring of factors, affecting the condition of these water bodies, including the effect, caused by the implementation of programs of measures shall be carried out.

(4) Monitoring under para 1 shall continue, until the objectives set in the river basin management plan for environmental protection are achieved for the specific zone.

Art. 170. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Waters monitoring networks shall be:

1. for precipitations and surface waters, including hard run-off;

2. for underground waters;

3. for sea waters;

4. control and information system about waste waters condition

(2) Networks under para 1, item 1, 2 and 3 shall include points and/or stations.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The procedure and the method of establishment of networks and implementation of activities related to operation, maintenance, communication provisions and laboratory and information servicing shall be set in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 14.

Art. 171 (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of environment and waters shall organize and manage waters monitoring.

(2) measurements, observations and laboratory analyses shall be carried out by the Basins Directorates according to standardization documents, and where these are not available - under the procedure of Art. 170, para 3.

(3) Data under para 2 shall be collected and kept by the Basins Directorates.

Art. 172. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Ministry of

Environment and Waters and the Ministry of Transport shall establish and maintain that part of the waters monitoring network, which relates to the Danube river.

Art. 173. (1) Assessment and forecasts of waters quantity and quality under the criteria, set in this law, shall be carried out, as follows:

1. on a basin level – by the Basins Directorates;
2. on a national level – by The Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(2) Data, assessments, change tendencies and forecasts of waters quantity and quality shall be released in a Bulletin of waters condition in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Art. 174. (1) The Minister of Environment and Waters can oblige water users and/or users of water sites to carry out their own monitoring of waters quantity and quality according to Art. 171, para 2.

(2) Persons under para 1 shall keep the information about accomplished measurements for a period of 6 years.

(3) Bodies under Art. 52, para 1, item 2 and 3 in the course of implementation of their control functions shall have the right of access at any time to the facilities under para 1 and to the information under pr. 2.

(4) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In case of termination of the right of water taking and/or use of a water site, the information under para 2 shall be submitted to the respective Basin Directorate for retaining.

Art. 175. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Data from the observations and assessments, obtained as a result of monitoring of waters, as well as of on-site monitoring, shall be the basis for carrying out control and for imposing fines in case of noncompliance with the normative requirements.

Section IX. Specialized water economy maps, registers and information system (Prev. text of Section V, title amend. – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 176. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Specialized water economic maps, registers and the information system shall provide data about the ownership and the condition of water sites and contained in them waters on the territory of the country, as well as about the existing water economy systems and facilities.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The maps, registers and the information system under para 1 shall be maintained in order to provide rational use of water sites, their recovery and protection.

Art. 177. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Data from the specialized maps, registers and the information system characterize the condition of waters and water sites with their quality and quantitative properties, the level of their exploration and usage.

(2) Data under para 1 shall be updated in compliance with the data of the monitoring

under Section IV.

Art. 178. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Registers under Art. 176, para 1 and the information system for the respective regions of basin water management shall be maintained by the Basin Directorates.

(2) The content of the specialized water economy maps, registers and the information system, the conditions and procedures of their generation and maintenance shall be set out with an Ordinance of the Minister of environment and waters and the Minister of regional development and public works.

Art. 179. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Water sites shall be plotted on the maps and recorded in the registers under Art. 176, para 1 by characteristics in consideration of their components.

Art. 180. (1) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The maps and the registers under Art. 176, para 1 shall be public.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Persons can use data from the maps and the registers under Art. 176, para 1 against payment.

(3) Fees for the services under para 1 shall be fixed with an Act of the Council of Ministers.

Art. 181. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) On the grounds of the data under Art. 177 water economy balances and assessments of the condition of waters and water sites shall be worked out.

Section X. Registers (Prev. text of Section VI – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 182. (1) Registers under this section shall be maintained by:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Basin Directorates of:
 - a) permits under Art. 52, para 1, item 3;
 - b) water protection zones under Art. 119a;
 - c) programs and plans under Art. 157, item 9;
 - d) of water taking facilities for underground waters under Art. 118d, para3;
 - e) of the facilities under Art. 118e, para 1;
2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Ministers of Art. 10, para 1, item 1, 2 and 3, concluding concession contract;
3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) municipal administrations – under Art. 41, para 3, item 2.

(2) Basin Directorates shall register also applications for respective water takings and/or uses.

(3) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In the registers under para 1 modifications of circumstances subject to registration shall be entered.

Art. 183. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of environment and waters shall:

1. maintain a register of permits under Art. 52, para 1, item 1 and 2;
2. maintain a register of granted concessions for waters – exclusive state ownership;
- 2a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) maintain the register of Art. 118d, para 1;
3. generalize registers under Art. 182, para 1.

Art. 184. (1) Registers under this section shall be public.

(2) For using relevant information a fee, fixed with an Act of the Council of Ministers shall be paid.

Section XI. Control over the waters, water sites, water economic systems and installations (Prev. text of Section VII – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)

Art. 185. (1) The control under the present section shall be carried out by the competent bodies of art. 52, para 1, items 2 and 3 as regards the observation of the normative requirements and the plans, as well as of the conditions and the requirements of art. 56.

(2) The control of para 1 shall be carried out also at the request of the interested people.

(3) The costs for establishing the breaches by the order of para 2 shall be paid by the offender.

Art. 186. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The control over the protection of the water sites, installations and systems shall be carried out by the competent bodies under art. 52, para 1, items 2 and 3 with regard to the observation of the normative requirements and the plans, as well as to the conditions and the requirements for carrying out of the water taking.

Art. 187. (1) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall control:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the quantity and the quality of waters;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the observation of the requirements of the permit for water taking when it is issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters;

3. the observation of the conditions under the concession contracts for waters, which are exclusive state property.

4. the design parameters of the water economic installations and systems, elements of which are the complex and important dams, listed in appendix No 1, the condition of their control and measuring devices, the condition of the networks for quantitative and qualitative characteristics of the waters;

5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the observation of the prescribed regime for usage of the waters of the complex and important dams, listed in appendix No 1 to the present law.

- (2) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue:
1. methodologies for control of the water resources;
 2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) methodologies for preparation of the water balances, of the water economic balances and the National Water Balance;
 3. methodologies for distribution of the waters from the dams and for use of the water resources;
 4. methodology for determining of the operational resources of the underground waters.

Art. 188. (1) The Basin Directorates shall control:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the condition and the flow capacity of the river beds and of the discharging installations;
2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the execution of activities in the river beds;
3. the condition and the proper operation of:
 - a) the water taking installations, the installations for use of the surface and the underground waters and the facilities for measuring the water quantities;
 - b) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)
 - b) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)
 - r) (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006)
 - e) the control and measuring devices of the hydro-technical installations, the tailings ponds, the slag ponds, the solid waste deposits and the systems for control of their safety;
4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the fulfilment of the conditions of the issued permits under the present law;
5. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) quantity and quality of waters;
6. the maintenance of the minimum admissible run-off in the rivers;
7. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) own monitoring of waters;
8. the waste water treatment plants;
9. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) fulfillment of obligations for paying the fees under Art. 194, para 1, item 1-3;
10. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) observation of prohibitions and restrictions within the boundaries of sanitary-protection zones;
11. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) implementation of programs of measures under Section V.

(2) Information about the results of the implemented control activity of para 1 shall be sent monthly to the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 189. The Minister of Health shall control:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the quality of the water, designated for drinking-household needs;
2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the quality of the mineral water, designated for drinking or used for prophylactic, healing and hygienic purposes, including the bottled mineral waters in the retail trade network;
3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the quality of the water, designated for swimming.

Art. 190. (1) (amend. - SG 108/01; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of the Agriculture and Forestry and the Minister of Economy and Energy shall control the state of the water sites, the water economic systems and installations in the scope of their competence.

(2) The Minister of Transport shall control the use for transport purposes of the internal sea waters, the waters of the territorial sea and the waters of the Danube river.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Minister of the state policy for disasters and accidents shall control the preparation of the emergency plans under the present law and the implementation of their requirements.

Art. 191. (1) (prev. text of Art. 191 - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The mayor of the municipality shall control:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the construction, maintenance and the proper operation of the sewerage networks and of the facilities for treatment of household waste waters;

2. the construction, maintenance and operation of the water economic systems of art. 19, item 4;

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the construction and the registration of the wells for individual water taking from the underground waters on the territory of the municipality.

(2) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The execution of activities under para 1 shall be controlled by the regional governors.

Chapter eleven. FINANCIAL ORGANISATION AND ECONOMIC REGULATION

Art. 192. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Economic regulation shall be based on the principle of repayment of expenses for water services, including for the environmental ones and for the resource, and on the principle "the pollutant shall pay".

(2) For the purposes of economic regulation:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) economic analysis of water taking shall be developed:

2. pricing policy shall be implemented, providing relevant incentives for the consumers for effective use of waters in view of achievement of environmental protection objectives.

Art. 192a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The economic analysis under Art. 192, para 2, item 1 shall be developed for each region of basin management of waters and shall contain:

1. assessment of the contribution of different water users, divided as a minimum into categories of industry, agriculture and household users to repayment of expenses for water services;

2. comprehensive and detailed information about repayment of expenses for water services in view of long term forecasts for supply and use of waters, and, whenever required,

also:

- a) evaluation of quantities, prices and expenses, related to water services;
 - b) assessment and anticipation of required investments;
 - 3. consideration on the most efficient from the point of view of the "cost-benefit" ratio combination of measures, which shall be included in the program under Section V.
- (2) When identifying the scope of information under para 1 the cost of gathering of relevant data shall also be taken into consideration.

Art. 192b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Pricing policy under Art. 192, para 2, item 2 and the assessment under Art. 192a, para 1, item 1 shall be made in consideration of the social and economic effect and the environmental protection effect from the repayment of expenses, as well as in consideration of geographic and weather conditions in the respective regions.

Art. 192c. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Measures for providing for the pricing policy under Art. 192, para 2, item 2 and the contribution of water users under Art. 192a, pr. 1, item 1 shall be included into the river basins management plans.

Art. 193. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Public relations concerning water supply and sewage services shall be regulated by the Law for regulation of water supply and sewage services, subject to the requirements of this present law.

Art. 194. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) For the right of use of waters shall be paid:

- 1. fee for water taking from:
 - a) surface waters;
 - b) underground waters;
 - c) mineral waters;
- 2. fee for use of a water site for:
 - a) taking out alluvial deposits from surface waters;
 - b) aquatic cultures and related to them activities;
 - c) recreation and water sports;
- 3. contamination fee for:
 - a) outfall of waste waters into surface waters;
 - b) discharge of contaminants into underground waters;
- 4. concession fee.

(2) The fee under para 1, item 1 shall be fixed based on the taken water volume, except for the cases of water taking of mineral waters.

(3) Fee for water taking from mineral waters shall be fixed based on the extended water volume and the mineral water temperature.

(4) Fee under para 1, item 2 shall be fixed based on the consumed volumes or areas of the water site.

(5) Fee under para 1, item 3 shall be fixed based on the mass of individual contaminants.

(6) The amount of fees under para 1, items 1-3 shall be set out with a tariff of the

Council of Ministers.

(7) Fee for water taking under para 1, item 1, items "a" and "b" shall not be subject to payment in case of:

1. Art. 43, para 2;
2. fire fighting;
3. when water taking is for draining purpose.

Art. 194a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The taken during water taking water volume or the volume of waste waters shall be measured by means of certified measuring devices meeting legislative requirements.

(2) The fee under Art. 194, para 1, item 1 and 3 shall be fixed based on the permitted annual water volume prior to installation or in case of damage of the facilities under para 1.

(3) In cases of damage of facilities under para 1 the permit holder for water taking shall be obliged immediately to notify the controlling body and to repair the damage within one month.

Art. 195. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) The payment for the special right of use on waters – exclusive state ownership, and water sites – public state ownership, shall include concession fee.

(2) The concession fee in case of concession for mineral waters shall be fixed based on supplied quantities of mineral waters.

Art. 195a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Fees under Art. 194, para 1, items 1 – 3, as well as fines and proprietary sanctions pursuant to this present law, imposed by the bodies under Art. 201, para 2, shall be paid to the budget account of the Basin Directorate or of the Ministry of Environment and Waters, stated in:

1. the permit, granting the right of use of waters;
2. the penal decree.

(2) In any case of payment the permit holder shall send to the body, having issued the permit, a copy of the payment document.

Art. 195b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Takings for non-paid under Art. 195a, para 1 fees under this present law shall be fixed with an act of determination of a public state taking by the Minister of environment and waters or by the Directors of Basin Directorates, issued according to the procedure set in Art. 166 of the Tax-insurance procedural code.

(2) The act under para 1 shall be executed on the grounds of written evidences, including:

1. statements of accounts, to which fees are being transferred;
2. payment and other accounting documents, issued by the persons, using waters;
3. call to the person for voluntary execution;
4. certificates of findings of the implemented control of liability fulfillment.

Art. 195c. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) non-deposited within the

set terms fees under the law shall be collected compulsorily along with the interest and the expenses by the State Receivables Agency pursuant to the Tax insurance procedural code.

(2) The collected amounts by the State Receivables Agency shall be deposited to the account, indicated in the forwarded call for their collecting.

Art. 196. (1) (amend. SG 91/02, in force from 01.01.2003, previous text of Art. 196 – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) In the Enterprise for management of the activities for preservation of environment shall be collected:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the fees for water taking, for use of a water site and for contamination;
2. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006);
3. (revoked – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006);
4. the receipts from the repayment of expenditures of art. 199;
5. (suppl. – SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the fines or proprietary sanctions, imposed for violating the provisions of the present law by the bodies of Art. 201, para 2;
6. (revoked - SG 91/02);
7. funds, provided under international agreements and programmes;
8. donations by local and foreign individuals and legal persons;
9. receipts from interest;
10. indemnifications, received by individuals and legal persons for damages caused by them under art. 202;
11. other receivables on the basis of a normative act.

(2) (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Fees under para 1, item 1 and fines and proprietary sanctions under para 1, item 5 shall be received by the Enterprise for management of the activities for preservation of environment by a transfer from the budget accounts of the Basins Directorates or of the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 197. (1) (amend. SG 91/02) The funds of art. 196 shall be spent for:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the construction of networks and the fulfilment of programs of waters monitoring under Section VII of Chapter Ten;
2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the elaboration and the updating of the river basin management plans of art. 149, para 1;
3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) the activities for control over the waters, water sites, water economic systems and installations under section XI of Chapter ten;
4. studies and applied scientific investigations according to themes within the scope of the effect of the law;
5. direct financing or co-financing of capital costs for acquiring of material long-term assets and for non tangible long term assets and for major repair, related to activities and measures within the scope of the effect of the present law;
6. direct financing or co-financing of activities or measures within the scope of the the effect of the present law, which are not capital costs;
7. construction of installations for improving the drinking-household water supply to the population, for collection and treatment of the household waste waters;
8. payment for services of scientific and technical character, expert statements and assessments, assigned by the competent bodies of art. 52, para 1, items 2 and 3;
9. supporting of the operational costs of the Basin Directorates, as well as the costs,

related to the material-technical ensuring and the current activities of the Basin Councils;

9a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) survey and management of mineral waters pursuant to Art. 14, item 2;

10. other activities, related to the achieving of the objectives of art. 2.

(2) (amend. - SG 91/02) The funds of art. 196 shall be spent in accordance with the rules for work of the Enterprise for management of the activities for preservation of environment.

Art. 198. (1) The financing of projects, sites and measures within the scope of the effect of the present law with funds from the state budget shall be done also through the granting of purposed subsidies.

(2) Projects, sites and measures with local importance shall also be financed with funds from the municipal budgets or with municipal off-budget funds.

Chapter twelve. ADMINISTRATIVE-PUNITIVE AND CIVIL RESPONSIBILITY

Art. 199. (1) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall be able to order compulsory administrative measures, in the cases of:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) emergency or disaster situations, caused by the action or inaction of water users in the process of water taking and/or use of the water sites and the operation of the water economic systems and installations;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) arising of immediate danger from pollution, damage or destruction of the environment, of people or property of the state, the municipalities, individuals or legal persons as a result of the action or inaction of water users.

3. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) water taking from mineral waters without a permit issued or a granted concession.

(2) In the order of para 1 shall be determined the argumentation and the amount of the costs of carrying out the necessary activities and measures.

(3) The costs are covered by the persons who are obliged under the force of the law or the permit to carry out the activities and the measures under para 2.

(4) (amend. - SG 91/02) The costs of this Art. shall be possible to be paid in advance using funds from the Enterprise for management of the activities for preservation of environment after the enforcement of the order of para 1, the liable person shall be obliged to repay them.

(5) If the responsible person does not do so the claim shall be subject to compulsory execution by the order of the Law for collecting of the state receivables.

(6) (amend. - SG 30/06, in force from 12.07.2006) The order of para 1 shall be possible to be appealed against by the affected persons by the Administrative procedure code.

Art. 199a. (new - SG 81/00) (1) For applying the compulsory administrative measures the Minister of Environment and Waters shall:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) terminate the water taking and/or the using of the water sites;

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) stop the activities as a result of which the waters are polluted or the river courses or the river banks are destroyed;

3. stop the activities, as a result of which public interests and/or acquired rights are affected.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The applying of the compulsory administrative measures shall be carried out by empowered by the Minister of Environment and Waters by:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) sealing of water taking facilities;

2. sealing sites whose activity pollutes the waters;

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) sealing machines and equipment which destroy the river courses and river banks.

Art. 200. (1) With a fine shall be punished, respectively proprietary sanction, if not subject to more severe fine, the individual or the legal person that:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) uses waters without the necessary justification or in detraction from the provided conditions in the permit or the contract:

a) for quantity up to 1 l/s - from 150 levs to 1000 levs;

b) for quantity from 1 l/s to 10 l/s - from 500 levs to 5,000,000 levs;

c) for quantity from 10 l/s to 100 l/s - from 1000 levs to 10 000 levs;

d) for quantity over 100 l/s or waters under Art. 14, item 2 - from 10 000 levs to 25 000 levs.

2. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) uses water sites, water economic facilities and systems or constructs such without the necessary justification, or in violation of the provided conditions in the permit - from 2000 levs to 10 000 levs;

3. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) contaminants the waters, destroys the water courses or the river banks in violation of the bans, contained in art. 132, 134, 143 and 144 - from 5000 levs to 15 000 levs.

4. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) violates the rules for declaring, accounting and control during the implementation of the water taking - from 150 levs to 1000 levs;

5. breaks water economic and hydro-metric installations and devices or violates the proper operation and the regulated regimes of their operation - from 500 levs to 5000 levs.

6. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) discharges waste waters into the water sites and the sewerage system violating the emission standards and requirements - from 1000 levs to 5000 levs.

7. uses the lands adjacent to the water sites or the lands of the flooded coastal or river bank areas not for their designation - from 2000 levs to 10 000 levs.

8. misrepresents information about emergency situations in the water sites - from 500 levs to 5000 levs.

9. misrepresents design documentation about the facilities which can affect the natural state of the waters - from 5000 levs to 10 000 levs.

10. does not provide access of the control bodies for carrying out measurements and analyses - from 150 levs to 500 levs;

11. destroys or counterfeits data and information - from 1000 levs to 10 000 levs.

12. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not fulfil an obligation to inform the competent bodies about circumstances being important for the water protection and

protection from their adverse effect- from 200 to 2 000 levs.

13. damages or destroys points or stations from the national monitoring networks - from 10 000 levs to 25 000 levs.

14. does not execute the obligation for announcing the restrictions and the bans of art. 42 - from 200 levs to 2 000 levs.

15. does not execute the prescriptions of art. 134, para 3 - from 500 levs to 5 000 levs.

16. for all remaining cases of violation of bans or non-execution of obligations under the present law - from 150 levs to 1 500 levs.

17 (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) carries out water taking for business purposes or outfall of waste waters without an installed or sealed measuring device 0 from 500 to 5000 levs;

18. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) hinders control bodies from fulfillment of their obligations under this present law – from 1000 to 5000 levs;

19. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) breaks the set protection regimes within the boundaries of the sanitary-protection zones – from 2000 to 10 000 levs;

20. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not maintain protection facilities and the marking of sanitary protection zones – from 500 to 1000 levs;

21. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) constructs or uses a construction site beyond the purposes of the granted right for using waters in a distance of 50 m away from the water stream – from 2000 to 10 000 levs;

22. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) places floating construction works in a distance not less than 1000 m away from dam walls and related facilities – from 10 000 to 25 000 levs;

23. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) extracts stream gold or inert materials in the river beds and gullies using machinery without a permit for water site usage – from 10 000 to 50 000 levs;

24. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) breaches the prohibitions under Art. 118a, par, 1 and Art. 118c – from 2000 to 10 000 levs;

25. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not fulfill measures, set out in the programs under Section V of Chapter Ten – 1000 to 5000 levs;

26. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) operates water taking facilities for drinking-household water supply or for mineral waters without having established a sanitary – protection zone – from 1000 to 5000 levs;

27. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) exceeds the permitted water quantities or fails to observe the specified maximum volume in the schedules under Art. 56, para 7 – from 1500 to 5000 levs;

28. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not abandon or does not liquidate water taking facilities, which are not being used – from 300 to 1000 levs;

29. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not carry out own monitoring of quantity and/or quality of waters – from 500 to 5000 levs;

30. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not repair the damage of the measuring devices within the term under Art. 194a, para 3 – from 2000 to 5000 levs;

31. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not fulfill or allows non-fulfillment of prescriptions of control bodies – from 1000 to 5000 levs;

32. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) impedes exercising of rights, granted under the provisions of this present law – from 2000 to 5000 levs;

33. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) fails to fulfill his/her obligations

under Art. 33, para 4 and 5 0 from 300 to 500 levs;

34. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) supplies water for drinking and household purposes of a quality, not conforming to the requirements of the regulation of Art. 135, item 3 – from 5000 to 15 000 levs;

35. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not carry out own monitoring of the quality of the water for drinking and household purposes and/or does not submit data from the accomplished monitoring to the bodies under Art. 155a and 189 – from 1000 to 5000 levs;

36. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) does not inform users in case of identified discrepancies in the quality of the water for drinking and household purposes, when the discrepancies can cause a health risk – from 10 000 to 25 000 levs;

37. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) supplies water for drinking and household purposes in cases under Art. 48, para 3 without issued permit under Art. 155a, para 1, item 1 – from 10 000 to 25 000 levs;

38. (prev. text of Item 17, amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) in any other case of breach of prohibitions or non-fulfillment of obligations under this present law – from 500 to 2000 levs.

(2) With the fine of para 1 shall also be punished the individual or the representative of the legal person ordered or assigned the carrying out of activities of para 1 when the activities themselves represent an administrative violation.

(3) When the violation of para 1, items 2, 3, 7 and 13 is construction, the fine or the sanction shall be from 10 000 levs to 25 000 levs.

(4) For a second violation of para 1 and 2 the fine or the sanction shall be from 1000 to 50 000 levs.

Art. 200a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) An official, allowing introduction of new users, outfalling waste waters to sewage systems of settlements and residential areas, in cases, when the sewage system cannot provide discharging and treatment of waste waters before the amendment of the issued permits or granting new permits for outfall of waste waters and before installation or extension of required waste waters treatment facilities, shall be imposed a fine from 5000 to 15 000 levs.

(2) An official, failing to fulfill his/her obligations under the law or allowing another person not to fulfill his/her obligations under the law except for the cases under para 1, shall be imposed a fine from 500 to 1000 levs.

(3) An official, breaking imperative provisions of legislative acts related to application of this law shall be imposed a fine from 500 to 1000 levs.

Art. 200b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Penal decrees, with which a fine or proprietary sanction has been imposed, shall not be subject to appeal.

Art. 201. (1) (amend. and suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The acts for establishing the violations of art 200, para 1 shall be compiled by officials, assigned by the Minister of Environment and Waters or by the Directors of the Basin Directorates.

(2) (amend. - SG 81/00; amend. and suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The punitive decrees shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters or officials authorised by him or by the Directors of the Basin Directorates.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The acts about the violations of art. 200, para 1, items 2, 5 and 7 shall also be compiled by officials authorised by the bodies of art. 190, para 1 and 2.

(4) (suppl. - SG 81/00, amend. SG 108/01; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The punitive decisions of para 3 shall be issued by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Economy and Energy or by officials authorised by the respective Minister.

(5) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Acts about the breaches of art. 200, para 1, item 15 shall be also compiled by officials authorised by the body of art. 190, para 3.

(6) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The punitive decisions of para 5 shall be issued by the Minister of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents.

(7) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Acts about the breaches of art. 200, para 1, item 16 and item 33 shall also be compiled by officials determined in the Law of Health.

(8) (suppl. - SG 81/00; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The punitive decisions of para 7 shall be issued by the Director of the Regional Inspection of Protection and Control of the Public Health.

(9) The establishing of the violations, the issuing, the appealing against and the execution of the punitive decisions shall be implemented by the order of the Law for the administrative breaches and fines.

Art. 202. (1) Everybody shall be obliged to remedy the damages, which he has guiltily incurred to other persons in violation of the existing provisions for the use and protection of the waters and of the conditions of the issued permits.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The responsibility for damages of para 1 shall not exempt the person from paying for the water intake, as well as from the costs for restoration of the previous status.

(3) In the cases when is damaged the vegetation and the fauna in the water sites which are public state property, the authorised body for laying the claims for remedy of the damages shall be:

1. the Minister of Environment and Waters, if the damages have occurred on the territory of more than one region.

2. the regional governor, if the damages have occurred on the territory of more than one municipality.

3. the mayor of the municipality, if the damages have occurred on the territory of one municipality.

(4) (amend. – SG 59/07, in force from 01.03.2008) The claims of para 2 and 3 shall be also possible to be laid by non profit organisations, whose subject of activity is the environmental protection. In this case the court shall officially implement art. 26, par. 4 of the Civil Procedure Code.

Art. 202a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Fines and proprietary sanctions shall be paid to the account of the control body, indicated in the act, under which they have been imposed.

Art. 203. (new, SG 81/00; amend., SG 84/03; amend. – SG 59/07, in force from 01.03.2008) The consumers and the users of water and using the services of draining and purification of waste waters and other services stipulated by this law - irregular debtors, shall be responsible for their liabilities, whereas the provider of the service may require issuing of an order for execution of art. 410, par. 1 of the Civil Procedure Code, regardless the amount of the liability.

Additional provisions

§ 1. (1) Under the present law:

1. "water regime" is a complex of parameters characterising the quantitative and qualitative state of the waters in the water sites and its change in time and space;

2. (suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "water balance" is the ratio between the precipitation, the run-off, the evaporation and the filtration, characterising the quantitative condition of the waters by the river basins and by water sites;

3. "water resources" are the surface and underground waters, contained in the water sites, which are used or can be used;

4. "water economic balance" is the correlation between the available water resources and the needs for water according to time and place, determined with objective to be identified the possibilities for meeting the water demand;

5. "water economic relations" are the relations which have arisen in the process of activities of the persons, related to the use, restoration and protection of the waters and the water sites;

6. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "aquifer" is one or more water saturated geological layer/bed or tectonic dislocated zone, having a common hydraulic binding, sufficient porosity and water permeability, allowing inflow and drawing of considerable quantities of underground waters;

7. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "water taking" includes all activities related to the abstraction of waters from the water sites;

8. "recycled water" is that part from the waters granted for use, which is returned back to the water sites;

9. "admissible abstraction" is the abstraction within the admissible decrease of the water level, the admissible temperature changes, the admissible water quality and the admissible impact on the environment;

10. "operational resources of the underground waters" is the admissible and technically possible average annual abstraction of underground waters;

11. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "individual emission restriction" are the values of the mass, expressed by some specific parameters, concentration and/or emission level, set out in the permits for outfall of waste waters with application of combined approach, which should not be exceeded during certain period of time;

12. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "pollution" is any direct or indirect introduction into air, waters or soil as a result of the human activities, of substances or heat, which can :

a) be harmful for the human health or for the quality of water environmental systems, or of the directly dependant on them terrestrial environmental systems;

b) cause material damages;

- c) impair or hinder established by the laws use of environment;
13. "earth bowels" is that part of the Earth crust, accessible for the human activities;
14. "springs" are the natural, ascending or descending, under pressure or non-pressure flow of underground waters at the earth surface;
15. (revoked - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006);
16. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "river bank flooded strips" are the lands which are flooded:
- a) within the boundaries of the corrections of the rivers in the settlements and between the river and the dikes, if there are dikes;
- b) at flowing of water quantities with security of 20 per cent or once in 5 years – for the river sections without constructed corrections or protective structures;
17. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "mineral waters" are the underground waters from the deposits pointed out in appendix No 2 to the present law and in the other cases - for which has been issued a certificate and/or complex balneological assessment by the Ministry of Health and/or the Ministry of Environment and Waters;
18. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "monitoring of waters" are measurements, observations and assessments for determining the condition of the waters;
19. "solid waste deposits" are the piled up technological wastes from the investigation, extraction and/or the preliminary processing of mineral resources, with the exception of tailings ponds and slag ponds;
20. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "non-foreseeable or extraordinary" are exceptional circumstances, caused by natural calamities of accidental situations, the occurrence of which cannot be predicted and the consequences of which cannot be prevented
21. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "level of average waters" is the level of the water surface, corresponding to the average over-year water quantities, flowing through the river course;
22. "second" is the violation which was done within one year term after the punitive decision with which the offender has been punished for a violation of the same kind;
23. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "surface waters" are overland waters, except for underground waters, as well as transitional waters and in-shore sea waters apart from the chemical condition, whereas in this case inland sea waters and territorial sea waters are included;
24. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "underground waters" are all waters, located under the surface of the earth within the water saturated zone, in direct contact with earth layers;
25. "use" of the water site is any activity, which while not connected with abstraction of its waters, has the potential to influence the regime of waters;
26. "adjacent lands of reservoirs" are the lands which are flooded at maximum filling up of the reservoir;
27. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "adjacent lands to rivers" are the lands from the river courses which are flooded during the level of average waters;
28. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "river basin" is the territory of the ground surface, from which through a series of streams, rivers and lakes the whole surface outflow flows into the sea, into a single river mouth, estuary or delta;
29. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "trans-border waters" are surface or underground waters, which cross the state border between the Republic of Bulgaria and one or more neighbouring countries;

30. "water management" includes the activities for use, protection and restoration of the waters, as well as the activities for prevention of their harmful impact;

31. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "river mouth" is any place, where a water flow outfalls into another water flow, lake or sea;

32. (new – SG 42/03) "water supply system" is a combination of bringing and distribution water supply pipes and facilities, through which is implemented obtaining of natural waters, treatment and/or disinfecting to the necessary qualities and supply to the users.

33. (new – SG 42/03) "sewerage system" is a combination of sewerage conduits, collectors and facilities, through which is implemented bringing out of the waste waters, their treatment to the necessary qualities and discharge in the respective water site.

34. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "water site" is permanent or temporary concentration of waters with respective boundaries, volume and water regime in the earth interior and in natural or artificially created land forms along with the adjacent lands;

35. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "land waters" are all dead or running waters on the land surface and all underground waters from the shore front side from the reference lines, from which the width of the territorial sea is measured;

36. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "water for drinking and household purposes" is a surface or underground water in its natural condition or after treatment, designated for drinking, preparation of food or other household needs, supplied through water supply system or from a cistern, in bottles, cans or in another packing, as well as waters, used for production of food, medicinal or cosmetic products or substances, intended for human consumption, provided that the quality of water can affect the quality of the final products;

37. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "water body" is an independent and significant part of surface or underground waters;

38. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "good environmental condition" is the condition of the surface water body, in which values of biological components related to quality or of hydro-chemical and hydro-morphological components as a result of human activity show slight deviation from the values, typical for undisturbed natural conditions for the respective type of a water body;

39. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "good quantitative condition of underground waters" is the condition, under which the water level in the underground water body is such, that the available resources of underground waters are not affected by the long-term annual rate of water taking, i.e. water taking does not exceed useful underground waters resources in the water body;

40. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "good condition of surface waters" is the condition, achieved for a surface water body, in which both the environmental and the chemical condition of the water body are at least "good";

41. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "good condition of underground waters" is the condition, achieved for an underground water body, in which both the quantitative and the chemical condition of the water body are at least "good";

42. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "good chemical condition of surface waters" is the chemical condition of a surface water body, in which contaminants concentrations do not exceed the applicable standards for environmental quality;

43. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "good chemical condition of underground waters" is the chemical condition of an underground water body, in which contaminants concentrations do not exceed the applicable standards for environmental quality;

44. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "good environmental potential" is the

condition of highly modified or artificial water body, which can be achieved with acceptable environmental changes with economically reasonable measures;

45. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "lake" is a natural water body with dead surface waters, formed in a concave land form;

46. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "environmental quality standard" is the concentration of specific contaminants or of a group of contaminants in the water, sediments or the live part of the environmental system, which shall not be exceeded in view of human health and environmental protection;

47. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "ecological condition of surface waters" is the condition of a surface water body, assessed in consideration of the values of quality biological components and of hydro-chemical and hydro-morphological components;

48. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "emission rate" are mass values, expressed through set specific parameters, concentration and/or emission level, which should not be exceeded over one or several periods of time;

49. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "emission control" is specific limitation of emissions through setting out emission rates or through setting out limitations or conditions for the effects, their nature or any other characteristics of the emissions or operation conditions, affecting the emissions;

50. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "contaminant" is any substance, which when exceeding a specified concentration can have an adverse effect on the natural chemical condition of waters;

51. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "artificial water body" is a water body, produced as a result of human activity;

52. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "quantitative condition of underground waters" is an indicator of the degree, to which water taking or natural drainage from underground waters affects the underground water body;

53. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "integrated approach" is control of outfall of waste waters into surface water bodies through simultaneous application of the best available techniques and/or emission rates at the waste waters source on the one hand, and the requirements for achievement of the objectives for water quality in the surface water body – receiver of waste waters, on the other hand; in case of diffusion contamination sources control shall also include if required best environmental practices;

54. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "coastal sea waters" are surface waters, bounded by the coastal line, each point of which is in a distance of one sea mile to the sea from the nearest point of the reference lines, from which the width of the territorial sea is measured;

55. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "available resources of underground waters" are the natural resources of underground waters, reduced by the long-term average annual water quantities, required for achievement of the objectives for protection of environment of the related to them surface water bodies, for avoiding considerable deterioration of their environmental condition and damaging of land environmental systems, related to these bodies;

56. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "natural resources of underground waters" are the general average annual aquifer recharge;

57. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "indirect discharge of contaminants in underground waters" is the discharge in underground water bodies of contaminants by soil filtration or through the aeration zone;

58. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "dangerous substances" are the substances or groups of substances, classified as toxic, resistant and able to be accumulated biologically, as well as other substances or groups of substances, causing the same level of concern;

59. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "surface water body" is an independent and significant component of surface waters such as a lake, river, stream, pond, channel or parts thereof, as well as transitional and coastal waters;

60. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "sub-basin" is a territory of the land surface, from which through a series of streams, rivers or lakes the entire surface run-off flows in an individual point of a specific water flow;

61. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "underground water body" is a separate volume of underground waters within one or several groundwater reservoirs, having specific condition of underground waters

62. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "underground waters contamination threshold" is the concentration of a contaminant, of a group of contaminants or a contamination index, with sustainable exceeding of which a risk of non-achievement of a good chemical condition of underground waters is being created; contamination threshold shall be maximum 50 per cent of the respective value according to the underground waters quality standard;

63. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "fresh waters" are the waters, which in their natural condition have low alkali content and which can be used for drinking and household water supply;

64. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "transitional waters" are surface water bodies close to river mouths, which are semi-salty as a result of their proximity to sea waters, but which are considerably influenced by the inflow of fresh waters;

65. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "direct discharge of contaminants in underground waters" is the discharge into underground water bodies by pouring or injection of contaminants without filtration through the soil or through the aeration zone;

66. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "region of basin management" is an area of the territory of the land surface or the sea, comprising one or more bordering river basins along with the adjacent underground and sea waters;

67. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "river" is water on the land, which in its majority runs on the land surface, whereas part of its course can pass under the ground;

68. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "priority substances" are the substances, representing significant risk for the water environment or through it they are toxic for people and environmentally toxic for water environmental systems and related to them land environmental systems and which are determined according to Art. 16 and Attachment No. 10 to the Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and the Council;

69. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "independent drinking and household water supply" is the water supply of individual public and economic units, in which people reside or work permanently or temporarily and/or food, medicinal or cosmetic products are produced using individual own water taking facilities out of water supply systems of settlements and residential areas;

70. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "highly modified water body" is a surface water body, the properties of which are considerably altered as a result of physical changes as a result of human activity;

71. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "individuals' own needs" are needs of

water for household purposes, as well as for stock watering and for watering of the land within the limits of own property, except for needs of water for carrying out business activity and exercising a profession or occupation;

72. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "condition of surface waters" is a general expression for the condition of a surface water body, defined by its environmental or chemical condition, whichever is worse;

73. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "condition of underground waters" is a general expression for the condition of an underground water body, defined by its quantitative or chemical condition, whichever is worse;

74. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "water services" are all services related to supply of water to households, public institutions and for business activity through water taking, accumulation, collecting in reservoirs, treatment and supply of surface and underground waters, as well as collecting, discharge and treatment in treatment facilities of waste waters, which are subsequently subject to outfall into surface water bodies;

75. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "significant quantities of underground waters" are water quantities, for which it is technically possible to be exhausted from the groundwater reservoir and which are of interest for practical use;

76. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "underground waters quality standard" is environmental quality standard, expressed as a concentration of a specific contaminant, of a group of contaminants or underground waters contamination index, which should not be exceeded in view of human health and environmental protection;

77. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "significant and sustainable tendency of underground waters contamination" is every statistically significant increase of the concentration of a contaminant, of a group of contaminants of contamination index, representing environmental risk;

78. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "conserved water taking facility for underground waters" is a facility, from which drawing is temporarily suspended, it is not equipped for operation, but the option of its future operation is kept;

79. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "liquidated water taking facility for underground waters" is a facility, for which the option of natural or forced water flow is definitely ceased.

80. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "water taking" are water services along with any other human activity, influencing considerably the condition of waters;

81. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) "river bed" is a feature, on which a surface water flow is formed temporarily or permanently and shall include the river runway and the washland.

(2) (suppl. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The definitions of the terms "internal sea waters", "territorial sea" and "continental shelf" in the present law are in the sense of the Law for the Sea Waters, the Internal Water Ways and the Ports of the Republic of Bulgaria.

§ 2. In the cases when the present law requires informing or announcement and when explicit rules or the implementation of an explicitly determined procedure are not provided for that, the informing, respectively the announcement shall be done by the order provided in the Civil Procedures Code.

§ 2a. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Water protection zones shall be guarded in conformity with the standards and objectives, set out with the act of establishment of the respective zone.

§ 2b. (new - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) (1) Minister of Environment and Waters shall send to the European Commission and to all interested member states:

1. copies of the management plans under Art. 157 and subsequent updates with regard to:

a) river basins, located entirely on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
b) part of the international region of basin management, located on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;

2. brief review, drafted during the development of the initial river basins management plans, of:

a) the analyses and inspection of the impact under Art. 156h;
b) monitoring programs under Art. 169, para 2;

3. Provisional review of accomplishment of scheduled programs of measures.

(2) The plans under para 1, item 1 shall be sent within three months after their promulgation.

(3) The review under para 1, item 2 shall be sent within three months after its drafting.

(4) The information under para 1, item 3 shall be sent within three years following promulgation of the plans under para 1.

Transitional and concluding provisions

§ 3. The protection of the coastal waters, the internal sea waters and the territorial sea from pollution from other sources, besides these located on the coast, shall be regulated by the Law for the sea areas of the Republic of Bulgaria.

§ 4. (1) The Ministers and the heads of the state institutions, which exercise the right of ownership in the sole owned commercial companies with state property or in shares and stocks of commercial companies, in which the state is a partner or stockholder, shall undertake the necessary activities for decreasing the capital of the companies with the revalued value of the facilities of art. 13, para 1 of the present law.

(2) Within 6 months term after the law enters into force the facilities of art. 13, para 1 shall be conceded for use sole owned commercial companies with state assets and the state enterprises in the sense of art. 62, para 3 of the Commercial law whose capital has been reduced under para 1. The right of use shall be terminated at the transferring of shares by the companies under the present paragraph.

(3) The commercial companies, with the exception of these of para 2 for which has been applied the provision of para 1 shall acquire concession for the facilities of art. 13, para 1 in compliance with the provisions of this law and by the order provided in the Law for the concessions, without a tender or a competition.

(4) (amend., SG 81/00; amend. – SG 105/06, in force from 01.01.2007) For the long-term assets of the facilities of para 3 and for the other water economy systems and installations

for which a concession has been constituted shall be calculated depreciation deductions by the order of art. 15 of the Law for accounting.

(5) Until the implementation of the provisions of para 2 and 3, the facilities shall be managed by the companies of para 1 whose capital was decreased.

(6) In the cases when the facilities of art. 13, item 3 of the present law are not granted under concession, their maintenance shall be implemented with budget funds by the departments pointed out in para 1.

(7) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) At privatisation of commercial companies, in whose capital are included dams and small dams, except these of art. 13, item 1 and art. 19, item 4, item c), the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall undertake the necessary activities for decreasing of the capital of the companies with their revalued value.

(8) Within two years term after the law enters into force the owners of art. 16 which have not been indemnified for the land and the forests on which have been constructed water economic facilities, shall be indemnified by the order of the Law for the ownership and use of farm land and the Law for restoration the ownership in forests and the forest land entirety.

§ 5. (1) The mineral water from the water sources of item 74 and 83 of appendix No 2 of art. 14, item 2 shall be gratuitously granted for use to the Capital municipality for a term of 15 years.

(2) At the use of the mineral water from the pointed out water sources the Capital municipality shall be obliged:

1. to manage and maintain fit the facilities, to ensure the use of the mineral water without breaching the public interests and in the interest of the population;
2. to implement activities for prevention of the harmful impact of the mineral water over the underground infrastructure and the surrounding buildings;
3. to conduct the necessary control over the quantity of the mineral water designated for common use and pouring by the population conceding annually information to the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

§ 6. (1) Within 3 months from the enforcement of the present law, the facilities of art. 13, items 2 and 4 shall be registered by the order of the Law for the state ownership.

(2) The Council of Ministers shall grant the facilities pointed out in para 1 to the Ministry of Environment and Waters for execution of its functions by the order of art. 13, para 3 of the Law for the state ownership.

§ 7. (1) In the cases when a public municipal property under this law is already granted as concession or the right over it are transferred to third persons, or contracts are concluded for the use of these facilities, the rights shall be brought in conformity adhering to the procedure, provided in art. 20 of the present law.

(2) When the rights over the public municipal property of para 1 include also a right to use waters which are public state property, the interested persons have to require the issuing of a permit for water use by the order of this law within 6 months after the law has entered into force.

§ 8. (1) In the cases when rights for use of mineral waters which are exclusive state

property are granted, the already existing permits shall be brought in conformity with the present law and with the Law for the concessions, when the conditions of art. 47, para 1 from the present law are present, and in the other cases at request by the competent body of art. 52, para 1, item 2 of the present law or by any interested person, shall be started a procedure for issuing a new permit.

(2) The concession contracts for conceded special right to use mineral waters - exclusive state ownership, shall be reshaped in compliance with the provisions of this law within one year after the law enters into force.

(3) (new, SG 81/00) For using mineral waters in the active facilities found by this law, meeting the normative requirements, for which application has been filed for opening a procedure for granting concession, a temporary permit shall be issued for using mineral water for a period no longer than 1 year.

(4) (new, SG 81/00) The titularies of the permits under para 3 shall pay a fee for the permitted water quantity amounting to 5 levs/cubic m for bottling mineral water and 2 levs/cubic m for obtaining hydrothermal energy.

(5) (new, SG 81/00) The permit under para 3 shall not be considered an advantage in carrying out the competition for determining a concessionaire.

§ 9. When the use of the waters is realised on the basis of issued permits or without any grounds, the person who uses the waters shall be obliged to pay the fees, provided for in the present law, starting from the enforcement of the tariffs, provided for by the present law, notwithstanding of the stage, at which is the procedure for issuing or reformatting of his permit.

§ 10. (1) The already existing permits shall be brought in conformity with the requirements of the law:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) For water taking:

a) over 1 m³/s for surface waters;

b) over 30 l/s for the underground waters - within 1 year from the enforcement of the present law, and for all other cases - within 3 years;

2. For discharging of waste waters over 5,000 m³ per 24 h - within 1 year from the enforcement of the present law, and for all other cases - within 2 years.

(2) The register of the issued permits shall be prepared within 1 year from the promulgation of the law;

(3) (new – SG 94/05; amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The found rights and permits for water taking and use of water site for production of aquacultures shall be brought officially in compliance with the requirements of the law, at equal or more favorable conditions from the ones acquired with the act of their establishing.

§ 11. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Unfinished production activities related to water taking or use of water sites, water supply systems and installations, shall be finished under the present law.

§ 12. (1) For the preparation of the water economic cadastre in the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall be presented information by:

1. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry - for the hydro-melioration systems and installations, the dams for irrigation, including these which are former property of the Labour Collective Agricultural Farms and Agricultural Industrial Complexes, the fish farms for artificial breeding of fish;

2. The Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works - for the water supply systems, the drinking water sources, the sewerage collectors and the drinking and waste water treatment plants;

3. (amend. - SG 108/01) The Ministry of Power Engineering and Energy resources - for all hydro-energy facilities;

4. The municipalities:

a) for all sites, registered as municipal property, according to the Law for the municipal property;

b) for the hydro-melioration systems and installations, the dams for irrigation, including the ones which were formerly owned by the Labour Collective Agricultural Farms and Agricultural Industrial Complexes, the fish farms for artificial breeding of fish;

c) for the water taking systems and installations for underground waters, the systems and installations for drainage or drying, the systems and installations for artificial feeding of the underground waters and the systems and installation for discharge into the earth bowels the waste waters, containing hazardous substances, constructed on their territory until the enforcement of the present law, regardless of their ownership, their functional condition and their use.

(2) The information of para 1 shall be presented within 1 year after the law enters into force.

§ 13. (1) The Basin Directorates shall be established within 2 years after the law enters into force.

(2) Until the establishment of the Basin Directorates, their functions, with the exception of these of art. 155, item 3 shall be executed by one of the Regional Inspectorates for Environment and Waters within the respective basin, determined by an order of the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(3) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Until the establishment of the Basin Directorates, the permits for water taking and/or use under the present law shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(4) The Basin Councils are established within 6 months from the establishment of the respective Basin Directorate.

§ 14. (1) The river basin management plans shall be compiled within 5 years after the law enters into force.

(2) (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Until the preparation of the plans of para 1 shall be worked out general schemes for use of the waters, on the basis of which permits for water taking shall be issued.

(3) The schemes of 2 shall be elaborated within 1 year from the promulgation of the law.

§ 15. (1) The owners of lands on which there are abandoned wells shall be obliged

within 1 year from the enforcement of the present law to clean them and bring them in condition, suitable for use or to liquidate them.

(2) The rights of art. 112 for construction of water conveyance shall be arranged in two years term after the law enters into force.

§ 16. (1) Within 3 months from the enforcement of the present law, the mineral waters according to appendix No 2 to art. 14, item 2, registered as municipal property until the enforcement of the present law, shall be excluded from the register according to the Law for the municipal property.

(2) Within 3 months from the enforcement of the present law, the municipal administrations shall be obliged to prepare a form for registration of the wells on the territory of the municipality, which should contain data about the property, where is located the well, the names of the owner of the estate, the year of construction of the well declared by the owner, the purposes for which the water is used and the method for extraction of the water.

(3) Within 6 months from the enforcement of the present law, the owners or the users of estates, where there are constructed wells, shall be obliged to register them declaring data about the estate where is located the well, the names of the owner of the estate, the year of construction of the well, the purposes for which the water is used and the method for extraction of the water. The municipalities shall send every year a copy of the prepared register to the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

§ 17. Until the approval of the National Water Economic Plan the Minister of Environment and Waters shall develop and submit for approval to the Council of Ministers national programmes for construction, expansion, reconstruction and modernisation of facilities and/or systems for use and preservation of the waters.

§ 18. (amend. - SG 65/06, in force from 11.08.2006) Until the passing of a law for regulation of the activities of the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents for the protection of the waters in emergency cases and for protection from their harmful impact:

1. The Minister of Defence shall determine the contents of the emergency plans of art. 131, para 1 and art. 138, para 3;

2. The owners or the users of water sites shall be obliged to provide forces and resources for the implementation of the emergency plans, to maintain in proper condition the roads and the communication links to the water sites, the dikes and the water economic systems;

3. The regional managers shall appoint committees for annual review of the technical and operational condition of the potentially dangerous water bodies.

§ 19. (Amend., SG 74/02, amend. SG 69/03) The provision of art. 193, para 3 shall enter into force five years after the promulgation of this law.

§ 20. The by-law normative acts provided in this law shall be issued within one year term after the promulgation of the law.

§ 21. In art. 58, para 1 of the Law for the sea areas of the Republic of Bulgaria (prom. SG 55/87; amend, SG 11, 26/98 and SG 23/99), the words "and from coastal sources" shall be deleted.

§ 22. In the Law for protection of the waters and soils from pollution (prom. SG 84/63, amend. and suppl. SG 26/68, SG 29/69, SG 95/75, SG 3/77, SG 1/78, SG 26/88, SG 86/91, SG 100/92, SG 45/96, SG 85/97, SG 11/98) the following amendments shall be made:

1. In the title of the law the words "waters and" shall be deleted;

2. In art. 1 the words "waters and" shall be deleted;

3. Art.s 2 and 3 are changed as follows:

"2. "Pollution of soils" means such deterioration of their composition, qualities and properties which renders them unsuitable or harmful for the people, animals and plants.

3. The Ministries, the departments and the municipalities shall undertake measures for protection of the soils from pollution.

The Minister of Environment and Waters shall exert control for protection of the soils from pollution.

The Minister of Health shall exert sanitary control over the condition of the soils. He shall issue, in coordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters, sanitary standards and rules which are obligatory for all departments, organisations and persons.

At the carrying out of the control of para q, 2 and 3 the Ministry of Environment and Waters and the Ministry of Health shall assign technically competent bodies and persons from other departments.

The Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian reform with the help of the Agriculture Academy shall issue standards and rules obligatory for all departments, organisations and persons in connection with the protection of the animals and the agricultural crops and shall also carry out supervision over their implementation."

4. Art. 4 shall be repealed;

5. Art.s 8 - 13 shall be repealed;

6. In art. 15 the words "the people's councils" shall be substituted by "the municipalities".

7. Art. 17 shall be repealed;

8. In art. 20, item a) shall be repealed;

9. In art. 20a shall be made the following amendments:

a) in para 1 the words "the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests or of the municipal people's councils and when the breach is in connection with pollution of the sea waters, by the bodies of the Ministry of Environment and Waters or of the Ministry of Transport" shall be substituted by "the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian Reform or of the municipalities";

b) Para 2 shall be changed as follows:

"The punitive decisions shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters."

10. In Art. 21 the words "the Minister of Public Health and Social Care" shall be substituted by "the Minister of Health" and the words "the waters or" shall be deleted;

11. In art. 23 shall be made the following changes:

a) para 1 shall be changed as follows:

"For all already existing industrial plants, cattle-breeding farms and others of the kind, as well as for separate sites, polluting the soils with solid and liquid pollutants, shall

obligatory be constructed treatment facilities with funds, provided for in the state and the municipal budgets, as well as in the perspective and annual plans of the enterprises and the other organisations.";

b) in para 2 the words "the Ministry of Economy and Planning" shall be deleted and the words "the Ministry of Environment and Waters and the Ministry of the Public Health and Social Cares" shall be substituted by "the Minister of Environment and Waters and the Minister of Health".

12. Everywhere in the law the words "the Ministry of the Public Health and Social Cares" and "the Minister of the Public Health and Social Cares" shall be substituted respectively by "the Ministry of Health" and "the Minister of Health", and the words "the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests" and "the Minister of Agriculture and Forests" shall be substituted respectively by "the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian Reform" and "the Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian Reform".

§ 23. In the Law for the municipal property (prom. SG 4/96; amend. SG 104/96, SG 55/97, SG 22, 93/98, SG 23, 56/99) shall be made the following changes and supplements:

1. In art. 2, para 1:

a) item 2 shall be changed to:

"2. the waters, water sites, water economic facilities and installations, determined by a law;"

b) in item 3 the words "the water reservoirs, the beaches adjacent to them and" shall be deleted.

2. In art. 57:

a) in item 4 the words "the territory of the water reservoir" shall be substituted by "the water sites - municipal ownership";

b) item 5 shall be created:

"5. the mineral waters - public municipal properties."

§ 24. In the Law for the concessions (prom. SG 92/95; SG 16/96 - Decision No 2 of the Constitutional Court of 1996; amend. SG 44/96, SG 61, 123/97, SG 93/98, SG 23, 56/99) in art. 4, para 1, item 7 shall be changed to:

§ 25. In the Law for public health (prom. SG /73, corr. SG 92/73; amend. and suppl. SG 63/76, SG 28/83, SG 66/85, SG 27/86, SG 89/88, SG 87, 99/89, SG 15/91; corr. SG 24/91; amend. SG 64/93, SG 31/94, SG 36/95, SG 12, 87, 124/97, SG 21, 70, 71, 93/98, SG 30, 62/99) the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

1. In art. 46:

a) in para 1 after the words "The mineral waters" shall be added "in the resorts announced under this law";

b) para 2 shall be repealed.

2. In art. 47, para 1 and 2 the words "the mineral waters and" shall be repealed.

3. In art. 48, para 1 the words "mineral waters" shall be repealed.

4. In the Additional Provisions §3 and 4 shall be repealed.

§ 26. In the Law for the state property (prom. SG 44/96; amend. SG 104/96, SG 55,

61, 117/97, SG 93, 124/98) in art. 68, para 7 the words "the mineral springs" shall be substituted by "the mineral waters - exclusive state property".

§ 27. In the Law for protection of environment (prom. SG 86/91; corr. SG 90/91; amend. SG 100/91, SG 31, 63/95, SG 13, 85, 86/97, SG 62/98, SG 12/99) art. 4a with the following content shall be created:

"Art. 4a. (1) The Council of Ministers shall approve Ordinance for the conditions and the order for implementation of the Protocol for protection of the environment of the Agreement for the Antarctic (SG 69/98).

(2) The implementing of activity in the Antarctic in breach of the provisions of the ordinance of para 1 shall constitute breach under art. 32, and for the administrative punitive procedure art. 35 shall be applied."

§ 28. The Law for the waters (prom. SG 29/69; amend. SG3/77, SG 36/79, SG 44/84, SG 36/86, SG 24/87, SG 85/97, corr. SG 87/97).

§ 29. Until the issuing of the by-law normative acts provided in this law the by-law normative acts issued for implementation of the Law for the waters shall temporarily remain in force.

§ 30. The present law shall enter into force 6 months after its promulgation in State Gazette.

The law was passed by the 38Th National Assembly on July 13, 1999 and is affixed with the official seal of the National Assembly.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE CODE

(PROM. – SG 30/06, IN FORCE FROM 12.07.2006)

§ 31. In the Law for the waters (prom. SG – 67/99; amend. – SG 81/00, 34, 41 and 108/01, 47, 74, 91/02, 42, 69, 84 and 107/03, 6 and 70/04, 18, 77 and 94/05) the words "Law of the administrative procedure" shall be replaced by "Administrative procedure code".

.....
§ 142. The code shall enter into force three months after its promulgation in State Gazette, with the exception of:

1. division three, § 2, item 1 and § 2, item 2 – with regards to the repeal of chapter third, section II "Appeal by court order", § 9, item 1 and 2, § 15 and § 44, item 1 and 2, § 51, item 1, § 53, item 1, § 61, item 1, § 66, item 3, § 76, items 1 – 3, § 78, § 79, § 83, item 1, § 84, item 1 and 2, § 89, items 1 - 4 § 101, item 1, § 102, item 1, § 107, § 117, items 1 and 2, § 125, § 128, items 1 and 2, § 132, item 2 and § 136, item 1, as well as § 34, § 35, item 2, § 43, item

2, § 62, item 1, § 66, items 2 and 4, § 97, item 2 and § 125, item 1 – with regard to the replacement of the word "the regional" with the "administrative" and the replacement of the word "the Sofia City Court" with "the Administrative court - Sofia", which shall enter into force from the 1st of May 2007;

2. paragraph 120, which shall enter into force from the 1st of January 2007;

3. paragraph 3, which shall enter into force from the day of the promulgation of the code in State Gazette.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW FOR THE CONCESSIONS

(PROM. – SG 36/06, in force from 01.07.2006)

§ 23. The law shall enter into force from 1 July 2006 except Art. 42, para 3 and Art. 58, para 4 which shall enter into force from the date of accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW ON AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW FOR THE WATERS

(PROM. – SG 65/06, IN FORCE FROM 11.08.2006, CORR. – SG 66/06; amend. – SG 22/07, in force from 11.02.2007)

§ 120. Everywhere in this present law:

1. The words "water use", "the water use" and "water uses" shall be replaced respectively with "water taking", "the water taking" and "water takings".

2. The words "the Minister of Industry", and "the Ministry of Industry" shall be replaced respectively with "the Minister of Economy and Energy" and "the Ministry of Economy and Energy", words "Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian Reform", "the Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian Reform" and "the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian Reform" shall be replaced respectively with "Minister of Agriculture and Forestry", "the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry" and "the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry", and the words "Civil defense" shall be replaced with "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents"

3. The words "bed" and "beds" are replaced respectively with "course" and "courses".

4. The word "qualities" is replaced with "the quality".

§ 121. The procedures for granting permits opened prior to entering into force of this law shall be accomplished under the existing procedure.

§ 122. (1) Owners of water taking facilities for underground waters, to which no water usage rights have been granted, within three months after entering of this present law into force, shall submit to the respective Basin Directorate an application for entering of the

facilities into the register under Art. 118d.

(2) To the application under para 1 shall be attached:

a) a document of ownership for the property, on which the water taking facility is located;

b) facility coordinates;

c) information about the facility depth and structure;

d) information about facility equipment for operation;

e) statement about the year of its construction;

f) information about the purpose of use of the drawn water;

g) document of a paid fine or proprietary sanction under Art. 200, para 1, item 2.

(3) In cases when the facility is not equipped for operation, to the application under para 1 a statement about owner's intentions concerning facility abandoning or liquidation shall be attached;

(4) Within one month after submission of the application the Basin Directorate shall study the documents under para 2 and 3 and shall carry out:

1. inspection of constructed facilities and their equipment;

2. assessment of the necessity of facility abandoning or liquidation.

(5) Within 7 days after the inspection under para 4 the facility shall be subject to entering into register.

§ 123. (1) (amend. – SG 22/07, in force from 11.02.2007) Owners of properties, which prior to entering of this present law into force have started the construction or have already constructed wells under Art. 44, para 4 and 5, which are not registered, within 12 months shall submit an application for registration with the respective Basin Directorate.

(2) Municipal mayors within three months after entering of this present law into force shall submit with the respective Basin Directorate the developed register under the revoked Art. 25 of the wells under Art. 44, para 4.

§ 124. (1) Until entering into force of the regulation of §48 in its part related to Art. 118a, para 1, item 1 direct discharge of hazardous substances shall be prohibited and direct discharge of harmful substances into underground waters under the conditions and according to the procedure, set out in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 2 shall be restricted.

(2) The list of hazardous and harmful substances under para 1 for underground waters shall be set in the Ordinance under Art. 135, item 2.

§ 125. Until issuing the methodology under Art. 135, item 1, the minimum allowable run-off in the rivers shall be set to 10 per cent of the average annual water quantity, but not less than the minimum average monthly water quantity with security of 95 per cent at the point of each facility for run-off control or for water taking.

.....

§ 136. Programs of water monitoring under Section VIII of Chapter Ten shall be developed and the initiation of their implementation shall be not later than 22 December 2006.

§ 137. (1) Programs of measures for waters protection and recovery under Section V of Chapter Ten shall be developed by 22 December 2009 and their implementation shall start not later than 22 December 2012.

(2) Programs under para 1 shall be subject to revision and if required shall be updated not later than 22 December 2015.

§ 138. (1) River basins management plans shall be developed and announced to the public by 22 December 2008 and shall be promulgated not later than 22 December 2009.

(2) Plans under para 1 shall be reviewed and updated not later than 200 December 2015.

§ 139. Measures for securing pricing policy under Art. 192, para 2, item 2 and the contribution of water users under Art. 192a, para 1, item 1 shall be implemented by 2010.

§ 140. Measures under Art. 156i, para 2, item 7 and 8, related to application of an integrated approach with regard to point and diffusion contamination sources, shall be scheduled and applied not later than 22 December 2012.

§ 141. Analyses and the review under Art. 156h shall be subject to revision and if required shall be updated not later than 22 December 2013.

§ 142. (1) Environmental protection objectives and provision of a good condition of the surface and underground waters, of a good environmental potential of the artificial and highly modified water bodies, as well as a good chemical condition of the surface waters in them shall be achieved not later than on 22 December 2015.

(2) Conformity to all standards and objectives for water protection zones shall be achieved not later than 22 December 2015, unless in the act, under which the zone has been determined, a longer period is provided.

§ 143. The deadline for termination of outfalls, emissions and technical losses of priority hazardous substances in surface waters under Art. 118, para 2, item 1 shall be set in the time schedule under Art. 16, item 6 of the Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and the Council.

§ 144. (1) The ordinances under Art. 135, items 2, 5 and 13 shall be put in conformity with the requirements of this present law within 6 months after its entering into force.

(2) Ordinances under Art. 135, item 1a, 6, 9 and 14 shall be issued within 6 months after entering into force of this present law.

(3) (corr. – SG 66/06) The ordinance under Art. 135, item 7 shall be issued within 6 months after entering into force of the provision of §60, item 5.

(4) Until the issuing of the ordinance under para 3 the Ordinance No.11 for the quality of waters for swimming (SG-25/02) shall be applied.

§ 145. This Law shall enter into force on the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette, except for the provisions of:

1. paragraph 18, item 3, which shall enter into force one year after entering of this present law into force;

2. paragraph 48 – in the part related to the provision of Art. 118a, para 1, item 1, which shall enter into force on 22 December 2013;

3. paragraph 60, item 5, which shall enter into force on 1 March 2007;

4. paragraph 73 – in the part related to the provision of Art. 155a, para 1, item 1, which shall enter into force one year after entering of this present law into force.

Concluding provisions TO LAW OF AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENT OF THE LAW FOR THE WATERS

(PROM. – SG 22/07, IN FORCE FROM 11.02.2007)

§ 2. The Law shall enter into force from February 11, 2007.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE

(PROM. – SG 59/07, IN FORCE FROM 01.03.2008)

§ 61. This code shall enter into force from 1 March 2008, except for:

1. Part Seven “Special rules related to proceedings on civil cases subject to application of European Union legislation”

2. paragraph 2, par. 4;

3. paragraph 3 related to revoking of Chapter Thirty Two “a” “Special rules for recognition and admission of fulfillment of decisions of foreign courts and of other foreign bodies” with Art. 307a – 307e and Part Seven “Proceedings for returning a child or exercising the right of personal relations” with Art. 502 – 507;

4. paragraph 4, par. 2;

5. paragraph 24;

6. paragraph 60,

which shall enter into force three days after the promulgation of the Code in the State Gazette.

List of complex and important dams

1. Alexander Stamboliyski
2. Asenovets
3. Aheloy
4. Batak
5. Beglika
6. Beli Lom

7. Belmeken
8. Borovitsa
9. Vacha
10. Georgy Traikov
11. Golyam Beglik
12. Gorni Dubnik
13. Domlyan
14. Dospat
15. Dyakovo
16. Enitsa
17. Zhrebtchevo
18. Ivaylovgrad
19. Iskar
20. Yovkovtsi
21. Kalin
22. Kamtchiya
23. Karagyol
24. Kokalyane
25. Koprinka
26. Kritchim
27. Kula
28. Kurdzhali
29. Malko Sharkovo
30. Ognyanovo
31. Ogosta
32. Pancharevo
33. Poroy
34. Pchelina
35. Pyasutchnik
36. Rabisha
37. Rozov Kladenets
38. Sopot
39. Sretchenska Bara
40. Studen Kladenets
41. Studena
42. Saedinenie
43. Ticha
44. Topolnitsa
45. Toshkov Chark
46. Trakiets
47. Christo Smirnenski (Yantra)
48. Chaira
49. Shiroka Polyana
50. Yasna Polyana
51. Yastrebino

List of Mineral Waters which are Exclusive State Property

1. "Aytos" - Bourgas region, municipality of Aytos, town of Aytos
2. "Banite" - Smolyan region, municipality of Banite, village of Banite
3. "Bankya" - Capital region of Sofia, town of Bankya
4. "Banya" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Panagyurishte, village of Banya
5. "Banya" - Plovdiv region, municipality of Karlovo, village of Banya
6. "Banya" - Sliven region, municipality of Nova Zagora, village of Banya
7. "Bedenski Bani" - Smolyan region, municipality of Devin, village of Beden
8. "Belovo" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Belovo, town of Belovo
9. "Beltchinski Bani" - Sofia region, municipality of Samokov, village of Beltchin
10. "Blagoevgrad" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Blagoevgrad, town of Blagoevgrad
11. "Blagoevgrad - Struma river" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Blagoevgrad, village of Zeleni Dol
12. "Bratsigovo" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Bratsigovo, town of Bratsigovo
13. "Bourgaski Mineralni Bani" - Bourgas region, municipality of Bourgas, village of Vetren
14. "Barziya" - Montana region, municipality of Berkovitsa, village of Burziya
15. "Varvara" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Septenvri, village of Varvara
16. "Velingrad - Kamenitsa" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Velingrad, town of Velingrad
17. "Velingrad - Ladzhene" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Velingrad, town of Velingrad
18. "Velingrad - Chepino" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Velingrad, town of Velingrad
19. "Voneshta Voda" - Veliko Turnovo region, municipality of Veliko Turnovo, village of Voneshta Voda
20. "Varshets" - Montana region, municipality of Vurshets, town of Vurshets
21. "Guliyana Banya" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Razlog, village of Banya
22. "Devin" - Smolyan region, municipality of Devin, town of Devin
23. "Dzhebel" - Kurdzhali region, municipality of Dzhebel, town of Dzhebel
24. "Dobrinishte" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Bansko, village of Dobrinishte
25. "Dolna Banya" - Sofia region, municipality of Dolna Banya, town of Dolna Banya
26. "Dolni Rakovets" - Pernik region, municipality of Radomir, village of Dolni Rakovets
27. "Draginovo" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Velingrad, village of Draginovo
28. "Eleshnitsa - area St. Varvara - Mesta river" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Razlog, village of Banya
29. "Zamfirovo" - Montana region, municipality of Berkovitsa, village of Zamfirovo
30. "Izvorishte" - Bourgas region, municipality of Bourgas, village of Izvorishte
31. "Kazitchene - Ravno Pole" - Capital region of Sofia, municipality of Sofia, village of Kazitchene; Sofia region, municipality of Elin Pelin, village of Ravno Pole
32. "Kamenar" - Bourgas region, municipality of Pomorie, village of Kamenar
33. "Katuntsi" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Sandanski, village of Katuntsi

34. "Kirkovo" - Kurdzhali region, municipality of Kirkovo, village of Kirkovo
35. "Kiten" - Bourgas region, municipality of Tsarevo, village of Kiten
36. "Kostenets" - Sofia region, municipality of Kostenets, town of Kostenets
37. "Krasново" - Plovdiv region, municipality of Hisarya, village of Krasново
38. "Krushuna" - Lovech region, municipality of Letnitsa, village of Krushuna
39. "Kuklen" - Plovdiv region, municipality of Rodopi, village of Kuklen
40. "Kyustendil" - Kyustendil region, municipality of Kyustendil, town of Kyustendil
41. "Marash" - Shoumen region, municipality of Shoumen, village of Marash
42. "Marikostinovo" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Petrich, village of Marikostinovo
43. "Medovo" - Bourgas region, municipality of Pomorie, village of Medovo
44. "Merichleri" - Haskovo region, municipality of Dimitrograd, town of Merichleri
45. "Mihalkovo" - Smolyan region, municipality of Devin, village of Mihalkovo
46. "Momin Prohod" - Sofia region, municipality of Kostenets, town of Kostenets
47. "Nevestino - Barishteto" - Kyustendil region, municipality of Nevestino, village of Nevestino
48. "Nevestino - Topilata" - Kyustendil region, municipality of Nevestino, village of Nevestino
49. "Narechenski Mineralni Bani" - Plovdiv region, municipality of Assenovgrad, village of Narechenski Bani
50. "Obedinenie" - Veliko Turnovo region, municipality of Polski Trumbesh, village of Obedinenie
51. "Ovoshtnik" - Stara Zagora region, municipality of Kazanluk, village of Ovoshtnik
52. "Ovcha Mogila" - Veliko Turnovo region, municipality of Svishtov, village of Ovcha Mogila
53. "Ognyanovo - Gurmen" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Gurmen, villages of Gurmen and Ognyanovo
54. "Pavel Banya" - Stara Zagora region, municipality of Pavel Banya, town of Pavel Banya
55. "Pesnopoy" - Plovdiv region, municipality of Kaloyanovo, village of Pesnopoy
56. "Polikraishte" - Veliko Turnovo region, municipality of Gorna Oryahovitsa, village of Polikraishte
57. "Polski Trambesh" - Veliko Turnovo region, municipality of Polski Trumbesh, town of Polski Trumbesh
58. "Polyanovo" - Bourgas region, municipality of Aytos, village of Polyanovo
59. "Provadiya" - Varna region, municipality of Provadiya, town of Provadiya
60. "Pchelinski Bani" - Sofia region, municipality of Kostenets, village of Pchelin
61. "Resen" - Veliko Turnovo region, municipality of Veliko Turnovo, village of Resen
62. "Rudartsi" - Pernik region, municipality of Pernik, village of Rudartsi
63. "Rudnik" - Bourgas region, municipality of Bourgas, village of Rudnik
64. "Rupite - area Kozhuh" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Petrich, village of General Todorovo
65. "Razhena" - Stara Zagora region, municipality of Kazanluk, village of Ruzhena

66. "Sandanski" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Sandanski, town of Sandanski
67. "Sapareva Banya" - Kyustendil region, municipality of Sapareva Banya, town of Sapareva Banya
68. "Svishtov" - Veliko Turnovo region, municipality of Svishtov, town of Svishtov
69. "Simeonovgrad" - Haskovo region, municipality of Simeonovgrad, town of Simeonovgrad
70. "Simmitli" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Simmitli, town of Simmitli
71. "Slatina" - Montana region, municipality of Berkovitsa, village of Slatina
72. "Slivenski Mineralni Bani" - Sliven region, municipality of Sliven, village of Metchkarovo
73. "Sluntchev Bryag" - Bourgas region, municipality of Nessebar, town of Nessebar
74. "Sofia - Batalova Vodenitsa" - Capital region of Sofia
75. "Sofia - Gorna Banya" - Capital region of Sofia
76. "Sofia - Zheleznitsa" - Capital region of Sofia
77. "Sofia - Knyazhevo" - Capital region of Sofia
78. "Sofia - Lozenets" - Capital region of Sofia
79. "Sofia - Nadezhda" - Capital region of Sofia
80. "Sofia - Ovcha Kupel" - Capital region of Sofia
81. "Sofia - Pancharevo" - Capital region of Sofia, village of Pancharevo
82. "Sofia - Svoboda" - Capital region of Sofia
83. "Sofia - Centre" - Capital region of Sofia
84. "Starozagorski Mineralni Bani" - Stara Zagora region, municipality of Stara Zagora, village of Starozagorski Bani
85. "Stefan Karadzhovo" - Yambol region, municipality of Bolyarovo, village of Stefan Karadzhovo
86. "Straldzha" - Yambol region, municipality of Straldzha, town of Straldzha
87. "Streltcha" - Pazardzhik region, municipality of Streltcha, town of Streltcha
88. "Sudievo" - Bourgas region, municipality of Aytos, village of Sudievo
89. "Trojan" - Haskovo region, municipality of Simeonovgrad, village of Trojan
90. "Turgovishte - Boaza" - Turgovishte region, municipality of Turgovishte, village of Prolaz
91. "Harmanli" - Haskovo region, municipality of Harmanli, town of Harmanli
92. "Haskovski Mineralni Bani" - Haskovo region, municipality of Mineralni Bani, village of Mineralni Bani
93. "Hisarya" - Plovdiv region, municipality of Hisarya, town of Hisarya
94. "Hotovo" - Blagoevgrad region, municipality of Sandanski, village of Hotovo
95. "Chiflik" - Lovech region, municipality of Trojan, village of Chiflik
96. "Chirpan" - Stara Zagora region, municipality of Chirpan, town of Chirpan
97. "Shipkovo" - Lovech region, municipality of Trojan, village of Shipkovo
98. "Yagoda" - Stara Zagora region, municipality of Muglitzh, village of Yagoda
99. Region "Dolna Kamchiya" - iodine - bromine waters - Varna region, municipality Dolny Chiflik and municipality Avren.
100. Region "Northeastern Bulgaria" - underground waters from the malm aquifer with temperature higher than 20(C - Varna region, Dobrich region, Shoumen region
101. Region "Varna Basin" - underground waters from the eocenic aquifer with temperature higher than 20(C - Varna region, Dobrich region
102. Region "Sofia valley" - underground waters from the pre-neosoic plate and the

neogenic sediment complex with temperature higher than 20(C, including the mineral waters from the deposits detached beforehand on the territory of Sofia region and region Sofia.

WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT

Promulgated, State Gazette No. 86/30.09.2003

Chapter One

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

- (1) This Act shall govern the environmentally sound management of waste as a totality of rights, obligations, decisions, actions and operations related to the formation and treatment of waste, as well as the forms of control over any such activities.
- (2) This Act shall establish the requirements to the products which, in the process of production thereof or after final use thereof, form hazardous or ordinary waste.
- (3) Waste shall be managed for the purpose of prevention, mitigation or limitation of the harmful impact of waste on human health and on the environment.

Article 2

- (1) This Act shall apply to:
 1. household waste;
 2. industrial waste;
 3. construction and demolition waste;
 4. hazardous waste.
- (2) This Act shall not apply to:
 1. radioactive waste;
 2. waste resulting from prospecting, extraction, treatment and storage of mineral resources and the working of quarries;
 3. animal carcasses;
 4. animal faeces and other non-hazardous substances used in farming;
 5. gaseous effluents emitted into the atmosphere;
 6. waste waters, with the exception of waste in liquid form included in the classification referred to Article 3 herein;
 7. decommissioned explosives.

Article 3

The classification of wastes by types and properties shall be determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Environment and Water and the Minister of Health.

Chapter Two
OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS CARRYING OUT WASTE-RELATED OPERATIONS

Article 4

- (1) Any persons, whose activity involves the formation and/or treatment of waste, shall take measures in the following hierarchy of priorities for:
 1. the prevention or reduction of waste production and its harmfulness, in particular by:
 - (a) the development and application of modern clean technologies more sparing in their use of primary natural resources;
 - (b) the technical development and placing on the market of products designed so as to make no contribution or to make the smallest possible contribution, by the nature of their manufacture, use or final disposal, to increasing the amount or harmfulness of waste and pollution hazards;
 - (c) the development of appropriate techniques for the final disposal of dangerous substances contained in waste destined for recovery;
 2. the recycling, reuse and/or extraction of secondary raw materials and energy recovery from waste whereof the formation cannot be prevented;
 3. the final disposal of waste, should the prevention, reduction and/or recovery thereof be impossible.
- (2) Upon occurrence of pollution, the persons referred to in Paragraph (1) shall take immediate action to limit the effects of the said pollution on human health and the environment.

Article 5

- (1) "Holders of waste" shall mean the producers of waste or the persons who or which are in possession of waste.
- (2) Industrial, construction and hazardous waste shall be delivered and accepted solely on the basis of a written contract.
- (3) The holders of waste referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be obligated:
 1. to comply with the requirements for treatment of waste varying by type, origin and properties;
 2. to maintain the waste treatment facilities thereof in constant working order and fit for normal operation;
 3. to take all measures to prevent the mixing of hazardous waste with other waste or of recoverable waste with non-recoverable waste;
 4. to organize the safe storage of waste for which no appropriate treatment techniques are available;
 5. where hazardous waste is available, to designate a person responsible and to make arrangements for the safe management of the said waste;
 6. to keep records of waste according to the procedure established by this Act and by the secondary legislation on the application thereof;

7. upon request, to afford the control authorities access to the technological flow lines which produce waste, to the waste treatment facilities, and to waste-related documentation;
8. to provide briefing and periodic training to the staff handling hazardous waste;
9. to plan and implement the measures necessary to avoid the spread of pollution after closure of the projects and operations, as well as of the waste disposal facility or installation;
10. to provide for financial resources as shall be necessary for:
 - (a) ensuring implementation of the waste management programmes;
 - (b) the monitoring plan;
 - (c) closure of the waste disposal facility or installation;
 - (d) post-closure monitoring and control.
11. to draw up a contingency plan for response to accidents as may occur upon carrying out waste-related operations;
12. to notify the competent authorities of any forthcoming changes in the raw materials and the technological processes that would lead to a change in the amount, type or harmfulness of the waste formed.

Article 6

- (1) Holders of waste shall provide the said waste for collection, transport, recovery or disposal to persons empowered to carry out the relevant operations, or shall recover or dispose of the said waste themselves in accordance with this Act.
- (2) The abandonment, unauthorized dumping and incineration or any other form of uncontrolled waste disposal is hereby prohibited.

Article 7

- (1) Simultaneously with the documents covered under Article 144 (1) of the Spatial Development Act, the applicants for a building permit shall submit information regarding the amount and type of industrial and hazardous waste as shall be formed after implementation of the development-project design.
- (2) The information referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be grounds to seek a permit from the state acceptance commission according to the procedure established by Article 12 herein.
- (3) Authorization of the use of construction projects according to the procedure established by the Spatial Development Act without a waste handling permit, where such a permit is required according to the procedure established by Article 12 herein, is hereby prohibited.

Article 8

The composition and properties of waste shall be analyzed by accredited laboratories for the purpose of verification of the data declared and classification of waste under Article 3 herein.

Article 9

- (1) Where the producers or waste are unidentified, the costs of environmental remediation shall be borne by the persons who or which are in holding of any such waste.
- (2) All costs of environmental remediation and of identification of the actual producer of the waste shall be recovered therefrom.
- (3) Should the producer of the waste be not identified within 30 days, the persons affected shall receive assistance from the municipality, upon request, for elimination of the waste according to a procedure established in the ordinance referred to in Article 19 herein or, in the case of pollution with hazardous waste, according to a procedure established by the Rules of Organization and Operation of the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities (*State Gazette* No. 3 of 2003).

Chapter Three

WASTE TREATMENT AND TRANSPORT

Article 10

Depending on the properties, composition and other characteristics thereof, waste shall be treated and transported in a manner as will not impede its further rational utilization.

Article 11

- (1) Any persons, who or which place on the market any products which, after use, form ordinary waste as defined by the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein, shall be responsible for the separate collection of the said waste and for attainment of the relevant targets for recycling and recovery.
- (2) The producers and importers of packaged goods shall be responsible for the separate collection of the waste resulting from the use of the said goods, as well as for attainment of the following targets for recycling and recovery:
 1. between 50 per cent as a minimum and 65 per cent as a maximum by weight of packaging waste must be recovered;
 2. within the target referred to in Item 1, between 25 per cent as a minimum and 45 per cent as a maximum by weight of the totality of packaging materials contained in packaging waste must be recycled, with a minimum of 15 per cent by weight for each packaging material.
- (3) The targets covered under Paragraph (2) shall be attained by stages, according to the time limits established under § 9 of the Transitional and Final Provisions herein.
- (4) The persons referred to in Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall discharge the obligations thereof:
 1. individually, or
 2. through schemes represented by a recovery scheme operator.
- (5) In case they discharge the obligations thereof individually, the persons referred to in Paragraphs (1) and (2), as well as all distributors thereof, including the persons selling the goods to the final consumer and the producer, shall be obligated to accept

the return, at the point of sale or in another suitable place, of the waste resulting from the use of the relevant products.

- (6) The persons referred to in Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall discharge the obligations thereof through recovery schemes after issuing of a permit according to the procedure established by Chapter Five, Section IV herein.

Article 12

- (1) The following shall be required for carrying out operations comprehended in the collection, transport, temporary storage, recovery and/or disposal of waste:
 1. a permit issued according to the procedure established by Article 37 herein, or
 2. an integrated permit, issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Seven, Section II of the Environmental Protection Act.
- (2) No permits shall be required, where the waste does not have hazardous properties, for:
 1. the operations comprehended in the collection, transport and temporary storage;
 2. trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste.
- (3) A licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste which does not have hazardous properties shall be issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Five, Section III herein.
- (4) The Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the territory where operations referred to in Item 1 of Paragraph (2) are carried out shall issue a registration document for the said operations in a standard form approved by the Minister of Environment and Water, according to the procedure established by Chapter Five, Section II herein.
- (5) In the cases where the persons carry out simultaneously operations under Paragraph (1) and under Item 1 of Paragraph (2), the said persons may submit an application for the issuing of a permit under Article 37 herein for all operations, whereby the requirement for the issuing of a registration document shall be waived.

Article 13

The requirements that the sites designated for placing of waste treatment installations must satisfy shall be established by an ordinance of the Minister of Environment and Water, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Minister of Health.

Article 14

- (1) Upon discontinuance of an operation comprehended in the treatment of waste on a specific site before expiry of the term of validity of the relevant permit, the authority that has issued the said permit shall establish the requirements for the safe liquidation of the said site and for reclamation of the grounds.
- (2) The requirements referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be mandatory for the persons who or which have engaged in the said operation.

Article 15

- (1) Waste disposal and recovery installations and facilities shall be constructed and operated in a manner that does not present a risk of environmental pollution or damage.
- (2) The conditions and requirements for construction and operation of the installations and facilities referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be established by ordinances of the Minister of Environment and Water, issued in consultation with the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Minister of Health.

Article 16

- (1) The mayor of each municipality shall organize the management of waste formed within the territory of the said municipality in conformity with the requirements established by this Act and the ordinance referred to in Article 19 herein.
- (2) The municipality mayor shall ensure conditions whereunder each holder of household waste shall be serviced by persons wherewith a written contract for provision of services has been concluded according to the procedure established by the Public Procurement Act.
- (3) The municipality mayor shall be responsible for:
 1. the provision of receptacles for storage of household waste: containers, dust bins and other such;
 2. the collection of household waste and the transport of the said waste to the landfills or other facilities and installations for the disposal thereof;
 3. the cleaning of the street roadways, the squares, the driveways, the parks and the other spatial-development areas of the nucleated settlements intended for public use;
 4. the siting, construction, maintenance, operation, closure and monitoring of the landfills for household waste and construction and demolition waste or of other facilities or installations for disposal of household waste or of construction and demolition waste;
 5. the separate collection of household waste, including packaging waste, designating sites for placing of the requisite components of the packaging waste separate collection and sorting system;
 6. the arrangement and application of a separate collection system for used fluorescent tubes and other mercury-containing lamps;
 7. the arrangement of the operations comprehended in the collection and storage of end-of-life vehicles on temporary storage sites;
 8. the prevention of the dumping of waste in unauthorized places and/or establishment of unlawful disposal sites;
 9. the designation of sites for replacement of waste oils, and the informing of the public thereof;
 10. the designation of sites for placing of receptacles for the collection of spent batteries.

Article 17

- (1) The persons who or which carry out operations comprehended in household waste and/or construction and demolition waste disposal shall notify the mayor of the municipality within the territory whereof the operation is carried out at least two years prior to the depletion of the capacity of the landfill or the expiry of the service life of the facility.
- (2) Upon notification under Paragraph (1), the municipality mayor shall take action for designation of a new site and for construction of a new waste disposal installation and/or facility or shall organize waste disposal jointly with other municipalities on a regional basis.

Article 18

- (1) Waste from construction sites and waste resulting from the demolition or remodelling of buildings and facilities shall be treated and transported by the holders of the said waste, by the contractor of the construction or demolition, or by another person on the basis of a written contract.
- (2) The municipality mayor shall designate the waste transport route and the waste treatment facility/installation.

Article 19

The Municipal Council shall adopt an ordinance establishing the terms and a procedure for the discarding, collection, including separate collection, transport, reloading, recovery and disposal of household, construction and demolition, and ordinary waste within the territory under its jurisdiction, the said terms and procedure being elaborated according to the requirements established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof, as well as the payment for provision of the relevant services according to the procedure established by the Local Taxes and Fees Act.

Article 20

- (1) Household waste generated by incoming means of air, water and land transport shall be treated immediately upon entry into Bulgaria and, if technically practicable, shall be disposed of at the border-crossing checkpoints.
- (2) The operations referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be carried out by persons holding a permit under Article 37 herein.
- (3) The terms and the procedure for carrying out the operations referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be established by an ordinance of the Minister of Transport and Communications.

Article 21

Industrial waste which does not have hazardous properties shall be treated by:

1. the producer of the waste: at own installations, according to a production operation design approved by the relevant competent authorities and in compliance with Article 5 (3) herein;
2. the persons who or which have been issued a permit under Article 37 herein, a registration document under Article 12 (4) herein, or a licence under Article 54 (1) herein;

3. operators holding an integrated permit issued according to the procedure established by the Environmental Protection Act.

Article 22

- (1) Hazardous waste shall be treated by persons holding a permit under Article 37 herein or an integrated permit issued according to the procedure established by the Environmental Protection Act.
- (2) The collection and temporary storage of hazardous waste shall be done separately in specialized receptacles within the territory whereon the holder exercises a real right.
- (3) Hazardous waste shall be packaged, labeled and transported in accordance with the international-law instruments on carriage of dangerous goods as have been ratified by the Republic of Bulgaria by law.

Article 23

In cases of serious hazard posed to human health and the environment resulting from the formation of or operations related to hazardous waste, the Council of Ministers, acting on a motion by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Environment, shall designate by a decision the measures necessary to eliminate the hazard, regardless of whether the conditions under Article 12 herein are fulfilled or not.

Article 24

- (1) The requirements for the treatment and transport of hazardous and industrial waste shall be established by ordinances of the Council of Ministers.
- (2) The requirements governing the products which, after use, form ordinary waste, the procedure and methods for separate collection, reuse, recycling, recovery and/or safe disposal of the said waste, including the targets for recycling or recovery thereof, shall be established by ordinances of the Council of Ministers.

Chapter Four

WASTE-RELATED OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

Section I

Information

Article 25

- (1) The persons whose activity involves the formation and/or treatment of industrial and/or hazardous waste, as well as the persons holding a permit under Article 37 herein or a registration document under Article 12 herein and carrying out operations comprehended in the treatment of households waste and/or construction and demolition waste, shall be obligated to keep record books certified by the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water.
- (2) The persons referred to in Paragraph (1) shall preserve the record books for a period of five years and, in respect of hazardous waste, for a period of 30 years after discontinuance of the operation of specific facilities or installations.
- (3) Upon closure *in toto* of the operations of all facilities and installations on a specific site, the persons referred to in Paragraph (1) shall deliver the record books to the

municipal administrations which shall preserve the said books for the periods referred to in Paragraph (2).

- (4) The persons referred to in Paragraph (1) and the persons holding a licence under Article 54 (1) herein shall prepare waste reports and shall submit the said reports to the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water according to the requirements established by this Act and by the ordinance referred to in Article 27 (1).
- (5) The persons referred to in Paragraph (4) shall submit to the competent authorities, upon request, the documents regarding the report and the information on the activity thereof.
- (6) The persons placing on the market any products which, after use, form ordinary waste, shall provide information and shall keep records according to the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein.

Article 26

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall keep a public register of the permits issued under Article 37 herein, of the registration documents issued under Article 12 (4) herein, and of the closed projects and operations.
- (2) The Minister of Economy shall keep a public register of the licences issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Five, Section III herein.

Article 27

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water, acting in consultation with the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works and with the Minister of Health, shall establish by an ordinance the procedure and the standard forms wherein information on waste-related operations shall be provided, as well as the procedure for the keeping of the public register referred to in Article 26 (1) herein.
- (2) The procedure for the keeping of the public register referred to in Article 26 (2) herein shall be established by the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein.
- (3) The information on waste-related operations shall mandatorily cover: amount, properties and origin of the waste, as well as other data specified by the ordinance referred to in Paragraph (1).

Section II

Programmes and Financing

Article 28

- (1) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall elaborate a National Waste Management Programme and shall lay the said Programme before the Council of Ministers.
- (2) An environmental assessment shall be conducted for the programme referred to in Paragraph (1) according to the procedure established by the Environmental Protection Act.
- (3) The Minister of Environment and Water shall lay before the Council of Ministers an annual report simultaneously with the report on the implementation of the action plan

under the National Environmental Strategy. If necessary, the programme shall be updated.

Article 29

- (1) Waste management programmes shall be elaborated and implemented by:
 1. the municipality mayor, in respect of the territory of the relevant municipality;
 2. the persons carrying out waste-related operations for which the issuing of a permit under Article 37 herein is required;
 3. the persons whose activity results in the formation of:
 - (a) industrial waste, which does not have hazardous properties and whereof the total amount exceeds 1 cubic metre or 1,000 kilogrammes per 24 hours;
 - (b) hazardous waste;
 - (c) construction and demolition waste, whereof the total amount exceeds 10 cubic metres per 24 hours;
 4. the persons referred to in Article 11 (4) herein, in accordance with the requirements established by the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein.
- (2) The programmes referred to in Item 1 of Paragraph (1) shall be an integral part of the municipal environmental programmes and shall be elaborated, adopted and reported according to the procedure established by Chapter Five of the Environmental Protection Act.
- (3) The programmes referred to in Paragraph (1):
 1. shall be elaborated and adopted for a continuous period which shall be fixed depending on the expected development of production and other operations but which may not be shorter than three years;
 2. shall be updated upon an intervening change in the factual and/or regulatory conditions.

Article 30

- (1) The persons referred to in Items 2 and 3 of Article 29 (1) herein shall submit the draft programme to the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water.
- (2) Within one month after receipt, the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water shall endorse the drafts as submitted or shall return the said drafts with mandatory prescriptions for bringing the programmes into conformity with this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof.
- (3) The programmes prepared by the persons referred to in Items 2 and 3 of Article 29 (1) herein, who or which carry out operations within a territory covered by multiple regional inspectorates of environment and water, shall be endorsed by the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the territory wherein the said persons have been registered by a court of law under the Commercial Code.
- (4) The Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the territory wherein the persons have been registered by a court of law under the Commercial Code shall endorse the draft of the programme after receiving advisory

opinions from the regional inspectorates of environment and water covering the territories wherein the operations shall be carried out.

- (5) A copy of the programmes shall be provided to the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water within one month after adoption of the said programmes.
- (6) The programmes prepared by the persons referred to in Item 3 of Article 29 (1) herein shall be provided to the municipalities in the territory whereof the operation is carried out, for the purpose of inclusion into the programmes referred to in Item 1 of Article 29 (1) herein.
- (7) The authority who has endorsed the waste management programme and the regional inspectorates of environment and water which have issued an advisory opinion on the said programme according to the procedure established by Paragraph (4) herein shall conduct periodic inspections as to the implementation of the said programme.

Article 31

- (1) The waste management programmes shall envisage measures for attainment of the following targets:
 1. reduction or limitation of waste formation and of waste hazardousness;
 2. recycling, regeneration or other forms of recovery;
 3. environmentally sound disposal;
 4. elimination of past pollution with waste.
- (2) The programmes referred to in Paragraph (1) shall include:
 1. an analysis of the state and a forecast of the type, origin, properties and amount of waste formed and destined for treatment;
 2. the targets, stages and time limits for attainment thereof;
 3. the treatment or safe storage methods and installations;
 4. description of the specialized treatment facilities, as well as of the grounds suitable for treatment of waste;
 5. a diagram of the transport routes of waste to the treatment facilities;
 6. spatial-development area-specific or enterprise-specific solutions for waste-related operations management;
 7. financial resources for implementation of the programme;
 8. measures for construction of waste recovery and disposal installations and facilities located as near as possible to the source of waste formation, and by means of the most appropriate methods and technologies;
 9. conditioning plan for bringing existing waste disposal facilities and installations into conformity with the requirements established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof, including specific measures, resources and time limits for implementation;
 10. measures for treatment of biodegradable waste so as to reduce the amount thereof and to prevent the deposit thereof into or onto land;
 11. coordination with other relevant programmes;

12. a system of reporting and control of implementation;
 13. a system of evaluation of the results and updating of the programme;
 14. contract information regarding the authorized persons responsible for waste management.
- (3) Representatives of non-governmental ecologist movements and organizations shall be enlisted in the elaboration of waste management programmes in the municipality. The municipality mayor shall ensure public access to the municipal waste management programme.
 - (4) The spatial development plans shall record projects with installations and facilities and grounds referred to in Items 3 and 4 of Paragraph (2).
 - (5) The National Programme referred to in Article 28 (1) shall furthermore include measures for the establishment of a network of installations and facilities ensuring waste disposal:
 1. by using the best available technology not involving excessive costs;
 2. at installations/facilities nearest to the source of waste formation, and by means of the most appropriate methods and technologies in order to ensure a high level of protection for human health and the environment.

Article 32

The annual report on implementation of the programme referred to in Article 29 (1) herein shall be submitted to the authority that has adopted the programmes and shall be transmitted to the competent regional inspectorate of environment and water on or before the 31st day of March in the next succeeding year.

Article 33

The costs of waste treatment and transport shall be borne by:

1. the holders of waste serviced by a person who or which has obtained a permit under Article 37 herein, a registration document under Article 12 (4) herein, or a licence under Article 54 (1) herein;
2. the persons placing on the market any products which, after use, form ordinary waste, according to the procedure established by Article 36 herein.

Article 34

- (1) On a motion by the Minister of Environment and Water, resources shall be allocated annually by the National Budget of the Republic of Bulgaria Act for the specific purpose of construction of household, ordinary-waste and hazardous-waste treatment installations and facilities, as well as for cleaning and reclamation of places polluted with waste.
- (2) Eligibility for financing shall be limited to programmes and projects for construction of waste treatment installations and facilities which conform to the hierarchy of measures introduced in Article 4 herein and which have been approved by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (3) Any waste treatment installations and facilities, which have been constructed or are being constructed on resources provided by the National Budget of the Republic of Bulgaria Act or on other national or international financing, shall be used according

to the measures envisaged in the action plan under the National Environmental Strategy, referred to in Article 28 (1) herein.

- (4) Where the installations and facilities are not used according to the requirements established by Paragraph (3), the municipalities shall restore the resources provided from the national budget or the international programmes to the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities.

Article 35

- (1) The following amounts shall be credited to the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities:
 1. the proceeds from the fees referred to in Article 36 herein;
 2. the proceeds from the fines and pecuniary penalties under Chapter Six herein: where the penalty decrees have been issued by the Minister of Environment and Water or by officials authorized thereby.
- (2) The proceeds from the fines and pecuniary penalties under Chapter Six herein shall be credited in revenue to the budget of the relevant municipality where the penalty decrees have been issued by the municipality mayor.
- (3) The resources covered under Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be spent on waste treatment projects and sites.

Article 36

- (1) Any persons placing on the market products which, after use, form ordinary waste, shall pay a product fee to an amount fixed, and according to a procedure established, by an act of the Council of Ministers.
- (2) Product fees shall not be paid in the cases where the persons referred to in Paragraph (1) prove to the Minister of Environment and Water that the said persons discharge the obligations thereof for separate collection and recovery of waste under the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) of this Act.

Chapter Five

WASTE-RELATED OPERATIONS AUTHORIZATION AND CONTROL

Section I

Waste-Related Operations Permits

Article 37

Permits for carrying out operations including collection, transport, temporary storage, recovery and/or disposal of waste in cases other than under Article 12 (2) herein shall be issued:

1. by the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the territory wherein the operation is carried out, for operations is related to:
 - (a) hazardous waste: in respect of all operations; in the case of transport of waste collected within the entire national territory, transport shall be

limited to sites located within the territory covered by a single regional inspectorate of environment and water, as well as in respect of transport of waste collected from sites located within the territory covered by a single regional inspectorate of environment and water to facilities located within the entire national territory;

- (b) household, construction and demolition, and industrial waste which does not have hazardous properties: in respect of the operations comprehended in disposal and/or recovery;
2. by the Minister of Environment and Water, where the operations are practised within a territory covered by multiple regional inspectorates of environment and water, for operations related to:
- (a) hazardous waste: in respect of all operations;
 - (b) household, construction and demolition, and industrial waste which does not have hazardous properties: in respect of the operations comprehended in disposal and/or recovery.

Article 38

- (1) For the purpose of obtaining a permit under Article 37 herein, the juristic persons or the natural persons registered under the Commercial Code shall submit an application stating therein:
- 1. the period of time applied for;
 - 2. the location of the sites for carrying out the waste-related operation;
 - 3. the type, composition, properties, amount and origin of the waste destined for treatment;
 - 4. the operations applied for and the codes thereof;
 - 5. the methods and technologies that will be applied;
 - 6. the installations and facilities that will be used, as well as the capacity thereof;
 - 7. the safety measures that will be taken;
 - 8. the person responsible for the management, contact address, telephone number and fax number;
 - 9. a list of the requisite managerial personnel by position, duties, qualifications and number;
 - 10. the conditions whereunder the operations will be carried out by the applicant.
- (2) The application, together with the accompanying documents, shall be submitted to the competent authority under Article 37 herein. Any such application shall be presented on a paper-based data medium and on a magnetic data medium (floppy disk).
- (3) Any application referred to in Paragraph (1), as well as any applications referred to in Item 3 of Article 43 (3), Article 44 (1) and Article 45 (3) herein, shall be submitted in standard forms endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 39

The following shall be attached to any application referred to in Article 38 herein:

1. documentary proof of fee paid;
2. endorsed waste management programme (applicable to the persons referred to in Items 2 and 3 of Article 29 (1) herein);
3. the original or a notarized copy of a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant, issued within three months prior to the submission of the application;
4. a design of the waste disposal or recovery technology;
5. a design for final reclamation and after-care of the site;
6. a contingency plan;
7. an environmental impact assessment (EIA) decision, on the basis of which a design permit has been issued, or a determination by the relevant competent environment authority on non-conduct of an EIA;
8. a sanitary certificate issued by the competent authority of the Ministry of Health (applicable to persons carrying out hazardous waste-related operations);
9. a document certifying the technical suitability of the means of transport, where the permit covers operations comprehended in:
 - (a) hazardous waste transport: in respect of the conformity of the means of transport with the requirements established by the international treaties on carriage of dangerous goods;
 - (b) collection of hazardous waste arising from means of transport in water bodies: in respect of the suitability of the floating installations used and the appurtenant equipment, as well as in respect of the contingency plan referred to in Item 6;
10. a notarized declaration by the applicant to the effect that the said applicant is not connected, within the meaning given by this Act, to any person whereof the permit has been withdrawn or who or which has been denied the issuing of a new permit prior to the lapse of one year since the withdrawal or denial.

Article 40

- (1) The authority referred to in Article 37 herein may require on a single occasion the elimination of non-conformities and/or the provision of additional information to the application, where this is necessary to clarify any facts and circumstances covered under Article 38 and Article 39 herein and/or for the purpose of elimination of such non-conformities.
- (2) In the cases referred to in Paragraph (1), the authority referred to in Article 37 herein shall notify the applicant within 15 days after receipt of the application.
- (3) Within one month after notification under Paragraph (2), the applicant shall eliminate the non-conformities or shall provide the additional information.

Article 41

- (1) The authority referred to in Article 37 herein shall assess the conformity of the application for the issuing of a permit with the requirements established by this Act.
- (2) For the purpose of issuing of permits for waste-related operations, the competent authority or a person authorized thereby shall conduct an inspection of the site.

Article 42

- (1) The authority whereto the application has been submitted shall pronounce by a decision within two months after receipt of the application or after elimination of the non-conformities and/or provision of the additional information, thereby issuing a permit or a reasoned refusal to issue a permit.
- (2) By the decision referred to in Paragraph (1), the competent authority shall establish conditions for carrying out the waste-related operations for the purpose of conformity of the said operations with this Act.
- (3) The competent authority shall refuse to issue a permit where:
 1. the application and/or the documents attached thereto as covered under Article 39 herein are not responsive to the regulatory requirements;
 2. the application has been submitted within one year after the expiry of the term of validity of the previous permit within the framework of which the applicant has committed administrative violations for which the said applicant has been penalized on two or more occasions by an effective penalty decree according to the procedure established by Chapter Six, Section II herein;
 3. it is established that the applicant has cited untrue data.

Article 43

- (1) The permit shall be issued for the shorter of the period of time specified in the application and five years.
- (2) At intervals of not more than one year, the competent authority or a person authorized thereby shall inspect the persons holding a permit under Article 37 herein in order to ascertain the conformity of the waste management conditions with the conditions of the permit as issued.
- (3) A permit for waste-related operations as issued shall terminate upon:
 1. expiry of the term of validity thereof;
 2. withdrawal before expiry of the term of validity thereof;
 3. issuing of a decision by the competent authority, acting on an application by the holder of the permit requesting discontinuance of the operation before expiry of the term of validity of the said permit.
- (4) After termination of a permit, the issuing authority shall control compliance with the conditions related to the safe liquidation of the operation and rehabilitation (reclamation) of the grounds.

Article 44

- (1) Not later than two months before expiry of the term of validity of a permit, the holder may submit an application for extension of the term of validity of the said permit.
- (2) The holder shall enclose with the application referred to in Paragraph (1) a declaration to the effect that there has been no intervening change in the conditions whereunder the permit has been issued.
- (3) The competent authority shall pronounce within one month by a decision on the application for extension of the term of validity of the permit.

- (4) Upon failure to submit the requisite documents referred to in Paragraph (2) within the established time limit, the holder shall apply for the issuing of a permit according to the procedure established by Article 37 herein.

Article 45

- (1) A permit as issued shall be modified and/or supplemented by the competent authority upon:
 1. any intervening change in the regulatory requirements related to the permit;
 2. any planned changes in the raw materials or in the technological processes that will result in changes in the amount, composition and properties of the waste;
 3. any expected changes in the composition and properties of the hazardous waste arriving for treatment at a specific facility, or in the technological processes of treatment;
 4. changes in the circumstances referred to in Item 8 of Article 38 (1) herein;
 5. a need to complement the permit with new data, operations, sites or conditions whereunder the operations will be pursued.
- (2) The holder shall notify the competent authority within one month after occurrence of any change in the circumstances whereunder the permit has been issued.
- (3) In the cases referred to in Items 2 and 3 of Paragraph (1), the holders shall submit an application for a revision modifying and/or supplementing the permit not later than two months prior to the occurrence of the change.
- (4) Within one month, the competent authority shall pronounce by a decision on the application for a revision modifying and/or supplementing the permit.

Article 46

- (1) A single juristic or natural person, registered under the Commercial Code, shall be issued a single permit for all operations carried out regardless of the number of sites whereon the waste-related operations as permitted are carried out and regardless of the number of types of waste whereto the permit applies.
- (2) The number of permits issued for a single site shall correspond to the number of persons carrying out waste treatment operations on the area of the said site.
- (3) The rights under the permits as issued and under a procedure for the issuing thereof as initiated may not be transferred or ceded to other persons.

Article 47

- (1) The competent authority shall withdraw a permit as issued where:
 1. the holder has submitted untrue information which has served as grounds for the issuing of the permit;
 2. as a result of gross or systematic violation of this Act, of the secondary legislation on the application thereof or of the conditions set in the permit, human health is endangered or the environment is damaged or polluted in excess of the permissible limit values.

- (2) Upon withdrawal of the permit under Paragraph (1), the offender shall be disqualified from applying for a new permit for a period of one year reckoned from the date of withdrawal.

Article 48

- (1) The decisions of the competent authority shall be communicated in writing to the applicants within seven days after being issued.
- (2) The authority that has issued a permit for waste-related operations shall inform the public in an appropriate manner of each permit as issued, as well as of any revisions modifying and/or supplementing the permits as issued, within ten days after the date of issuing.

Article 49

Any permit as issued and any decision to modify and/or supplement a permit as issued or to refuse to issue, to modify and/or to supplement a permit shall be appealable according to the procedure established by:

1. the Administrative Procedure Act: in the cases where any such permit or decision has been issued by the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water;
2. the Supreme Administrative Court Act: in the cases where any such permit or decision has been issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Section II

Registration Documents for Waste-Related Operations

Article 50

For the purpose of obtaining a registration document referred to in Article 12 (4) herein, the natural persons or the juristic persons registered under the Commercial Code shall submit an application completed in a standard form endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water, stating therein:

1. the location of the sites for carrying out the waste-related operations;
2. the type, amount and origin of the waste destined for the operations;
3. the operations applied for;
4. the person responsible for the management, contact address, telephone number and fax number.

Article 51

- (1) The following shall be attached to any application referred to in Article 50 herein:
 1. the original or a notarized copy of a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant, issued within three months prior to the submission of the application;
 2. a notarized copy of the BULSTAT Register Identification Card;

3. a notarized copy of a tax registration certificate and a certificate issued by the territorial tax directorate to the effect that the person does not incur tax liabilities;
 4. documentary proof of fee paid.
- (2) The application, together with the accompanying documents, shall be submitted to the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the territory wherein the operations are carried out.

Article 52

- (1) The registration document or a reasoned refusal shall be issued by the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the territory wherein the operations are carried out within 14 days after the date of submission of the application.
- (2) The authority referred to in Paragraph (1) shall refuse to issue a registration document in the case of non-compliance with at least one of the requirements covered under Articles 50 and 51 herein.
- (3) Any refusal referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Act within 14 days after being communicated.

Article 53

- (1) Upon discontinuance of the operation, the person referred to in Article 50 shall notify the competent authority within one month.
- (2) In the cases referred to in Paragraph (1), the competent authority shall issue an order expunging the person referred to in Article 50 herein in the register referred to in Article 26 (1) herein.

Section III

Licensing Trade in Ferrous and Non-ferrous Metal Waste

Article 54

- (1) Trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste which does not have hazardous properties shall be carried out by merchants registered under the Commercial Code and holding a licence for this activity issued by the Minister of Economy or a Deputy Minister authorized thereby according to the procedure established by this Section.
- (2) No licence shall be required for:
 1. trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste generated as process waste of own production or as own wear-and-tear scrap, provided the buyer is licensed according to the procedure established by Paragraph (1);
 2. sale of consumer ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste by natural persons, provided the buyer is licensed according to the procedure established by Paragraph (1).
- (3) For the purpose of obtaining a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, the merchants referred to in Paragraph (1) shall submit an application to the

Minister of Economy, completed in a standard form according to the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein.

- (4) The following shall be attached to any application referred to in Paragraph (3):
 1. the original or a notarized copy of a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant, issued within three months prior to the submission of the application;
 2. the original or a notarized copy of a commercial lease agreement or a notarial act, accompanied by a plat or another document certifying the corporeal immovable, issued by the competent services exercising jurisdiction over the site, stating particulars of the address of the project, the land parcel, the ground survey number and other descriptive data, where the corporeal immovable is unregulated;
 3. a certificate issued by the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the location of the site;
 4. the original or a notarized copy of a tax registration certificate and a certificate issued by the territorial tax directorate to the effect that the person does not incur tax liabilities;
 5. a notarized copy of the BULSTAT Register Identification Card;
 6. a notarized declaration by the applicant to the effect that the said applicant is not connected, within the meaning given by this Act, to any merchant whereof the licence has been withdrawn or who or which has been denied the issuing of a licence, within the time limits referred to in Litterae (b) and (c) of Item 1 of Article 59 (1) herein;
 7. documentary proof of fee paid.
- (5) Should there be any non-conformities in the documents and/or a need to provide additional information, the applicant shall be notified within 14 days after the date of submission of the application. The applicant shall eliminate any such non-conformities and shall provide any such additional information within 14 days after notification.
- (6) Upon failure to eliminate the non-conformities and/or to provide the additional information within the time limit referred to in Paragraph (5), the documents shall be denied consideration.
- (7) In the cases referred to in Paragraph (5), the documents shall be presumed submitted as from the date of elimination of non-conformities and/or provision of additional information.

Article 55

- (1) The certificate referred to in Item 3 of Article 54 (4) herein shall state particulars of the applicant, the location of the site and the conformity of the said site with the requirements established by this Act and by the secondary legislation on the application thereof, as well as particulars of the type of waste destined for the activity.
- (2) For the purpose of obtaining a certificate, the person shall submit an application to the Director of the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water, stating therein the particulars covered under Paragraph (1).

- (3) The Director of the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water or a person authorized thereby shall conduct an on-site inspection and, upon ascertaining conformity of the site with the requirements established by this Act and the subordinate legislation on the application thereof, shall issue the certificate referred to in Paragraph (1) herein within 14 days after submission of the application.
- (4) The Director of the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water shall refuse to issue a certificate if the said Director ascertains that the site does not conform to the regulatory requirements. Any such refusal shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Act.

Article 56

- (1) The application and the documents referred to in Article 54 (3) and (4) herein shall be considered at the Ministry of Economy by an interdepartmental commission within two months after the date of submission thereof.
- (2) The interdepartmental commission shall include an equal number of representatives of the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Environment and Water, the Ministry of Interior, nominated by the respective minister. The Minister of Economy shall issue an order designating a chairperson, a secretary and members of the commission.
- (3) Representatives of the branch organizations of ferrous and non-ferrous metal traders shall have the right to attend the meetings of the commission referred to in Paragraph (1).
- (4) The commission referred to in Paragraph (1) shall examine the documents submitted for the issuing of a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste according to the procedure established by the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein and conforming to rules of procedure of the said commission endorsed by the Minister of Economy.
- (5) After examination of the applications, the commission shall draw up a reasoned proposal to the Minister of Economy on the issuing of a licence or on a refusal to issue a licence.
- (6) Within one month after the proposal referred to in Paragraph (5), the Minister of Economy or a Deputy Minister authorized thereby shall issue a licence or shall refuse to issue a licence by a reasoned order.

Article 57

- (1) A licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste shall be issued in a standard form endorsed by the Minister of Economy.
- (2) Any such licence shall state: number and date of issuing; business name of the merchant; registered office and address of the place of management; company case number; volume and record number; BULSTAT Register identification code; list describing the sites whereon the trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste will be carried out.
- (3) A licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste shall be issued for an indeterminate duration.
- (4) The rights under the licence may not be transferred and/or ceded.

- (5) Carrying out trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste by proxy shall be inadmissible, save in the cases where the merchant is represented by an authorized employee thereof hired under a contract of employment.

Article 58

- (1) For the purpose of modifying and/or supplementing a licence, an application and documents certifying the change shall be submitted to the Minister of Economy, and the said application and documents shall be considered according to the procedure and within the time limits established under Article 56 herein and the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein. Upon occurrence of any intervening change in circumstances, the holder shall be obligated to declare the changes for entry into the licence within one month.
- (2) Fees fixed in the Rate Schedule of Fees Collected at the Ministry of Economy under the Stamp Duty Act shall be paid upon submission of the documents and upon receipt of a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, as well as for supplementing and/or modifying a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metals as issued.
- (3) The orders refusing to issue a licence and the orders withdrawing or terminating a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, upon entry into effect, shall likewise be recorded in the public register referred to in Article 26 (2) herein.

Article 59

- (1) The Minister of Economy or a Deputy Minister authorized thereby shall issue an order:
 1. refusing to issue a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, where:
 - (a) the interdepartmental commission examining the documents submitted for the issuing of a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste has made a reasoned proposal on a refusal;
 - (b) the application for the issuing of a licence has been submitted prior to the lapse of one year after an order refusing to issue a licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, save as where any such refusing order has been revoked by the court as legally non-conforming;
 - (c) the application for the issuing of a licence has been submitted prior to the lapse of two years after an order withdrawing a licence according to the procedure established by Item 2, save as where any such withdrawing order has been revoked by the court as legally non-conforming;
 - (d) the application for the issuing of a licence has been submitted by a person connected with the persons referred to in Litterae (b) and (c), unless the appointed periods of time have lapsed;
 2. withdrawing the licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, where:
 - (a) no records of the purchases and imports and/or records of the sales and exports of ferrous and non-ferrous metals are kept;

- (b) the holder has submitted untrue data which have served as grounds for the issuing, modifying or supplementing of the licence;
 - (c) trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste is carried out on a site which is not entered into the licence, with the exception of the cases referred to in Item 1 of Article 54 (2) herein;
 - (d) a reasoned proposal has been made by the Minister of Environment and Water;
 - (e) the terms and the procedure for carrying out trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste are systematically breached;
 - (f) trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste is carried out by proxy;
3. terminating the licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, upon:
- (a) a written request by the licensed merchant;
 - (b) expungement of the merchant in the Commercial Register;
 - (c) failure of the merchant to claim the licence within one month after written notification of the issuing of the said licence.
- (2) The orders covered under Items 1 and 2 of Paragraph (1), as well as the orders refusing to supplement and/or modify a licence, shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Supreme Administrative Court Act or by the Administrative Procedure Act, as the case may be.

Article 60

- (1) A licensed merchant shall keep a record of purchases and imports and a record of sales and exports, as well as a notarized copy of the licence, available for inspection on each site entered into the licence. A licensed merchant shall be obligated to enter truly and accurately all circumstances in the relevant record on the day of delivery or shipment of ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste.
- (2) The records referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be strung through and stamped by the mayor of the municipality where the site is located, who shall note the date of the stamping in a special book. The said records shall be kept according to a procedure and in a standard form endorsed in the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein.
- (3) Trade in copper and aluminium cable and conductor waste of any type and in any amount shall be carried out subject to the availability of:
 - 1. a certificate of origin issued by the persons referred to in Item 1 of Article 54 (2) herein;
 - 2. a declaration of origin completed by the persons referred to in Item 2 of Article 54 (2) herein.
- (4) Upon carrying out trade in waste under Paragraph (3), the seller shall mandatorily deliver to the buyer a credential of origin issued thereby, with a copy of the certificate of origin and a copy of the credential of origin received thereby attached to the first-mentioned credential of origin.
- (5) The documents referred to in Paragraphs (3) and (4) shall be issued and completed on standard forms endorsed in the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein.

- (6) The waste referred to in Paragraph (3) shall be stored and processed separately from the rest.

Article 61

The procedure for carrying out trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste shall be established by an ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

Section IV

Recovery Scheme Operator Permit

Article 62

- (1) A recovery scheme operator permit for discharge of the obligations under Article 11 herein and the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (2) For the purpose of obtaining a permit referred to in Article 11 (6) herein, a recovery scheme operator shall submit an application completed in a standard form to the competent authority referred to in Paragraph (1).
- (3) The standard form of the application referred to in Paragraph (2) shall be set out by an order of the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (4) The following documents shall be attached to any application referred to in Paragraph (2):
 1. the original or a notarized copy of a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant, issued within three months prior to the submission of the application;
 2. a notarized copy of the BULSTAT Register Identification Card;
 3. a notarized copy of a tax registration certificate and a certificate issued by the territorial tax directorate to the effect that the person does not incur tax liabilities;
 4. a notarized copy of the customs registration;
 5. precluded written contracts with persons holding a permit or a registration document referred to in Article 12 herein, for the operations comprehended in the collection, temporary storage and transport of waste or with municipalities wherethrough discharge of obligations under this Act and the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) is ensured;
 6. precluded written contracts with persons holding a permit for recovery of waste resulting from the activity of the members of the recovery scheme operator;
 7. a programme referred to in Item 4 of Article 29 (1) herein;
 8. documentary proof of fee paid.
- (5) The packaging waste recovery scheme operator shall present a notarized certificate on trade mark registration.
- (6) The deed of incorporation of the recovery scheme operator shall furthermore contain conditions ensuring satisfaction of the following requirements:

1. adherence to the principle of non-discrimination and eligibility for participation of the persons referred to in Article 11 herein who or which wish to discharge the obligations thereof under this Act and under the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 24 (2) herein through the recovery scheme within the meaning given by Item 2 of Article 11 (4) herein;
 2. the incorporators of the recovery scheme operator shall have no right to reserve pre-emptive rights by the deed of incorporation;
 3. the deed must not contain any restrictive provisions impeding the free participation of the persons referred to in Article 11 herein, with the exception of a limitation to participation in a single recovery scheme for the relevant type of ordinary waste.
- (7) The application shall be submitted on a paper-based data medium and on an electronic data medium.

Article 63

- (1) The authority referred to in Article 62 (1) herein shall determine whether the application for the issuing of a permit is responsive to the requirements established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof.
- (2) The competent authority may require on a single occasion the elimination of non-conformities and/or the provision of additional information to the application, where this is necessary to clarify any facts covered under Article 62 herein.
- (3) In the cases referred to in Paragraph (2), the competent authority shall notify the applicant within one month after receipt of the application.
- (4) Within one month after notification under Paragraph (3), the applicant shall eliminate the non-conformities or shall provide the additional information.

Article 64

- (1) Within two months after receipt of an application or after elimination of the non-conformities and/or provision of the additional information, the authority referred to in Article 62 (1) herein shall issue a permit or a reasoned refusal to issue a permit.
- (2) The authority shall refuse to issue a permit where:
 1. the application is not responsive to the regulatory requirements;
 2. the application *[sic]* has been withdrawn according to the procedure established by Article 68 herein.

Article 65

- (1) The permit shall be issued for the shorter of the period of time specified in the application and five years.
- (2) A permit as issued shall terminate:
 1. upon expiry of the term of validity thereof;
 2. upon withdrawal before expiry of the term of validity thereof;
 3. at the request of the recovery scheme operator.

Article 66

- (1) Not later than three months before expiry of the term of validity of a permit, the recovery scheme operator may submit an application for extension of the term of validity of the said permit.
- (2) The recovery scheme operators shall enclose with the application referred to in Paragraph (1) a declaration to the effect that there has been no intervening change in the conditions whereunder the permit has been issued.
- (3) The competent authority shall pronounce on the application for extension of the term of validity of the permit by a decision within one month.
- (4) Upon failure to submit the requisite documents referred to in Paragraph (1) within the established time limit, the recovery scheme operator shall apply for the issuing of a permit according to the procedure established by Article 62 herein.

Article 67

- (1) A permit as issued shall be modified and/or supplemented by the competent authority upon any intervening change:
 1. in the regulatory requirements related to the permit;
 2. related to the current legal status of the recovery scheme operator;
 3. in the programme referred to in Item 4 of Article 29 (1) herein.
- (2) In the cases covered under Paragraph (1) herein, the recovery scheme operator shall submit an application for a revision modifying the permit to the competent authority within one month after occurrence of the change.
- (3) Within one month, the competent authority shall pronounce by a decision on the application for a revision modifying the permit.
- (4) In case of a reasoned refusal of a revision modifying the permit, the recovery scheme operator shall apply for the issuing of a new permit according to the procedure established by this Act.

Article 68

The competent authority shall withdraw a permit as issued where:

1. the holder has submitted untrue information which has served as grounds for the issuing of the permit;
2. any acts or omissions on the part of the recovery scheme operator have led to substantial non-attainment of the targets under this Act or the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein;
3. a gross or systematic violation of this Act, of the secondary legislation on the application thereof, or of the conditions set in the permit has been committed.

Article 69

- (1) The decisions of the competent authority shall be communicated in writing to the applicants within seven days after being issued.
- (2) The competent authority and the recovery scheme operator shall inform the public in an appropriate manner of the permit as issued.

Article 70

Any permit as issued and any decision to modify and/or supplement any such permit or to refuse to issue, to modify and/or to supplement a permit shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Supreme Administrative Court Act.

Article 71

At intervals of not more than one year, the competent authority or a person authorized thereby shall inspect the recovery scheme operators holding a permit referred to in Article 62 herein in order to satisfy itself as to the discharge of the obligations arising from this Act, from the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein and from the permit.

Section V

Import, Export and Transit of Waste

Article 72

- (1) The import of waste into, export from, and transit through, the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be allowed:
 1. provided there is a permit or a registration document issued by the Minister of Environment and Water according to the procedure established by this Section or a licence issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Five, Section III herein;
 2. provided the requirements of safety are complied with;
 3. provided the movement is consistent with the requirements established by the law.
- (2) The procedure and manner of import, export and transit of waste, as well as the cases where a bank guarantee or insurance is required, shall be established by an ordinance of the Council of Ministers.
- (3) The Minister of Environment and Water shall keep a register of the import, export and transit permits and of the registration documents issued according to the procedure established by this Section.

Article 73

It shall be prohibited to import waste into Bulgaria which:

1. is of unidentified chemical composition, as well as where no analytical methods for such waste, applicable in the Republic of Bulgaria, are available;
2. for the purpose of storage, deposit into or onto land, or any other form of disposal whatsoever;
3. in case the person who or which operates the planned recovery facility does not hold the relevant permit under Article 37 herein or an integrated permit issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Seven, Section II of the Environmental Protection Act;
4. consists of the materials in respect of which the targets for the preceding year have not been attained as regulated in § 9 of the Transitional and Final Provisions herein and the secondary legislation on the application of this Act,

and in respect of used pneumatic tyres, where the operator referred to in Item 3 recovered a smaller amount of waste of Bulgarian origin during the preceding calendar year in comparison to the amount of waste imported for recovery at the same facility;

5. whereof the deposit into or onto land is prohibited, if the operator referred to in Item 3 recovered a smaller amount of waste of Bulgarian origin during the preceding calendar year in comparison to the amount of waste imported for recovery at the same facility.

Article 74

- (1) For the purpose of obtaining a permit under Article 72 (1) herein, the Bulgarian and the foreign juristic or natural persons, registered as merchants under the Commercial Code or under the national legislation thereof, shall submit an application completed in a standard form, endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water, and the documents proving the conditions whereunder the permit is issued.
- (2) The competent authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein may require on a single occasion from the applicant to eliminate non-conformities and/or to provide additional information to the application.
- (3) In the cases referred to in Paragraph (2), the competent authority herein shall notify the applicant within 15 days after receipt of the application.
- (4) Within 15 days after notification under Paragraph (3), the applicant shall eliminate the non-conformities or shall provide the additional information referred to in Paragraph (2).

Article 75

- (1) A waste import, export or transit permit shall be issued within 30 days after the date of:
 1. submission of the documents: in the cases of import and transit;
 2. receipt of the notifications from the competent authorities of other States: in the case of export.
- (2) The time limit under Paragraph (1) shall begin to run after elimination of any non-conformities and/or provision of any additional information under Article 74 (2) herein.

Article 76

Any permit referred to in Article 72 (1) shall have the following term of validity:

1. six months as from the date of issuing: applicable to single import, export or transit of waste;
2. twelve months as from the date of issuing: applicable to multiple import, export or transit of waste.

Article 77

- (1) The issuing of a permit referred to Article 72 (1) herein shall be refused by a reasoned decision:

1. in the cases of import of waste, where the person who or which operates the planned recovery facility has failed to submit an annual report within the time limits and according to the procedure established by Chapter Four, Section I herein;
 2. in the cases of export of waste, where there are technical capabilities, capacity and suitable waste recovery facilities and installations and the said waste is not required as a raw material for recycling or recovery enterprises in the State of import;
 3. if the applicant or another person, who or which will be participating in, organizing and carrying out the transboundary movement, has previously breached this regime;
 4. upon refusal by the competent authorities of the States through the territory whereof the transboundary movement takes place, including the State of import;
 5. where the application or the documents attached thereto are not responsive to the regulatory requirements;
 6. upon failure to eliminate the non-conformities and/or to provide the additional information under Article 74 (2) herein within 15 days after the date of notification of the applicant.
- (2) The competent authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein shall notify the applicant of the decision thereof under Paragraph (1) in writing within seven days after issuing the said decision.
 - (3) The decision referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Supreme Administrative Court Act.

Article 78

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall issue an order withdrawing a permit as issued where:
 1. the holder has submitted untrue information which has served as grounds for the issuing of the permit;
 2. the conditions set in the permit are not fulfilled.
- (2) The order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be brought to the notice of the customs authorities.
- (3) Within three days after receipt of a notification of withdrawal of a permit as issued, the applicant shall surrender the original of the said permit to the competent authority.
- (4) The order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Supreme Administrative Court Act.
- (5) Any appeal under Paragraph (4) shall not stay the execution of the order referred to in Paragraph (1).

Article 79

Import of waste into the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be allowed where:

1. the waste is used solely for recovery and provided there is a written contract with a person operating a planned recovery facility, describing the technology and the resulting products;
2. the competent Municipal Council has passed a resolution granting consent to the acceptance of the waste for recovery within the territory of the municipality where the facility referred to in Item 1 is located;
3. the persons who or which shall recover the waste hold a permit for the relevant operation under Article 37 herein and an environmental impact assessment decision in the cases where such a decision is required according to the Environmental Protection Act;
4. the waste has exactly identified physical and chemical characteristics and is accompanied by the relevant documents, including a specification, a certificate and an invoice;
5. the use of the waste in the relevant production results in the formation of smaller amounts of waste than the use of conventional raw materials, or replaces valuable or organic natural resources; in the cases of pneumatic tyres, they should be pre-processed to a degree for use as fuel possessing better characteristics than the conventionally used fuel;
6. the waste is stored and recovered within a period of time not exceeding six months as from the date of import thereof and in a manner presenting no risk to human health or to the environment;
7. the import is consistent with the National Waste Management Programme and with the programmes referred to in Item 1 of Article 29 (1) herein.

Article 80

For the purpose of obtaining a waste import permit, in the cases specified in the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein, the applicant shall submit the following documents to the competent authority:

1. a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant and, in the case of non-residents, a document certifying the legal status of the applicant, issued in accordance with the national legislation thereof;
2. the permit or registration document for waste-related operations held by the applicant: applicable to persons required to hold such a permit or document in accordance with Article 12 herein;
3. a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant and, in the case of non-residents, a document certifying the legal status of the carrier, issued in accordance with the national legislation thereof, if the said carrier is a person other than the person referred to in Item 1, and a notarized copy of the permit or registration document if other than the permit or document referred to in Item 2;
4. documentary proof of fee paid;
5. a written contract with the person operating the planned recovery facility, completed in a standard form endorsed by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein;

6. a written confirmation from the mayor of the municipality with the territory whereof the planned recovery facility is located, stating:
 - (a) the name of the applicant, the type and amount of the waste, the period of import, the business name of the person operating the planned waste recovery facility;
 - (b) that the import of the waste conforms to the municipal waste management programme;
 - (c) that the waste imported will be accepted within the territory of the relevant municipality in accordance with the resolution referred to in Item 2 of Article 79 herein;
7. notarized copies of certificates, specifications and other such certifying the physical and chemical characteristics of the waste, issued by an accredited laboratory;
8. a notarized copy of the permit under Article 37 herein, applicable to the persons recovering the waste;
9. a notarized freely worded declaration drawn up by the person operating the planned waste recovery facility, certifying compliance with the conditions established by Item 6 of Article 79 herein;
10. an environmental impact assessment decision on the waste recovery facility, in the cases where such a decision is required according to the Environmental Protection Act;
11. an opinion of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water covering the territory where the facility is located, regarding the capability of the relevant facility to recover the waste intended for import within the time limits under the application and without presenting a risk to human health and to the environment;
12. a written notification from the competent authority of the State of export, containing the declaration and information specified in Annex V A to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, and a confirmation that the said State does not have the technical capacity or the necessary facilities, capacity or suitable sites in order to recover the waste in question in an environmentally sound and efficient manner;
13. a notarized declaration by the person operating the planned recovery facility, to the effect that the conditions under Item 4 and/or Item 5 of Article 73 herein have been fulfilled;
14. a certificate issued by the National Veterinary Service, to the effect that no ban has been imposed on import of items under Article 49 (1) of the Veterinary Practice Act, where falling within the scope of Littera (m) of item 1 of § 1 of the Supplementary Provisions herein;
15. a plan of the measures as the applicant shall undertake in the event the import of the waste cannot take place in accordance with this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof;

16. a bank guarantee or an insurance covering any damage arising during transport or the costs arising from recovery of the waste under the terms established by Item 12.

Article 81

Not later than three working days prior to the actual import of the waste, the applicant shall submit a notification to the competent authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein regarding the exact date of removal of the waste from the State of export.

Article 82

- (1) Export of waste shall not be allowed without the written consent of the competent authorities of the State of import and of the States of transit, if so required under an international treaty whereto the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.
- (2) If the waste exported is denied permission to enter the State of import or to proceed through the States of transit, the exporter of the waste shall be obligated to ensure the safe disposal or recovery of the said waste at its own expense.

Article 83

- (1) A waste export permit, where required in accordance with the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein, shall be issued provided there is:
 1. a written consent of the competent authorities of the State of import, including:
 - (a) a declaration to the effect that the waste whereof the shipment is forthcoming is required for processing or recycling or for other waste-related operations;
 - (b) a confirmation of the existence of a written contract between the applicant or a person on whose behalf the applicant arranges the transboundary movement of the waste, and the person who or which treats the waste in the State of import;
 2. a written confirmation from the competent authorities of the States of transit, consenting to the movement through the territories thereof.
- (2) The procedure establishing fulfilment of the conditions under Paragraph (1) shall be performed by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 84

For the purpose of obtaining a waste export permit, in the cases specified in the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein, the applicant shall submit the following documents to the competent authority:

1. a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant and, in the case of non-residents, a document certifying the legal status of the applicant, issued in accordance with the national legislation thereof;
2. a notarized copy of the permit or registration document for waste-related operations held by the applicant: applicable to persons required to hold such a permit or document in accordance with Article 12 herein;

3. a certificate of current status of the Commercial Register record on the applicant and, in the case of non-residents, a document certifying the legal status of the carrier, issued in accordance with the national legislation thereof, if the said carrier is a person other than the person referred to in Item 1, and a notarized copy of the permit or registration document if other than the permit or document referred to in Item 2;
4. documentary proof of fee paid;
5. notarized copies of certificates, specifications and other documents certifying the physical and chemical characteristics of the waste, issued by an accredited laboratory;
6. a notification completed by the applicant in duplicate, in a standard form endorsed by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein;
7. written contracts for transport concluded by the applicant or for and on behalf of the applicant, for all stages of the movement of the waste within the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
8. notarized copies of the required authorization documents for waste-related operations, certifying that all other persons who or which will be involved in the transboundary movement are licensed to carry out such operations in accordance with the applicable domestic law;
9. a notarized declaration by the applicant to the effect that if the waste is denied permission to enter the State of import or to proceed through any States of transit, the said waste will be returned to the State of export by the said applicant and at its own expense in the type and amount as declared within 90 days reckoned from the time of notification by the State of import of the competent authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein;
10. a plan of the measures as the applicant shall undertake in the event the transboundary movement of the waste cannot take place in accordance with this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof;
11. a bank guarantee or an insurance covering any damage arising during transport of the waste or the costs arising from disposal of the waste in the cases provided for in the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein;
12. a movement document, completed in a standard form endorsed by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein.

Article 85

- (1) Transit of waste shall not be allowed without the written consent of the competent authorities of the State of import, the State of export, and the States of transit.
- (2) The consent of the State of export and of the States of transit shall include an obligation to allow the reverse movement and to accept the shipment back in the event the waste is denied permission to enter any of the States.

Article 86

- (1) A waste transit permit shall be issued for the waste specified in the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein provided there is:
 1. a written notification from the competent authorities of the State of export;

2. a written consent of the competent authorities of the States of transit wherethrough the waste will pass after passing through the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, including the State of import;
 3. a declaration by the competent authority of the State of transit of the waste along the route before the Bulgarian order, confirming the obligation to allow the reverse movement and to accept the shipment back in the event the waste is denied permission to enter the Republic of Bulgaria or any of the States along the route;
 4. a bank guarantee or insurance covering any damage arising during transport, including the cases where the transboundary movement is deemed to be illegal traffic.
- (2) For the purpose of obtaining a waste transit permit, the applicant shall submit the documents certifying fulfilment of the conditions covered under Paragraph (1) to the competent authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein.
 - (3) Not later than three working days prior to the transit taking place, the applicant shall submit a notification to the competent authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein regarding the exact date of removal from the State of export.

Article 87

- (1) A registration document shall be issued for the import of waste destined for recovery for which the issuing of a permit is not required in accordance with the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein.
- (2) In the cases referred to in Paragraph (1), the Bulgarian and the foreign juristic and natural persons registered as merchants under the Commercial Code or under the national legislation thereof shall submit to the competent authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein an application completed in a standard form endorsed by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2), stating therein:
 1. business name and registered office of the applicant;
 2. BULSTAT Code of the applicant, where a resident person;
 3. code and designation of the waste according to the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein;
 4. amount of the waste;
 5. the name and address of the person operating the planned waste recovery facility;
 6. number, date and competent authority who has issued the permit under Article 37 herein to the person referred to in Item 5;
 7. the recovery operation;
 8. presumed date of movement.
- (3) No registration document under Paragraph (1) shall be required for import of ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste by persons holding a licence issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Five, Section III herein.
- (4) The persons referred to in Paragraph (3) shall submit to the Minister of Environment and Water an annual statement, containing the information covered under Items 1 to

7 of Paragraph (2), completed in a standard form endorsed by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein.

- (5) The registration document shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Water within 14 days after receipt of an application.
- (6) The standard form of the registration document shall be set out by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein.
- (7) The Minister of Environment and Water shall refuse, by a reasoned decision, to issue a registration document according to the procedure established by this Section in the cases where the method stated as a recovery operation is not responsive to the requirements established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof.

Article 88

The exporters of waste for which the issuing of a permit according to the procedure established by this Section is not required, shall submit to the Minister of Environment and Water an annual statement-declaration containing the information covered under Items 1 to 4 of Article 87 (2) herein, completed in a standard form endorsed by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein.

Article 89

Upon crossing of the border, the importers, exporters or transitors of waste shall be obligated to present to the customs authorities a movement document according to Article 4, paragraph 7, subparagraph (c) of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, or the registration document referred to in Article 72 (1) herein.

Article 90

The import, export and transport of waste shall take place through border-crossing checkpoints designated by the ordinance referred to in Article 72 (2) herein.

Article 91

- (1) Fees fixed in a Rate Schedule approved by the Council of Ministers shall be collected for the permits and registration documents issued under Chapter Five herein.
- (2) The proceeds under Paragraph (1) shall be expended according to the procedure established by Article 64 of the Environmental Protection Act.

Section VI

Waste Management Control

Article 92

- (1) The municipality mayor or an official authorized thereby shall control:
 1. the operations related to the formation, collection, including separate collection, storage, transport, recovery and disposal of households waste and of construction and demolition waste;

2. the operations comprehended in the deposit into or onto land of industrial and hazardous waste and the implementation of programmes for management of such waste;
 3. the compliance with other requirements established by the ordinance referred to in Article 19 herein.
- (2) The municipality mayor shall organize and control the closure, reclamation of the grounds and post-closure monitoring of landfills located within the territory of the relevant municipality.

Article 93

- (1) The Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water or an official authorized thereby shall exercise control as to compliance with the requirements for treatment of waste and with the conditions of the permit or of the registration document, as the case may be, in respect of:
1. the operations related to formation, collection, including separate collection, storage, transport, recovery and/or disposal of waste within the territory covered by the said Inspectorate;
 2. the waste storage, recovery and/or disposal installations and facilities.
- (2) The authority referred to in Paragraph (1) shall exercise control over implementation of the programmes referred to in Article 29 (1) herein.
- (3) The authority referred to in Paragraph (1) shall control the keeping of records and the provision of information under Chapter Four, Section I herein.
- (4) Should any violations be ascertained upon the conduct of an examination, the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water or an official authorized thereby shall give mandatory prescriptions according to the procedure established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof and shall establish time limits for compliance with the said prescriptions.

Article 94

The Minister of Environment and Water or an official authorized thereby shall exercise control as to compliance with the conditions of the permits and registration documents under Chapter Five herein and over the operations comprehended in the treatment of waste in the cases where the said operations are carried out within a territory covered by multiple regional inspectorates of environment and water, as well as over the programmes for management of such waste.

Article 95

The Director of the Inspectorate of Hygiene and Epidemiology or an official authorized thereby shall exercise sanitary control over the operations comprehended in the treatment of hazardous waste.

Article 96

- (1) The Ministry of Economy, the Minister of Environment and Water, the Minister of Interior, the mayor of the municipality where the site is located or officials authorized thereby shall exercise control as to compliance with the terms and procedure for

carrying out trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, each according to the powers vested therein.

- (2) Inspections of documents shall be conducted at intervals of six months, with the licensed merchant submitting a statement of the stocks, purchases and sales of ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste disaggregated by customs tariffs and headings according to the combined nomenclature of the Republic of Bulgaria, completed in a standard form endorsed in the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein.
- (3) The control authority referred to in Paragraph (1) shall notify the commission referred to in Article 56 (1) herein of any violations ascertained upon the inspections under Paragraph (2) and under Article 97 herein, transmitting all documents to the said commission.
- (4) In the cases referred to in Item 2 of Article 59 (1) herein, the commission referred to in Article 56 (1) herein shall make a proposal to the Minister of Economy on a withdrawal of the licence.

Article 97

- (1) The control authorities referred to in Articles 92, 93, 94, 95 and 96 herein shall conduct examinations of documents and/or on-site inspections, each according to the competence thereof.
- (2) At intervals of not more than one year, the control authorities referred to in Articles 92, 93, 94 and 95 herein shall conduct an examination of the documents required under this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof of the persons whose activity involves the formation of waste and/or who or which carry out waste-related operations.
- (3) An on-site inspection shall be independent of the inspection referred to in Paragraph (2) and shall be conducted at intervals of not more than one year in the place where the operation is carried out and in the presence of the inspected person or of persons working therefor. In the absence of any such persons, the examination shall be conducted with the attendance of at least one witness.
- (4) The official conducting the on-site inspection shall have the right:
 1. to access to the premises whereon the controlled operation is carried out;
 2. to require presentation of the documents which, according to the regulatory requirements, must be available for inspection in the place of the inspection;
 3. to require written and oral explanations from any person working for the inspected person;
 4. to recruit experts in the relevant field, where the inspection is complicated or requires specialized knowledge.
- (5) If any documents certifying compliance with the established requirements are found missing upon an on-site inspection, the inspected person shall be give a seven-day time limit to present the said documents.
- (6) Upon conduct of the inspections, the control authorities covered under Paragraph (1) shall draw up memorandums of ascertainment and/or written statements on ascertainment of administrative violations.

Article 98

- (1) The customs authorities shall take the actions under Article 65 (3) of the Customs Act upon waste import, export and transit in the cases of:
 1. doubt as to the conformity of the shipment with the accompanying documents;
 2. declared waste which is not accompanied by a permit, licence or registration document under Article 72 (1) herein;
 3. advance notification by the authority referred to in Article 72 (1) herein.
- (2) The customs authorities shall certify the movement document according to Article 4, paragraph 7, subparagraph (c) of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal:
 1. upon import: at the customs office or entry;
 2. upon export: at the customs office of exit;
 3. upon transit: at the customs offices of entry and exit.
- (3) Upon certification of the movement document according to Article 4, paragraph 7, subparagraph (c) of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the customs authorities shall retain and preserve a copy of the said document.
- (4) The Director of the Regional Inspectorate and Environment and Water covering the location of the border-crossing checkpoint shall render assistance to the customs authorities for clarification of the cases under Paragraph (1) and for making a decision on any such cases.

Article 99

Control as to conformity with the requirements established by the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein of products which, after use, form ordinary waste, shall be exercised by:

1. the Chairperson of the State Agency for Metrology and Technical Surveillance or an official authorized thereby, in connection with market surveillance over products for which essential requirements have been established under Article 7 of the Technical Requirements to Products Act;
2. the Chairperson of the Commission on Trade and Consumer Protection or an official authorized thereby, in connection with the control over products coming within the scope of the Consumer Protection and Rules of Trade Act;
3. the Minister of Health or an official authorized thereby, in connection with the control over products designated by law.

Chapter Six
COERCIVE ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES AND ADMINISTRATIVE
PENALTY PROVISIONS

Section I

Coercive Administrative Measures

Article 100

The competent authority of an official authorized thereby shall apply coercive administrative measures for the prevention and cessation of administrative violations under this Act, as well as for the prevention and elimination of the detrimental consequences of any such violations.

Article 101

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall suspend:
 1. operations comprehended in the collection, storage, transport, recovery or disposal of waste;
 2. the operation of hazardous waste disposal or recovery facilities.
- (2) The Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water:
 1. shall issue prescriptions for elimination of the waste at the expense of the offender and for environmental remediation;
 2. shall suspend operations comprehended in the treatment and transport of waste;
 3. shall suspend the operation of waste treatment facilities.

Article 102

- (1) A coercive administrative measure shall be applied by a reasoned order of the authority referred to in Article 101 herein.
- (2) The order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall specify the type of the coercive administrative measure and the manner of application thereof.
- (3) The order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be served on the party concerned according to the procedure established by the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (4) Any order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Supreme Administrative Court Act or according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Act, as the case may be.

Article 103

Upon ascertainment of any failure to discharge the obligations under this Act or under the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein, the competent authority referred to in Article 99 herein shall take measures according to a procedure and a manner established by the relevant law.

Section II
Administrative Violations and Sanctions

Article 104

- (1) A fine of BGN 150 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 500 shall be imposed on any natural person who:
 1. discards waste in places unauthorized for this purpose;
 2. violates the provisions on deposit of household waste and of construction and demolition waste in the landfills designated for this purpose;
 3. violates the provisions of Article 5 (3) herein;
 4. fails to deliver an end-of-life vehicle to a temporary storage site or to dismantling companies, or to keep any such vehicle within his or her own corporeal immovable;
 5. discards ordinary waste marked as destined for separate collection, according to the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein, into containers for mixed household waste and in waste collection receptacles placed in corporeal immovables constituting public state or municipal property, or mixes any such waste with other materials or waste in a manner impeding the further recycling or recovery of the said waste, where a system for separate collection of the relevant ordinary waste has been created in the specific nucleated settlement.
- (2) A repeated violation under Paragraph (1) shall be punishable by a fine of BGN 300 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 1,000.
- (3) The duly empowered authorities shall impose a fine of BGN 10 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 50 on the culprits in manifestly minor cases of administrative violations regarding environmental pollution, ascertained upon commission of the said violations, and shall issue a receipt on the fine imposed.
- (4) A fine of BGN 700 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 2,000 shall be imposed on any natural person who:
 1. refuses to complete the declaration referred to in Item 2 of Article 60 (3) herein;
 2. sells consumer ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste to a person who or which does not hold a licence;
 3. carries out trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste without holding a licence, unless the act constitutes a criminal offence.
- (5) A fine of BGN 1,400 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 4,000 shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation.

Article 105

A pecuniary penalty of BGN 700 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 2,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:

1. discards waste in any places unauthorized for this purpose and/or violates the provisions on deposit of household waste or of construction and demolition waste into or onto ground;

2. breaches the terms and the procedure for delivery, collection, including separate collection, transport and reloading of household waste and construction and demolition waste according to the requirements established by the ordinance referred to in Article 19 herein;
3. violates Article 11 (5) herein.

Article 106

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 3,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. violates Article 5 (2) or Article 6 (1) herein;
 2. fails to keep records of waste or to provide documents regarding the report and information on waste management activities, according to the requirements established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof;
 3. fails to discharge the obligation thereof under Paragraph (1) and/or Paragraph (3) of Article 29 herein.
- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. violates the provisions regarding the collection, including separate collection, temporary storage, transport, recovery or disposal of household waste and of construction and demolition waste;
 2. breaches the requirements for separate collection, transport and treatment of waste by type, properties and compatibility;
 3. incinerates without authorization or carries out any other form of unauthorized disposal of household waste;
 4. does not comply with the conditions set in the permit by the competent authority.
- (3) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. violates Article 4 and/or Items 2, 7 and 8 of Article 5 (3) herein;
 2. treats and/or transports waste without holding a permit or registration document where such a permit or document is required;
 3. breaches the requirements for construction and operation of waste recovery or disposal installations and facilities;
 4. breaches the requirements for the import, export or transit of waste.
- (4) The following pecuniary penalty shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation:
 1. under Paragraph (1): BGN 2,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 6,000;
 2. under Paragraph (2): BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000;
 3. under Paragraph (3): BGN 7,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000.

- (5) In the cases under Paragraph (4), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.
- (6) A pecuniary penalty amounting to 30 per cent of the market price of the aggregate amount of products imported and/or manufactured and placed on the market shall be imposed on any juristic person or sole trader which or who:
 1. manufactures and/or imports and places on the market any batteries and accumulators, as specified in the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 24 (2) herein, containing more than 0.0005 per cent of mercury by weight and/or such as do not bear the marking for separate collection and for content of heavy metals;
 2. manufactures and/or places on the market any motor vehicle parts and components which:
 - (a) contain lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium and cadmium in excess of the regulated limits, according to the requirements established by this Act and the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 24 (2) herein;
 - (b) are not marked in view of the reusability and reclaimability thereof, as well as in view of the dismantlability thereof prior to further treatment;
 3. places on the market and distributes any packaging which does not bear a marking for identification of the packaging materials or which contains heavy metals: lead, cadmium, mercury and hexavalent chromium in excess of the regulated limits and/or is not responsive to the other requirements established by the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 24 (2) herein;
 4. manufactures and/or imports and places on the market any other products which are not responsive to the requirements established by this Act and/or by the ordinances referred to in Article 24 (2) herein.
- (7) A pecuniary penalty amounting to 60 per cent of the aggregate amount of products imported and/or manufactured and placed on the market shall be imposed on the juristic person or sole trader in the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph (6).
- (8) In the cases under Paragraph (7), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.
- (9) The person referred to in Paragraph (6) shall furthermore be obliged to pay the costs arising from recovery and/or disposal of the waste resulting from any such products.

Article 107

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. constructs and/or operates a waste incineration facility which:
 - (a) breaches the technical requirements upon construction of facilities regarding the slag and bottom ashes Total Organic Carbon (TOC) content, the temperature in the combustion chamber, the residence time and the oxygen content of the exhaust gas upon incineration of liquid waste;
 - (b) does not ensure the measurements required to monitor the emissions of harmful substances and the process operation parameters;

2. accepts waste on a site or a temporary storage installation for hazardous waste without ensuring the storage of any such waste separately from other accessory materials and allows the uncontrolled spillage of any such waste;
3. allows the deposit into or onto land of any waste which does not correspond to the class of the landfill and/or does not fulfil the acceptance criteria for disposal by landfill;
4. allows the deposit into or onto land of any waste which is unacceptable for landfill, including:
 - (a) liquid, corrosive or oxidizing;
 - (b) explosive, highly flammable or flammable in the conditions of landfill;
 - (c) infectious hospital and other clinical waste arising from health-care facilities and veterinary services;
 - (d) whole used tyres, excluding tyres used as a landfill construction material, and shredded used tyres, excluding bicycle tyres and tyres with an outside diameter above 1,400 millimeters;
5. allows the inadequate operation of the landfill and the ignition of the waste therein;
6. allows dilution or mixture of industrial and hazardous waste with other waste or substances solely in order to meet the waste acceptance criteria for the relevant landfill;
7. does not control:
 - (a) the waste arriving at the disposal installations and facilities;
 - (b) the disposal technology;
 - (c) the pollution of the environmental media upon operation and after discontinuance of the waste disposal operation;
 - (d) the closure procedure for the waste disposal installations and facilities;
8. does not implement the programme for monitoring and control of landfills or waste treatment installations and facilities and for closure and land reclamation of the waste disposal installation and for post-closure monitoring and control;
9. does not submit for endorsement by the competent authority the plan for bringing the landfill into conformity with the requirements established by the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 15 (2) and/or does not implement promptly the measures for application of the said plan;
10. does not take measures for carrying out separate collection of the waste arising from medical-treatment facilities, as well as the action necessary for the proper storage, transport and disposal of any such waste;
11. discards hazardous waste arising from medical-treatment facilities in unauthorized places;
12. stores hazardous waste arising from medical-treatment facilities in the open air or in a manner leading to pollution of the environmental media or to spread of infections, diseases, or creating prerequisites for occurrence of epidemic risk.

- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 7,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000 shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation.
- (3) In the cases under Paragraph (2), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.
- (4) Any juristic person or sole trader, which or who exceeds the established limit values for atmospheric emissions of harmful substances, regulated by the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 15 (2) herein, shall be liable to a pecuniary penalty imposed according to a procedure and in a manner established in the Environmental Protection Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof.

Article 108

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which violates the regulatory acts on packaging and labeling of hazardous waste.
- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed on any sole trade or juristic person who or which:
 1. disposes of hazardous and industrial waste in places unauthorized for this purpose;
 2. breaches the requirements for treatment and transport of industrial and hazardous waste;
 3. delivers industrial and/or hazardous waste to any persons who or which do not hold a permit under Article 37 herein or a registration document under Article 12 (4) herein for operations related to the relevant waste or does not dispose of or recover the said waste within the time limits established under Item 21 of § 1 of the Supplementary Provisions herein;
 4. collects and stores hazardous waste in receptacles which are not responsive to the requirements for tight cover, marking of the waste contained therein, or are manufactured of materials reacting with the waste;
 5. accepts hazardous or industrial waste without their being accompanied by a description of the properties, composition, treatability, hazardous properties and measures for safe handling thereof, or fails to carry out the required verifications, tests and analyses upon acceptance.
- (3) The following pecuniary penalty shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation:
 1. under Paragraph (1): BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000;
 2. under Paragraph (2): BGN 7,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000.
- (4) In the cases under Paragraph (3), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.

Article 109

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 3,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which sells

accumulators without attaching to the warranty certificate a list of the persons holding a permit under Article 37 herein for collection of spent accumulators.

- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. does not take the appropriate measures to ensure separate collection and treatment of the batteries and accumulators placed thereby on the market;
 2. places spent batteries and accumulators in receptacles for household waste, or mixes them with other waste;
 3. discards spent accumulators in places unauthorized for this purpose and/or removes electrolyte therefrom;
 4. collects and stores spent accumulators free of electrolyte at the collection stations in an amount exceeding by 5 per cent the total amount of accumulators collected;
 5. does not ensure the recovery or delivery for recovery of the accumulators collected thereby.
- (3) The following pecuniary penalty shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation:
 1. under Paragraph (1): BGN 2,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 6,000;
 2. under Paragraph (2): BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000.
- (4) In the cases under Paragraph (3), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.

Article 110

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. fails to designate a place for storage of the used fluorescent tubes and other mercury-containing lamps held thereby, equipped with receptacles for the collection thereof, and/or places them into receptacles for household waste;
 2. intentionally impairs the integrity of used fluorescent tubes or other mercury-containing lamps, except where holding a permit for this operation under Article 37 herein;
 3. places the receptacles for collection and storage of used tubes in the open air.
- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph (1).
- (3) In the cases under Paragraph (2), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.

Article 111

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. uses sewage sludge in agriculture where:

- (a) the concentration of one or more heavy metals in the soil or sludge exceeds the limit values;
 - (b) the sludge constitutes hazardous waste within the meaning given by Item 4 of § 1 of the Supplementary Provisions herein;
 - (c) does not ensure pretreatment of sludge from septic tanks and from other such waste water treatment facilities;
 - (d) has not obtained the consent of the owner of the land;
2. uses sludge or supplies sludge for use on:
- (a) grassland or forage crops if the grassland is to be grazed or the forage crops to be harvested before 45 days after use of the sludge have elapsed;
 - (b) soil in which fruit and vegetable crops are growing, with the exception of fruit trees;
 - (c) ground intended for the cultivation of fruit and vegetable crops which are in direct contact with the soil and are eaten raw, for a period of ten months preceding the harvest of the crops and during the harvest itself;
3. uses sludge without ensuring an analysis of the soil by accredited laboratories before the initial use of the sludge and thereafter at intervals of five years until final discontinuance of the said use.
- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph (1).
- (3) In the cases under Paragraph (2), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.

Article 112

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
- 1. delivers or discards end-of-life vehicles in places which are not intended for this purpose;
 - 2. carries out operations comprehended in the collection, storage, transport, recovery and/or disposal of end-of-life vehicles, and components and materials thereof, without holding the relevant permit under Article 37 herein, a registration document under Article 12 herein, or a licence issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Five, Section III herein;
 - 3. dismantles end-of-life vehicles on temporary storage sites or extracts parts and components therefrom, or collects other types of waste which do not originate from end-of-use vehicles and components and materials thereof.
- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation under Paragraph (1).
- (3) In the cases under Paragraph (2), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.

Article 113

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. stores waste oils and waste petroleum products on temporary storage sites which are not responsive to the requirements established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof;
 2. mixes engine oils and gearbox oils with other waste oils and waste petroleum products;
 3. replaces waste oils at places which are not equipped for this purpose, and in receptacles which are not responsive to the requirements;
 4. mixes oils containing polychlorinated biphenyls and polychlorinated terphenyls with other waste oils;
 5. stores waste oils and waste petroleum products in the open air.
- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which fails to provide information on the equipment owned thereby and containing polychlorinated biphenyls and polychlorinated terphenyls.
- (3) The following pecuniary penalty shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation:
 1. under Paragraph (1): BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000;
 2. under Paragraph (2): BGN 7,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000.
- (4) In the cases under Paragraph (3), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.
- (5) Any juristic person or sole trader, which or who discharges waste oils and waste petroleum products into inland surface water, coastal water and drainage systems, shall be liable to a pecuniary penalty imposed according to a procedure and in a manner established in the Environmental Protection Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof.

Article 114

- (1) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which fails to submit to the competent authorities when due a report on the discharge of the obligation thereof to recover or recycle waste and/or the other obligations provided for in this Act and in the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 24 (2) herein.
- (2) Any juristic person or sole trader, which or who fails to pay the product fee referred to in Article 36 (1) herein in the cases where such a fee is required, shall be liable to a pecuniary penalty equivalent to the double amount of the delinquent product fee.
- (3) The following pecuniary penalty shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation:

1. under Paragraph (1): BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000;
 2. under Paragraph (2): the quadruple amount of the delinquent product fee.
- (4) In the cases under Paragraph (3), the relevant pecuniary penalty shall be imposed until cessation of the violation.

Article 115

- (1) A pecuniary penalty shall be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
1. carries out trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste without holding a licence;
 2. sells ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, generated as own production waste or as own wear-and-tear scrap, to any persons who or which do not hold a licence;
 3. carries out trade in copper and aluminium cable and conductor waste of any type and in any amount without a certificate of origin or without a declaration of origin and without a credential of origin;
 4. fails to declare any intervening change in circumstances within one month after occurrence of the said change for entry into the licence;
 5. fails to enter in the relevant record all circumstances, on the day of delivery or shipment of ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, according to the requirements established by the ordinance referred to in Article 61 herein;
 6. enters untrue data in the records of purchases and imports and of sales and exports of ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste;
 7. fails to submit to the Ministry of Economy statements of the stocks, purchases and sales of ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste within the required time limit;
 8. fails to present, within the time limit appointed by the control authorities, the records of purchases and imports and of sales and exports of ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste and/or the original or a notarized copy of the licence for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste;
 9. denies the control authorities access to the places where the said person carries out the operation thereof, and fails to present documents required by the said authorities which the said person is obligated to keep available for inspection according to the law.
- (2) Pecuniary penalties of BGN 15,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 50,000 shall be imposed for any violation referred to in Items 1, 2 and 3 of Paragraph (1), and pecuniary penalties of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 3,000 shall be imposed for any other violation covered under Paragraph (1).
- (3) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 30,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 100,000 shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation referred to in Items 1, 2 and 3 of Paragraph (1), and a pecuniary penalty of BGN 2,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 6,000 shall be imposed in the event of any other repeated violation covered under Paragraph (1).

Article 116

- (1) A fine of BGN 700 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 2,000 shall be imposed on any official, unless subject to a severer sanction, who:
 1. fails to discharge the obligations thereof to organize implementation of the measures covered under Article 31 (1) herein in the waste management programmes;
 2. fails to submit a waste management programme to the relevant Regional Inspectorate on Environment and Water and to update the said programme in conformity with this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof;
 3. fails to take the required actions in the cases where the producers of waste are unidentified;
 4. fails to perform control over waste management according to Article 92 herein.
- (2) A fine of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on any official, unless subject to a severer sanction, who:
 1. fails to ensure the arrangement and application of a separate collection system for used fluorescent tubes and other mercury-containing lamps;
 2. fails to discharge the obligations thereof to organize the operation comprehended in the collection and storage of end-of-life vehicles on the temporary storage sites;
 3. fails to take the actions referred to in Article 17 (2) herein within six months after being notified under Article 17 (1) herein;
 4. fails to organize the operation of a waste treatment project within six months after the date of issuing of a use permit for the construction project;
 5. allows the dumping of waste in places unauthorized for this purpose and/or the establishment of unlawful disposal sites;
 6. fails to designate sites for replacement of waste engine oils and to inform the public of the said designation;
 7. fails to designate sites for placing of receptacles for the collection of spent batteries, or fails to provide at least one such place per 1,000 population.
- (3) A fine of BGN 3,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed on any official, unless subject to a severer sanction, who:
 1. authorizes the commissioning of waste-forming projects without compliance with the requirements for acceptance of the project;
 2. issues a permit for collection, storage, transport, recovery or disposal of waste in breach of the requirements established by this Act;
 3. designates a site for placing of waste treatment installations without conducting the requisite investigation or even though the results of the said investigation show that construction of the site will endanger human health and the environment and/or breaches the requirements established by this Act and the secondary legislation on the application thereof;

4. fails to discharge the obligations thereof to establish the requirements for safe liquidation of operations and reclamation of the grounds upon discontinuance of the waste treatment operation;
 5. authorizes the commissioning of hazardous waste recovery or disposal facilities and installations even though the requirements established by this Act have not been complied with;
 6. in violation of the effective legislation, releases from customs control any waste carried through the international border.
- (4) The following pecuniary penalty shall be imposed in the event of a repeated violation:
1. under Paragraph (1): BGN 1,400 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 4,000;
 2. under Paragraph (2): BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000;
 3. under Paragraph (3): BGN 7,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000.

Article 117

Upon identification of the offenders referred to in Article 9 (1) herein, a fine of BGN 1,500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 shall be imposed on the natural persons and a pecuniary penalty of BGN 3,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 shall be imposed on the juristic persons and sole traders.

Article 118

- (1) Any violations covered under Articles 104 to 114 herein, with the exception of the violations referred to in Article 119 herein, shall be ascertained by an act of the Director of the Regional Inspectorate on Environment and Water or by an official designated thereby, as well as by an official designated by the mayor of the relevant municipality.
- (2) The penalty decrees under Paragraph (1) shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Water or an official authorized thereby or, respectively, by the municipality mayor or an official authorized thereby.
- (3) The violations covered under Article 115 herein shall be ascertained by an act of the relevant competent authority under Article 96 (1) herein, and the penalty decrees shall be issued by the Minister of Economy or officials authorized thereby.
- (4) The ascertainment of violations, the issuing, appeal against, as well as the execution of penalty decrees, shall follow the procedure established by the Administration Violations and Sanctions Act.

Article 119

For imposition of the sanction for violation under Paragraphs (6) to (9) of Article 106 herein and under Article 109 (1) herein, the competent authority referred to in Article 99 herein shall take action according to a procedure and a manner established by the relevant law.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

§ 1. Within the meaning of this Act:

1. "Waste" shall be any substance, object or part of an object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard and which belongs to at least one of the following categories:
 - (a) production or consumption residues not otherwise specified below: Code Q1;
 - (b) off-specification products: Code Q2;
 - (c) products whose date for appropriate use or for maximum effectiveness has expired: Code Q3;
 - (d) materials spilled, lost or having undergone other mishap, impairing irreparably the original properties thereof, including any materials and equipment contaminated as a result of the mishap: Code Q4;
 - (e) materials contaminated or soiled as a result of planned actions (residues from cleaning operations, packing materials, containers and other such): Code Q5;
 - (f) unusable parts (reject batteries, exhausted catalysts and other such): Code Q6;
 - (g) substances which no longer perform satisfactorily (contaminated acids, contaminated solvents, exhausted tempering salts, and other such): Code Q7
 - (h) residues of industrial processes (slags, still bottoms and other such): Code Q8;
 - (i) residues from pollution abatement processes (scrubber sludges, baghouse dusts, spent filters and other such): Code Q9;
 - (j) machining and finishing residues (lathe turnings, mill scales and other such): Code Q10;
 - (k) residues from raw materials extraction and processing (mining residues, oil field slops and other such): Code Q11;
 - (l) adulterated materials (oils contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls and other such): Code Q12;
 - (m) any materials, substances or products whose use has been banned by law: Code Q13;
 - (n) products for which the holder has no further use (agricultural, household, commercial, office and shop discards and other such): Code Q14;
 - (o) contaminated materials, substances or products resulting from remedial action with respect to land: Code Q15;
 - (p) any materials, substances or products which are not contained in the above categories: Code Q16.
2. "Household waste" shall be waste resulting from the life activities of people at home and at office, social and public buildings. Waste from distributive-trade establishments and accessory handicraft activities, recreational and

entertainment establishments shall be subsumed under household waste where not having the nature of hazardous waste and where, concurrently, the amount or composition thereof will not impede their treatment together with household waste.

3. "Industrial waste" shall be waste resulting from the industrial activities of natural and juristic persons.
4. "Hazardous waste" shall be waste whereof the composition, amount and properties present risks to human health and the environment, which possesses one or more properties which define it as hazardous, and/or which contains components which render it into hazardous waste and/or which is designated as such according to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.
5. "Construction and demolition waste" shall be waste resulting from construction activity on construction sites, as well as waste from the demolition or remodelling of buildings and facilities.
6. "Producer of waste" shall be any natural or juristic person whose activities produce waste ("original producer") and/or anyone who carries out pre-processing, mixing and other operations resulting in a change in the nature or composition of the waste.
7. "Treatment of waste" shall be the collection, storage, recovery or disposal of waste and all intermediate operations, as well as the reuse, recycling and reclamation of waste, or production of energy or extraction of materials from waste.
8. "Waste disposal" shall be each of the following operations designated by the relevant code:
 - (a) deposit (into or onto land): Code D 1;
 - (b) contaminated land and soil treatment (e.g. biodegradation of liquid or sludgy discards in soils): Code D 2;
 - (c) deep injection (e.g. injection of pumpable discards into wells, salt domes or naturally occurring repositories): Code D 3;
 - (d) surface impoundment (e.g. placement of liquid or sludgy discards into pits, ponds or lagoons and other such facilities): Code D 4;
 - (e) specially engineered landfill (e.g. placement into lined discrete cells which are capped and isolated from one another and the environment): Code D 5;
 - (f) release of waste into a water body except seas/oceans: Code D 6;
 - (g) release into seas/oceans including sea-bed insertion: Code D 7;
 - (h) biological treatment not specified elsewhere which results in final compounds or mixtures which are disposed of by means of any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (l): Code D 8;
 - (i) physico-chemical treatment not specified elsewhere (e.g. evaporation, drying, calcination, microwave treatment etc.) which results in final compounds or mixtures which are disposed of by means of any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (l): Code D 9;

- (j) incineration on land: Code D 10;
 - (k) incineration at sea: Code D 11;
 - (l) permanent storage (e.g. emplacement of containers in a mine, etc.): Code D 12;
 - (m) blending or mixing prior to submission to any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (l): Code D 13;
 - (n) repackaging prior to submission to any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (m): Code D 14;
 - (o) storage pending any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (n), excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced: Code D 15.
9. "Waste recycling" shall be an activity of reclamation or recovery of the original properties of the waste.
 10. "Waste processing" shall be an activity which alters the properties or the composition of the waste, converting it into feedstock for manufacture of end products or into end products.
 11. "Landfill of waste" shall be a method which does not envisage further treatment of the waste and consists in storage of waste for a period longer than three years (applicable to waste destined for recovery) and one year (applicable to waste destined for disposal) in a manner which does not present risks to human health and the environment.
 12. "Ordinary waste" shall be waste formed after use of products from numerous sources within the entire national territory which, owing to the characteristics thereof, require special management.
 13. "Ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste" shall be process waste resulting from the extraction, processing or mechanical treatment of ferrous and non-ferrous metals and the alloys thereof, the discarded machinery, plant, components and structures of manufacturing, engineering or household nature, excluding hazardous waste.
 14. "Consumer ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste" shall be ferrous and non-ferrous waste resulting from the life activities of people at home and at office, social and public buildings. Ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste from distributive-trade establishments, handicraft activities, recreational and entertainment establishments shall be subsumed under consumer ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste.
 15. "Repeated violation" shall be any violation which is committed within one year after the entry into force of a penalty decree whereby the offender was penalized for a violation of the same kind.
 16. "Reuse" shall be the use of waste as a product which has already been used once in the same form for the same purpose.
 17. "Recovery of waste" shall be any of the following operations designated by the relevant code:
 - (a) use principally as a fuel or other means to generate energy: Code R 1;

- (b) solvent reclamation or regeneration: Code R 2;
 - (c) recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents, including composting and other biological transformation processes: Code R 3;
 - (d) recycling or reclamation of metals and metal compounds: Code R 4;
 - (e) recycling or reclamation of other inorganic materials: Code R 5;
 - (f) regeneration of acids or bases: Code R 6;
 - (g) recovery of components used for pollution abatement: Code R 7;
 - (h) recovery of components from catalysts: Code R 8;
 - (i) oil re-refining or other reuses of oil: Code R 9;
 - (j) land treatment resulting in benefit to agriculture or ecological improvement: Code R 10;
 - (k) use of wastes obtained from any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (j): Code R 11;
 - (l) exchange of wastes for submission to any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (k): Code R 12;
 - (m) Storage of wastes pending any of the operations referred to in Litterae (a) to (l), excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced: Code R 13.
18. "Collection" shall be the delivery, accumulation, sorting and/or mixing of waste for the purpose of transport: Code C.
 19. "Transport" shall be the movement of waste, including the accompanying operations of loading, reloading and offloading, where carried out by the operator as a self-contained activity: Code T.
 20. "Waste management" shall be the operations comprehended in the collection, transport, recovery and disposal of waste, including the supervision of such operations and after-care of treatment installation sites.
 21. "Temporary storage" shall be an operation related to the storage of waste at the place of formation or upon collection for a period not longer than:
 - (a) three years, applicable to waste destined for recovery;
 - (b) one year, applicable to waste destined for disposal.
 22. "Gross violation" shall be such acts or omissions by the applicant as have lead to impacts beyond the permissible limit values for impact on environmental media or human health, established and documented according to the relevant procedure by the competent authorities.
 23. "Systematic violation" shall be commission of three or more violations of the same type within a three-year period, for which administrative sanctions have been imposed on the offenders by effective penalty decrees.
 24. "Trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste" shall be the conclusion of transactions for disposition of ferrous and non-ferrous metals, as well as the operations thereto related (collection, transport, storage, as well as accompanying operations like sorting, mechanical treatment etc.).

25. "Connected persons" shall be:
- (a) spouses, lineal relatives up to any degree, collateral relatives up to the fourth degree of consanguinity, and relatives by marriage up to the third degree of affinity inclusive;
 - (b) employer and employee;
 - (c) any two persons, of whom or of which one participates in the management of a corporation of the other;
 - (d) partners;
 - (e) any corporation or any person which or who holds more than 5 per cent of the voting interests and shares issued by the said corporation;
 - (f) any number of persons, the activity whereof is directly or indirectly controlled by a third party;
 - (g) any number of persons, who or which jointly control a third party, whether directly or indirectly;
 - (h) any two persons, of whom or of which one is commercial agent of the other.
26. "Recovery scheme operator" shall be a juristic person, registered under the Commercial Code, which distributes no profit and which manages the ordinary waste separate collection, recycling and recovery operations.
27. "Market price" shall be the price within the meaning of Item 5 of Article 20 of the Value Added Tax Act.

- § 2. The Minister of Environment and Water shall be a national competent authority and coordinator under all international agreements related to the subject matter of this Act, whereto the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

- § 3. The permits for pursuing waste-related operations, issued according to the procedure established by Article 37 of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act as hereby superseded, shall continue in effect for the shorter of the residual term of validity thereof and three years after the entry of this Act into force.
- § 4. The licences for trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste, issued according to the procedure established by the Ordinance on Trade in Ferrous and Non-ferrous Metal Waste and Scrap (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 92 of 1997; amended in No. 10 of 2001; repealed in No. 47 of 2001) as superseded and the Ordinance on Trade in Ferrous and Non-ferrous Metal Waste (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 47 of 2001; amended in No. 82 of 2001) shall continue in effect until the expiry of the term of validity thereof.
- § 5. (1) The secondary legislation on the application of this Act shall be issued within one year after the entry of the said Act into force.
- (2) The secondary legislation issued in pursuance of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act as hereby superseded shall apply until the issuing of the legislation referred to in Paragraph (1) in so far as it is consistent with this Act.
- § 6. The programmes adopted under Article 28 (1) of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act as hereby superseded shall continue in

effect for the shorter of the residual term of validity thereof and three years after the entry of this Act into force.

§ 7. The programmes referred to in Article 29 (1) herein shall be elaborated and adopted within one year after the entry of this Act into force.

§ 8. This Act shall supersede the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 86 of 1997; amended in No. 56 of 1999, Nos. 27 and 28 of 2000, and No. 91 of 2002).

§ 9. (1) Article 11 (3) herein shall be applied as follows:

1. not earlier than the 1st day of January 2004 and not later than the 31st day of December 2004: 20 per cent as a minimum of packaging waste shall be recovered;
2. not earlier than the 1st day of January 2005 and not later than the 31st day of December 2005: 25 per cent as a minimum of packaging waste shall be recovered;
3. not earlier than the 1st day of January 2006 and not later than the 31st day of December 2006: 32 per cent as a minimum of packaging waste shall be recovered;
4. not earlier than the 1st day of January 2007 and not later than the 31st day of December 2007: 39 per cent as a minimum of packaging waste shall be recovered, of which 25 per cent as a minimum shall be recycled, with 15 per cent as a minimum by weight of each packaging material and 12 per cent as a minimum by weight of plastics being recycled;
5. not earlier than the 1st day of January 2008 and not later than the 31st day of December 2008: 42 per cent as a minimum of packaging waste shall be recovered, of which 30 per cent as a minimum shall be recycled, with 15 per cent as a minimum by weight of each packaging material and 14 per cent as a minimum by weight of plastics being recycled;
6. not earlier than the 1st day of January 2009 and not later than the 31st day of December 2009: 45 per cent as a minimum of packaging waste shall be recovered, of which 35 per cent as a minimum shall be recycled, including 15 per cent as a minimum by weight for each packaging material;
7. not earlier than the 1st day of January 2010 and not later than the 31st day of December 2010: 48 per cent as a minimum of packaging waste shall be recovered, of which 40 per cent as a minimum shall be recycled, including 15 per cent as a minimum by weight for each packaging material.

(2) The targets covered under Article 11 (2) herein shall be attained commencing on the 1st day of January 2011.

§ 10. The provision of Article 36 (1) herein in respect of packaging waste shall apply as from the 1st day of January 2004.

§ 11. (1) The provision of Item 4 of Article 73 herein shall apply until the entry into force of the Treaty of Accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union.

(2) The provision of Item 5 of Article 73 herein shall apply until the 31st day of December 2014.

- § 12.** (1) The provision of Littera (a) of Item 4 of Article 107 (1) herein in respect of the installations listed in the Annex to this Act shall apply as from the 1st day of January 2015.
- (2) The provision of Littera (d) of Item 4 of Article 107 (1) herein shall apply as follows:
1. in respect of whole used tyres: as from the entry into force of the relevant ordinance referred to in Article 15 (2) herein;
 2. in respect of shredded used tyres: as from the 16th day of July 2006.
- § 13.** The Environmental Protection Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 91 of 2002; corrected in No. 98 of 2002) shall be amended as follows:
1. The words "the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act" shall be replaced passim by "the Waste Management Act".
 2. § 12 of the Transitional and Final Provisions shall be repealed.
- § 14.** In Article 37 (2) of the Subsurface Resources Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 23 of 1999; amended in No. 28 of 2000, No. 108 of 2001, and No. 47 of 2002), the words "by Article 10 (2) and Articles 13, 14 and 37 of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act" shall be replaced by "under the Waste Management Act".
- § 15.** In Item 16 of Article 20 of the Protection against Harmful Impact of Chemical Substances, Preparations and Products Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 10 of 2000; amended in No. 91 of 2002), the words "the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act" shall be replaced by "the Waste Management Act".
- § 16.** In § 2 of the Transitional Provisions of the Stamp Duty Act (promulgated in *Transactions of the Presidium of the National Assembly* No. 104 of 1951; amended in No. 89 of 1959, No. 21 of 1960; *State Gazette* No. 53 of 1973, No. 87 of 1974, No. 21 of 1975, No. 21 of 1990, No. 55 of 1991, No. 100 of 1992, Nos. 69 and 87 of 1995, Nos. 37, 100 and 104 of 1996, Nos. 82 and 86 of 1997, No. 133 of 1998, No. 81 of 1999, No. 97 of 2000, and Nos. 62, 63 and 90 of 2002), the words "the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act" shall be replaced by "the Waste Management Act".
- § 17.** In Item 20 of Article 20 of the Value Added Tax Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 153 of 1998; corrected in No. 1 of 1999; amended in Nos. 44, 62, 64, 103 and 111 of 1999, Nos. 63, 78 and 102 of 2000, No. 109 of 2001, Nos. 28, 45 and 117 of 2002, Nos. 37 and 42 of 2003), the words "the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act" shall be replaced by "the Waste Management Act".
- § 18.** The implementation of this Act shall be entrusted to the Minister of Environment and Water and to the Minister of Economy.

This Act was passed by the 39th National Assembly on the seventeenth day of September in the year two thousand and three, and the Official Seal of the National Assembly has been affixed thereto.

Chairman of the National Assembly:
Ognyan Gerdjikov

No.	Type of installation	Location of installation	Operator
1	2	3	4
1.	Slag dump	Devnya, Devnya Municipality, Varna Region	Polimeri AD, Devnya
2.	Cinder and slag dump	Padina Village, Avren Municipality, Varna Region	Solvay SODI AD, Devnya
3.	Cinder dump	Ezerovo Village, Beloslav Municipality, Varna Region	Varna TPP AD, Ezerovo Village, Beloslav Municipality
4.	Cinder dump	Svishtov, Veliko Turnovo Region	Svilosa AD, Svishtov
5.	Cinder dump	Gorna Oryahovitsa, Veliko Turnovo Region	Zaharni Zavodi AD, Gorna Oryahovitsa
6.	Cinder dump	Vidin, Vidin Region	Vidachim AD, Vidin
7.	Cinder dump	Rousse, Rousse Region	Rousse District Heating Company EAD, Rousse East TPP
8.	Koudin Dol Cinder Dump	Pernik, Pernik Region	Pernik District Heating Company EAD, Pernik
9.	7 Septemvri Cinder Dump	Pernik, Pernik Region	Pernik District Heating Company EAD, Pernik
10.	Kamenik Cinder Dump	Kamenik Village, Boboshevo Municipality, Kyustendil Region	Bobov Dol TPP EAD, Golemo Selo Village, Bobov Dol Municipality
11.	Cinder dump	Gulubovo, Stara Zagora Region	Brikel EAD, Gulubovo Region
12.	Cinder dump	Sliven, Sliven Region	Sliven District Heating Company, Sliven
13.	Goren Byuk Cinder Dump	Dimitrovgrad, Haskovo Region	Maritza 3 TPP EAD, Dimitrovgrad
14.	Galdoushki Livadi Cinder Dump	Dimitrovgrad, Haskovo Region	Maritza 3 TPP EAD, Dimitrovgrad

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

DECREE No. 7/8.02.2000

REGULATION
on Elaboration of Protected Area Management Plans

Promulgated, State Gazette No. 13/15.02.2000

Chapter One
GENERAL DISPOSITIONS

Article 1

This Regulation establishes the terms and the procedure for elaboration of management plans of protected areas.

Article 2

- (1) Management plans shall be elaborated for:
 1. national and natural parks;
 2. strict and managed reserves.
- (2) Management plans of natural monuments and protected sites shall be elaborated at the discretion of the Ministry of Environment and Water or in the cases under Article 10 herein.
- (3) On a priority basis, management plans shall be elaborated for protected areas included in lists under international conventions or of European importance for conservation of biological diversity.

Article 3

- (1) A management plan shall regulate the activities in the respective protected area within the boundaries delimited by the designation order of the said area.
- (2) Biotic and abiotic features and anthropogenic factors within areas adjoining the protected area may be subject to investigation where:
 1. the protected area is part of a habitat of European importance or a habitat included in lists under international conventions in the sphere of biological diversity;
 2. a need is ascertained to clarify the impact of the said features and factors on the protected area;
 3. this is expressly indicated in terms of reference endorsed according to the procedure established by this Regulation.
- (3) The information, conclusions and assessments in the cases covered under Paragraph (2) shall be indicated in the plan under separate items.

Article 4

Management plans shall be elaborated for a ten-year period of validity and shall be updated upon the lapse of the said period.

Chapter Two

STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS OF MANAGEMENT PLANS

Article 5

- (1) The management plans of national and natural parks shall be elaborated on the basis of a structure according to the Annex hereto.
- (2) In respect of management plans of any protected areas other than such referred to in Paragraph (1), the commissioning entity may commission the elaboration of only specific items incorporated into the structure as annexed hereto.

Article 6

The structure of a management plan shall be indicated by the commissioning entity in the terms of reference.

Article 7

The commissioning entity shall specify the requirements thereof to the contents of each item included in the structure of the plan by determining:

1. the indicators of the abiotic and biotic features, as well as the methods for determination of the values thereof;
2. the indicators characterizing the present use of the protected area;
3. the criteria of the environmental assessment of the protected areas;
4. the requirements related to zoning or introduction, by means of the plan, of additional standards, regimes, conditions or recommendations as to use of resources, construction and other activities within the protected area;
5. the guidelines for the priority fields wherein specific activities are planned;
6. the requirements as to the annexes to the plan.

Article 8

Any reports on scientific researches and studies conducted in the course of elaboration of a management plan shall not be part of the said plan and shall be presented to the commissioning entity in a separate annex.

Chapter Three

COMMISSIONING AND ADOPTION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS

Section I

Commissioning

Article 9

The elaboration of management plans of protected areas shall be commissioned by the Ministry of Environment and Water.

Article 10

- (1) The elaboration of management plans of protected areas may furthermore be commissioned by other state bodies, municipalities, owners, non-governmental

organizations or associations and under international projects after obtaining a written consent from the Ministry of Environment and Water.

- (2) The persons covered under Paragraph (1) shall state in writing to the Ministry of Environment and Water the intention of the said persons to commission and finance the elaboration of a management plan, indicating the subject matter of the plan, the objectives, the organization or the persons which or who shall apply the said plan.
- (3) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall clear or shall issue a reasoned refusal to the request referred to in Paragraph (2) within one month after receipt of the application.

Article 11

- (1) The Ministry of Environment and Water or the persons who or which have obtained consent under Article 10 (3) herein shall prepare terms of reference for a management plan of the protected area which shall contain:
 1. the subject matter of the plan;
 2. structure of the plan, with a description of the expected contents of the items included in the said structure;
 3. the requisite annexes to the plan: maps, plans, lists etc.;
 4. stages, phases and time limits for elaboration;
 5. other conditions or requirements set to the planners.
- (2) The commissioning entities covered under Article 10 (1) herein shall lay the terms of reference before the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (3) Within two months after submission of the terms of reference, the Minister of Environment and Water shall endorse the said terms of reference or shall return the said terms of reference to the submitter for further elaboration with a reasoned cover letter.

Section II

Public Discussions

Article 12

- (1) Any draft management plans of national and natural parks and of managed nature reserves shall mandatorily be subject to public discussion.
- (2) In the course of elaboration of management plans of strict nature reserves, natural monuments and protected sites, public discussions shall be organized solely where:
 1. this is indicated as a requirement in the terms of reference;
 2. a favourable decision has been made by the Ministry of Environment and Water in connection with a request submitted by municipalities, non-governmental organizations or owners of land tracts, forests and aquatic areas within the protected area constituting the subject matter of the plan.
- (3) In the cases under Item 2 of Paragraph (2), the Ministry of Environment and Water shall notify in writing the commissioning entity or the planner, as the case may be, of the need to conduct a public discussion as a condition for submission of the draft for adoption or endorsement.
- (4) The requirements of Paragraphs (1) and (2) notwithstanding, the commissioning entities or the planners may organize the conduct of public discussions, seminars, informal

working meetings and other forms of participation of the public and state bodies concerned in the process of elaboration of management plans.

Article 13

The public discussions referred to in Article 12 (1) and (2) herein shall be organized by the planners who or which:

1. shall announce the date, time, venue and subject of the public discussion, as well as the place where the design can be inspected by stakeholders, in one national daily newspaper and through local media of mass communication not later than twenty days in advance;
2. post notices stating the particulars covered under Item 1 in a prominent place in the relevant municipalities within the same time limit;
3. give the central-government departments, research and academic institutes concerned written notice of the particulars covered under Item 1 within the same time limit.

Article 14

(1) The planners shall:

1. present the draft management plan at the public discussion and take minutes of any observations, remarks and recommendations as shall be set forth;
2. incorporate the relevant remarks and recommendations into the draft;
3. compile a reasoned summary of the unincorporated remarks and recommendations, and notify the parties concerned within one month after the public discussion;
4. attach the minutes of proceedings at the public discussion and the summary of unincorporated remarks to the draft;
5. transmit copies of the minutes and the summary to the Ministry of Environment and Water within one month after the public discussion.

(2) The parties referred to in Item 3 of Paragraph (1) may submit written objections to the Minister of Environment and Water who, within one month, shall render a final pronouncement on the relevance of the unincorporated remarks and shall notify the parties concerned and the commissioning entity or the planner, as the case may be. The planner shall take into account the observations of the Ministry of Environment and Water.

Section III

Adoption

Article 15

- (1) The draft management plans of protected areas shall be laid before the Ministry of Environment and Water by the relevant commissioning entities or by the planners in the case where the Ministry is the commissioning entity.
- (2) The following shall be attached to any such draft:
 1. the terms of reference referred to in Article 11 (3) herein;
 2. a minutes of proceedings at a public discussion;

3. a summary of any unincorporated remarks set forth at the public discussion, and any objections and observations of the Ministry of Environment and Water on any such remarks;
4. reports on scientific researches and studies conducted in the process of elaboration of the draft;
5. consolidated results of initiatives referred to in Article 12 (4) herein.

Article 16

The Ministry of Environment and Water shall return the draft to the commissioning entity or to the planner, as the case may be, with a reasoned cover letter within two months should there be ascertained:

1. any procedural omissions as provided for in the Protected Areas Act and in this Regulation;
2. any omissions in the contents of the draft, compared to the terms of reference as endorsed;
3. any regimes and/or activities provided for in violation of any requirements set forth in the Protected Areas Act, the designation order for the protected area and in other relevant acts.

Article 17

Within one month after submission, the Ministry of Environment and Water may commission a review of the draft or of separate parts thereof.

Article 18

- (1) Within three months after submission of a draft management plan or a national or natural park, the Ministry of Environment and Water shall organize the consideration of the said draft at a meeting of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council.
- (2) Not earlier than twenty days prior to the meeting of the Council, the Ministry of Environment and Water shall:
 1. transmit letters of notification to the central-government departments concerned, to the competent regional governors and municipalities, research and academic institutes and non-governmental organizations, as well as to the commissioning entity or to the planner, as the case may be, as well as to other stakeholders at the discretion of the Ministry;
 2. organize the posting of notices in prominent places at the Ministry of Environment and Waters and at the relevant regional authorities thereof, as well as in the relevant municipalities.
- (3) The notifications and notices covered under Paragraph (2) shall state the subject of the meeting, the date, time and venue of holding, as well as the conditions and place where the draft is available to stakeholders for a preview.

Article 19

- (1) At the meeting of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council, the draft management plan of a national or natural park shall be presented by the planner and, proceeding from the reviews, written observations and discussions as presented, the Council shall make a decision:

1. to lay the draft before the Council of Ministers for adoption in pursuance of Article 60 (1) of the Protected Areas Act;
 2. to lay the draft before the Council of Ministers for adoption after incorporation, within a set time limit, of remarks and suggestions described in the decision or attached thereto;
 3. to return the draft for re-elaboration.
- (2) Any dissenting opinion expressed on any decision of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council referred to in Items 1 and 2 of Paragraph (1) shall be disallowed unless reasoned and submitted in writing to the Ministry of Environment and Water within three days.
 - (3) Where the time limit under Paragraph (2) has been observed, the Minister of Environment and Water shall render a final pronouncement on the dissenting opinion by upholding or revoking the decision of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council. In the latter case, the draft shall be returned with specific directions as to the re-elaboration thereof.
 - (4) The decisions of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council shall be endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water.
 - (5) Within fifteen days after endorsement of any decision of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council referred to in Item 2 or 3 of Paragraph (1), the Ministry of Environment and Water shall transmit copies of the decision, the observations, the remarks and the suggestions to the commissioning entity or to the planner, as the case may be.
 - (6) The Minister of Environment and Water shall lay the draft before the Council of Ministers for adoption:
 1. within fifteen days after endorsement of a decision of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council to lay the draft before the Council of Ministers;
 2. within one month after re-submission of the draft in the case of an endorsed decision of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council referred to in Item 2 of Paragraph (1), subject to the condition that the remarks have been incorporated.
 - (7) In the case of an endorsed decision of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council to return the draft for re-elaboration after re-submission of the draft to the Ministry of Environment and Water, the procedures established in Articles 17, 18 and 19 herein shall be followed.

Article 20

The draft management plans of national and natural parks shall be adopted by the Council of Ministers by a decision which shall be promulgated in the *State Gazette*.

Article 21

- (1) Within two months after submission of a draft management plan of a strict or managed nature reserve, natural monument or protected site, the Ministry of Environment and Water shall transmit a written request for clearance of the draft to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, the relevant regional governors and municipalities, as well as to the Ministry of Culture, in case cultural assets fall within the boundaries of the protected area.

- (2) A copy of the draft shall be attached to any request referred to in Paragraph (1) or, should this be impossible, the conditions and the place where the design can be inspected by stakeholders shall be stated.
- (3) The ministries and municipalities covered under Paragraph (1) shall transmit observations on the draft to the Ministry of Environment and Water within one month after receipt of the request. Otherwise, clearance of the draft without remarks shall be presumed.
- (4) Within one month after expiry of the time limit established by Paragraph (3), the Ministry of Environment and Water shall provide the remarks and suggestions as received to the commissioning entity or to the planner, as the case may be, with observations on incorporation of the relevant remarks and suggestions.
- (5) The planner shall incorporate the remarks into the draft according to the observations of the Ministry of Environment and Water, and the draft shall be re-submitted to the Ministry.

Article 22

- (1) The management plans of any protected areas covered under Article 21 (1) herein shall be endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water:
 1. within ten days after expiry of the time limit established by Article 21 (3) herein, where the draft is cleared without remarks;
 2. within one month after re-submission of the draft, subject to the condition that the remarks have been incorporated.
- (2) The plans shall be endorsed by an order which shall be promulgated in the *State Gazette*.

Article 23

Copies of any plans as adopted under Article 20 herein and as endorsed under Article 22 (2) herein shall be transmitted by the Ministry of Environment and Water to the following respective addressees:

1. the National Park Directorates and the Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water;
2. the specialized units referred to in Article 52 (2) of the Protected Areas Act;
3. the commissioning entities covered under Article 10 (1) herein.

Chapter Four

MODIFICATIONS OF MANAGEMENT PLANS

Article 24

Any effective management plan shall be modifiable within the period of validity thereof in case of:

1. ascertainment of material changes in any characteristics and parameters of the biotic and abiotic features of the protected area;
2. addition to the plan of any information unavailable at the time of elaboration thereof regarding indicators of individual environmental media;

3. necessity to modify any programmes, projects and activities provided for in the plan in consequence of any changes referred to in Items 1 and 2 or of other objective circumstances;
4. necessity to change any regimes and standards as to use of land tracts, forests and aquatic areas, construction and other activities within the protected area as established by the plan.

Article 25

- (1) Any modifications shall be introduced into the plan by the organization or person managing the protected area and applying the plan, whereby:
 1. in the cases referred to in Items 1 and 2 of Article 24 herein, a copy of the modifications shall be transmitted to the Ministry of Environment and Water and to other stakeholders;
 2. in the cases referred to in Item 3 of Article 24 herein, the modifications shall be introduced after obtaining a clearance in writing from the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (2) Any modifications in a management plan in the cases referred to in Item 4 of Article 24 herein shall be introduced:
 1. in respect of a national or natural park: according to the procedure established by Articles 18, 19 and 20 herein;
 2. in respect of a strict and managed nature reserve, a natural monument and protected site: according to the procedure established by Articles 21 and 22 herein.

Article 26

A management plan under Article 5 herein shall be updated according to the procedure established by Chapter Three herein.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

- § 1. The requirements established by Sections II and III of Chapter Three herein shall apply to any management plans commissioned or elaborated prior to the entry of this Regulation into force.
- § 2. Management plans shall be elaborated within:
 1. three years after designation of any new national and natural parks or after recategorization effected under § 2 (1) of the Transitional and Final Provisions of the Protected Areas Act;
 2. two years after designation of any new strict or managed nature reserves;
 3. five years after the entry of this Regulation into force, applicable to any strict and managed nature reserves listed in Annex 2 to the Protected Areas Act;
 4. ten years after a recategorization effected under § 3 of the Transitional and Final Provisions of the Protected Areas Act, applicable to any natural parks.
- § 3. The implementation of this Regulation and the control over compliance with this Regulation shall be entrusted to the Minister of Environment and Water.

Structure of a Protected Area Management Plan

Plan title
Plan contents
Summary

Part O: Introduction

- 0.1. Legal basis for elaboration of plan
- 0.2. Elaboration process: participants, public discussions
- 0.3. Intended purpose and peculiarities of plan

Part 1: Description and assessment of protected area

General information

- 1.0. Location and boundaries
- 1.1. Size of site and of protected areas contained therein
- 1.2. Land use classification and administrative jurisdiction
- 1.3. Legal status
- 1.4. Ownership
- 1.5. Management structure
 - 1.5.1. Organizational structure and administration
 - 1.5.2. Personnel: functions
 - 1.5.3. Logistical support
- 1.6. Existing design elaborations
- 1.7. Existing functional zoning and regimes of site

Characteristics of abiotic factors

- 1.8. Climate
 - 1.8.1. Local climate influences
 - 1.8.2. Climatic elements
- 1.9. Geology and geomorphology
 - 1.9.1. Geological structure
 - 1.9.2. Geomorphology of landforms
- 1.10. Hydrology and hydrobiology
 - 1.10.1. Hydrology and hydrography
 - 1.10.2. Hydrochemistry
- 1.11. Soils
 - 1.11.1. Soil type distribution and characteristics
 - 1.11.2. Soil processes

Biological characteristics

- 1.12. Ecosystems and biotopes
- 1.13. Vegetation
 - 1.13.1. Taxonomy of vegetation
 - 1.13.2. Characteristics of forest cover
- 1.14. Flora
 - 1.14.1. Lower plants and fungi
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REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

PROTECTED AREAS ACT

*Promulgated, State Gazette No. 133/11.11.1998
Amended, SG No. 98/1999 (effective 12.11.1999); amended and supplemented, SG No. 48/2000; supplemented,
SG No. 78/2000; amended, SG No. 23/2002; amended and supplemented, SG No. 77/2002; amended, SG No.
91/2002 (effective 1.01.2003).*

Chapter One

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section I

Protected Area Categories

Article 1

This Act regulates the categories of protected areas, the assigned use thereof and the regime of protection and use, designation and management of the said areas.

Article 2

- (1) The purpose of this Act is to conserve and preserve protected areas as a national and universal human wealth and asset and as a special form of conservation of Bulgarian nature, conducive to the advancement of culture and science and to public welfare.
- (2) Nature conservation within protected areas shall take precedence over the other activities therein.

Article 3

The State shall establish and ensure the functioning and sustained existence of a protected areas system as part of the regional and global network of such areas in accordance with the international treaties on environmental protection whereto the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.

Article 4

- (1) *(Redesignated from Article 4, SG No. 28/2000)* The protected areas shall be dedicated to the conservation of biological diversity in ecosystems and of the natural processes occurring therein, as well as of typical or remarkable non-living natural features and landscapes. The assigned use of protected areas may not be altered save according to the procedure established by Chapter Three of this Act.
- (2) *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* The conservation and use of medicinal plants within the protected areas shall be regulated by a separate law.

Article 5

There shall be the following categories of protected areas:

1. strict nature reserve;
2. national park;
3. natural monument;
4. managed nature reserve;

5. natural park;
6. protected site.

Article 6

- (1) The protected areas shall incorporate forests, terrestrial and aquatic areas.
- (2) Within the boundaries thereof delimited by the development regulation plans or ring polygons, any nucleated and dispersed settlements falling within any protected areas shall not be part of the said protected areas.
- (3) Any cultural assets falling within the boundaries of any protected areas shall retain the regimes of protection and use thereof as established according to the procedure established by the Cultural Assets and Museums Act.
- (4) Any protected areas which, at the time of entry of this Act into force, fall within the boundaries of any nucleated settlements, shall retain the status thereof by being categorized under this Act.

Article 7

The provisions of this Act shall apply to all protected areas regardless of the ownership of the forests, land tracts and aquatic areas therein.

Section II Ownership

Article 8

- (1) The parks of national significance, listed in Annex 1 hereto, and the nature reserves, listed in Annex 2 hereto, which serve to meet public needs of nation-wide import, shall constitute exclusive state property.
- (2) (*Amended, SG No. 28/2000*) The parks of national significance shall be areas referred to in Item 2 of Article 5 herein, hosting natural ecosystems of high diversity of plant and animal species and habitats and having a size exceeding 1,000 hectares. No settlements and dispersed settlements shall be incorporated within the boundaries of any such parks.
- (3) The nature reserves shall be areas referred to in Items 1 and 4 of Article 5 herein, hosting examples of natural ecosystems whereof the conservation shall require that the said areas be free of human intervention or be minimally affected by such intervention.

Article 9

- (1) Upon increase of the size or upon inclusion of new protected areas in the Annexes referred to in Article 8 (1) herein, the forests, land tracts and aquatic areas owned by natural and juristic persons or constituting private municipal property shall be condemned according to the procedure established by the State Property Act.
- (2) Outside the cases under Paragraph (1), designation of a protected area shall not alter the ownership of the forests, land tracts and aquatic areas therein.

Article 10

- (1) Any state-owned forests, land tracts and aquatic areas incorporated into any protected areas under this Act, which do not constitute exclusive state property, shall constitute public state property. Any municipal-owned forests, land tracts and aquatic areas

incorporated into any protected areas under this Act shall constitute public municipal property.

- (2) No foreign State, foreign citizen or non-resident juristic person may hold a right of ownership to any forests, land tracts and aquatic areas within protected areas.
- (3) No political party, organization, movement or coalition pursuing political objectives may hold a right of ownership to any forests, land tracts and aquatic areas within protected areas.

Article 11

The owners and users of any forests, land tracts and aquatic areas within a protected area shall be obliged to observe the regimes established according to the procedure established by this Act, by the designation order for the protected area and the management plan of the said area.

Article 12

- (1) Disposition of any corporeal immovables within land-use areas containing protected areas shall be transacted upon presentation of a written declaration by the transferor as to whether the immovable falls within the protected area.
- (2) The transferees of any corporeal immovables referred to in Paragraph (1) shall declare upon the transfer that they are familiar with the regime of activities within the protected area.
- (3) The standard forms of the written declarations referred to in Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water in consultation with the Minister of Justice.
- (4) The persons referred to in Paragraph (2) shall notify the regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water of the transfer of ownership within fourteen days after acquisition of the right of ownership.

Article 13

- (1) Any sites within protected areas shall be constructed, maintained and used in accordance with the regime of activities as established according to the procedure established by this Act, by the designation order and by the management plan of the protected areas, the spatial-development plans and schematic designs, regardless of the requirements under other laws.
- (2) Construction of any new sites, and extension, remodelling and alteration of the assigned use of any existing sites wherefor no environmental impact assessment is required shall be performed after obtaining a written consent from the Ministry of Environment and Water regardless of the permits required under other laws.

Article 14

- (1) The owners and users of any forests and land tracts within protected areas may not restrict the traffic movement on roads and marked hiking trails traversing the corporeal immovables thereof.
- (2) The persons referred to in Paragraph (1) may not build fences around the corporeal immovables thereof within protected areas with the exception of buildings and the adjoining yards, as well as young-growth stands.

- (3) The restrictions under Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to any sites allocated for national defence and to the armed forces.
- (4) *(New, SG No. 78/2000)* Fencing of any spaces within protected areas other than strict nature reserves and national parks shall be admitted for construction of game breeding centres after obtaining a clearance from the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 15

When so requested by the authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water or the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, each acting within their respective competencies, the owners and the users shall be obliged to provide the said authorities with unobstructed access to the corporeal immovables thereof, with the exception of residential buildings, for conduct of the requisite studies, measurements and inspections, and for performance of maintaining and restorative activities provided for according to the procedure established by this Act, by the designation orders for protected areas and the management plans of the said areas.

Chapter Two

ASSIGNED USE AND REGIMES OF PROTECTION AND USE OF PROTECTED AREAS

Section I

Strict Nature Reserves

Article 16

- (1) Examples of natural ecosystems, hosting typical and/or remarkable wild plant and animal species and the habitats thereof, shall be designated strict nature reserves.
- (2) Strict nature reserves shall be managed for the purpose of:
 1. retention of the natural character thereof;
 2. scientific research and education and/or eco-monitoring;
 3. conservation of genetic resources;
 4. conservation of natural habitats and of populations of protected rare, endemic and relict species;
 5. development of a network of ecosystems and threatened habitats representative of Bulgaria and Europe.

Article 17

- (1) Any activities shall be prohibited in strict nature reserves with the exception of:
 1. physical security of the said reserves;
 2. visits for the purpose of scientific research;
 3. pedestrian traffic movement on marked hiking trails, including such traffic for educational purposes;
 4. collection of seeds, wild plants and animals for the purpose of scientific research or for repopulating other sites in quantities, manner and time excluding disturbance of the ecosystems;

5. *(New, SG No. 28/2000, amended, No. 77/2002)* extinguishment of fires and environmental harvesting in the forests damaged in consequence of natural disasters and calamities.
- (2) The hiking trails referred to in Item 3 of Paragraph (1) shall be designated by an order by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (3) Any visits referred to in Items 2 and 4 of Paragraph (1) shall require permission from the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (4) *(New, SG No. 28/2000, supplemented, No. 77/2002)* The environmental harvesting referred to in Item 5 of Paragraph (1) shall require permission from the Ministry of Environment and Water issued after a favourable scientific opinion of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and a favourable decision of the National Council of Biological Diversity.

Section II National Parks

Article 18

- (1) Areas which have no nucleated and dispersed settlements falling within the boundaries thereof and which host natural ecosystems of high diversity of plant and animal species and habitats, with typical and remarkable landscapes and non-living natural features, shall be designated national parks.
- (2) National parks shall be managed for the purpose of:
 1. maintenance of the diversity of the ecosystems and protection of wildlife;
 2. conservation and maintenance of the biological diversity within the ecosystems;
 3. provision of opportunities for pursuit of scientific research, education and recreation;
 4. creation of prerequisites for development of tourism, environmentally sound livelihood for the local community and other activities in conformity with the purposes covered under Items 1 to 3.

Article 19

National parks shall be zoned into the following use areas:

1. strict and managed nature reserves;
2. tourist zone;
3. zones of chalets, park management and maintenance administrative centres, and sports facilities;
4. other zones according to the specific conditions in the parks.

Article 20

Any strict and managed nature reserves falling within the boundaries of national parks shall retain the regimes thereof as established by the designation orders thereof.

Article 21

The following activities shall be prohibited in national parks:

1. (*Amended, SG No. 48/2000*) any construction, with the exception of hikers' shelters and chalets, water catchments for drinking purposes, treatment facilities, park management and visitor service buildings and facilities, underground communications, repair of existing buildings and roads, and sports and other facilities;
2. any manufacturing activities, with the exception of maintaining and restorative activities in the forests, land tracts and aquatic areas;
3. clear-cutting;
4. applying artificial fertilizers and other chemicals;
5. introducing plant and animal species that are alien to the region;
6. grazing of goats, as well as grazing of livestock in forests outside meadows and pastures;
7. collecting herbs, wild fruits and other plants and animals in designated places;
8. collecting fossils and minerals, damaging rock formations;
9. disturbing the natural state of aquatic areas, watercourses, the banks thereof and the riparian lands and littoral zones;
10. game breeding and hunting, except for control of the population size of animal species;
11. sports fishing and fish breeding in designated places;
12. polluting waters and grounds with household, industrial and other waste;
13. camping and lighting of fire outside the designated places;
14. interfering with biological diversity;
15. (*Supplemented, SG No. 28/2000*) collecting rare, endemic, relict and protected species, except for the purposes of scientific research;
16. other activities specified by the designation order for the protected area and the management plan.

Article 22

The use areas covered under Article 19 herein, the regions, places, manners and other conditions for performance of activities in national parks shall be determined by the management plans of the said parks.

Section III

Natural Monuments

Article 23

- (1) Typical or remarkable non-living natural features, such as rock forms, rock exposures of scientific value, earth pyramids, caves, potholes, waterfalls, fossil beds, mineral occurrences, sand dunes and others of outstanding value because of the inherent rarity, representative or aesthetic qualities thereof or of scientific or cultural significance, shall be designated natural monuments.
- (2) Natural monuments shall be managed for the purpose of preservation of the natural features thereof.

- (3) Natural monuments shall be designated with an adjoining area as shall be necessary for the conservation thereof.

Article 24

Any activities that may disturb the natural state of natural monuments or impair the aesthetic value thereof shall be prohibited in natural monuments.

Article 25

Measures for conservation, stabilization and restoration of the natural monuments shall be admitted by permission of the Ministry of Environment and Water in consultation with the owners of the natural monuments and with other institutions concerned.

Section IV

Managed Nature Reserves

Article 26

- (1) Ecosystems hosting rare and/or endangered wild plant and animal species and the habitats thereof shall be designated managed nature reserves.
- (2) Managed nature reserves shall be managed for the purpose of:
 1. maintenance of the natural character thereof;
 2. scientific research and education and/or eco-monitoring;
 3. restoration of populations of plant and animal species and/or habitat conditions thereof;
 4. conservation of genetic resources.

Article 27

- (1) Any activities shall be prohibited in managed nature reserves with the exception of:
 1. physical security of the said reserves;
 2. visits for the purpose of scientific research;
 3. pedestrian traffic movement on marked hiking trails, including such traffic for educational purposes;
 4. collection of seeds, wild plants and animals for the purpose of scientific research or for repopulating other sites;
 5. conduct of maintaining, steering, controlling or restorative measures.
- (2) The activities referred to in Item 5 of Paragraph (1) shall be specified in the management plan of the managed nature reserve.

Article 28

The provisions of Article 17 (2) and (3) herein shall apply to managed nature reserves.

Section V
Natural Parks

Article 29

- (1) Areas hosting various ecosystems with diverse plant and animal species and the habitats thereof, with typical and remarkable landscapes and non-living natural features, shall be designated natural parks.
- (2) Natural parks shall be managed for the purpose of:
 1. maintenance of the diversity of ecosystems and conservation of biological diversity therein;
 2. provision of opportunities for pursuit of scientific research, education, and recreation;
 3. sustainable use of renewable natural resources while preserving traditional forms of livelihood, and ensuring conditions for the development of tourism.

Article 30

- (1) Nucleated settlements, dispersed settlements and resorts may be located within the boundaries of natural parks, and any production and activities which do not pollute the environment may be pursued therein as well.
- (2) Any protected areas of other categories falling within the boundaries of natural parks shall retain the regimes thereof as established by the designation order thereof.

Article 31

The following activities shall be prohibited in natural parks:

1. clear-cutting in high forests, with the exception of poplar forests, and in coppices that exceed 3 hectares in size;
2. introducing plant and animal species that are alien to the region;
3. grazing of goats, except in expressly designated places;
4. collecting fossils and minerals, damaging of rock formations;
5. polluting waters and grounds with household, industrial and other waste;
6. camping and lighting of fire outside the designated places;
7. open-cast mining of mineral resources;
8. *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* extracting and primary processing (dressing) of metalliferous mineral resources through application of chemical and chemico-bacteriological methods and cyanides;
9. *(Renumbered from Item 8, SG No. 28/2000)* activities and construction which are not permitted by the designation order for the park, the management plan of the park and the spatial-development plans and schematic designs;
10. *(Renumbered from Item 9 and supplemented, SG No. 28/2000)* collecting of rare, endemic, relict and endangered species, except for the purposes of scientific research;
11. *(Renumbered from Item 10, SG No. 28/2000)* extracting marine resources by dredging or trawling;

12. *(Renumbered from Item 11, SG No. 28/2000)* other activities specified by the designation order for the protected area and by the management plan.

Article 32

- (1) The provisions of Articles 19 and 22 herein shall apply to natural parks.
- (2) The provisions of Article 21 (1) herein may apply to natural parks or any parts thereof if adopted by the management plans as endorsed by the Council of Ministers.

Section VI

Protected Sites

Article 33

- (1) The following shall be designated protected sites:
 1. areas with typical or remarkable landscapes, including such resulting from the harmonious interaction between people and nature;
 2. habitats of endangered, rare or vulnerable plant and animal species and communities.
- (2) Protected sites shall be managed for the purpose of:
 1. preservation of the features of the landscape;
 2. conservation, maintenance or restoration of habitat conditions corresponding to the ecological requirements of the species and communities subject to protection;
 3. provision of opportunities for scientific research, education and eco-monitoring;
 4. provision of opportunities for tourism and public appreciation.

Article 34

Any activities contrary to the requirements for conservation of the specific features subject to protection shall be prohibited in protected sites.

Chapter Three

DESIGNATION AND MODIFICATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

Article 35

Protected areas shall be designated and modified by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 36

- (1) Proposals for designation of national and natural parks may be initiated by ministries and central-government departments, by municipalities and regional governors, research and academic institutes and public organizations, and in respect of all other categories of protected areas, also by all natural and juristic persons concerned.
- (2) The proposals referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Water which, within one month, shall pronounce on the relevance thereof in conformity with the criteria specified in this Act.
- (3) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall compile or commission the compilation of a dossier on the designation of the protected area.
- (4) The dossier referred to in Paragraph (3) shall contain:

1. justification;
 2. maps;
 3. area distribution of forests, land tracts and aquatic areas;
 4. a draft designation order.
- (5) The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the municipalities shall submit data referred to in Items 2 and 3 of Paragraph (4).

Article 37

The Ministry of Environment and Water may shall organize a public discussion of any proposals for designation of national and natural parks, of strict and managed nature reserves. Representatives of the municipalities, the regional governors, the local ecologist and public organizations concerned and other representatives of ministries, central-government departments, research and academic institutes shall be invited to attend any such public discussion. Minutes shall be taken of the observations and suggestions at any such public discussion.

Article 38

- (1) Within one year after submission of any proposal for designation of a national or natural park and within six months after submission of any proposal for designation of a protected area of any other category, the Minister of Environment and Water or a persons authorized thereby shall appoint a commission.
- (2) The commission referred to in Paragraph (1) shall include representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Water, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, of the municipalities, of owners of forests, land tracts and aquatic areas, and the competent regional governors.
- (3) *(Supplemented, SG No. 77/2002)* The commission referred to in Paragraph (1) shall make a decision by a simple majority to grant the proposal and shall prepare a draft designation order, or shall reject the proposal.
- (4) *(New, SG No. 77/2002)* Any members of the commission, who dissent from a decision to grant the proposal and who have signed the minutes with a dissenting opinion, shall provide a reasoning of the said opinion in writing within three days. The dissenting opinion shall be attached to the minutes.
- (5) *(New, SG No. 77/2002)* In the cases under Paragraph (4), the Minister of Environment and Water shall make a final decision on designation of the protected area or on rejection of the proposal.

Article 39

- (1) *(Amended, SG No. 77/2002)* The Minister of Environment and Water shall issue a designation order for the protected area provided that favourable decisions have been made under Article 38 (3) and (5) herein.
- (2) Any order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall state:
 1. the grounds;
 2. the primary objectives;
 3. the category;

4. the name;
5. the area distribution of forests, land tracts and aquatic areas;
6. the regime of the principal activities within the protected area.

Article 40

- (1) Upon designation of any national park or strict nature reserve on a proposal by the Minister of Environment and Water, the Council of Ministers shall lay before the National Assembly a draft of an Act to Amend and Supplement this Act.
- (3) Any designation order for a national park or a strict nature reserve shall enter into force after passage of the Act referred to in Paragraph (1).

Article 41

Protected areas may be modified by means of:

1. declassification;
2. increase of size;
3. decrease of size;
4. recategorization;
5. change in the regime of activities.

Article 42

- (1) Any modifications referred to in Items 1, 2 and 3 of Article 41 herein shall require compliance with the same procedures applicable to designation of protected areas.
- (2) Any modifications referred to in Item 4 of Article 41 herein shall be effected after obtaining a clearance from the state bodies concerned.
- (3) Any modifications referred to in Item 5 of Article 41 herein shall be effected after consultation with the owners of forests, land tracts and aquatic areas and with the state bodies concerned.
- (4) Any modifications referred to in Item 1 of Article 41 herein shall be undertaken solely where the protected areas have been completely and irrecoverably destroyed or damaged, do not serve the assigned use thereof, and cannot be recategorized.
- (5) In respect of any modifications covered under Article 41 herein, the Minister of Environment and Water shall issue an order.
- (6) *(New, SG No. 77/2002)* The size of any protected area may be updated by order under Paragraph (5) even without compliance with the procedures under Paragraph (1), where the adjustment arises from more accurate measurements and is not associated with modification of the established boundaries of the said protected area.

Article 43

Any orders referred to in Article 39 (1) and Article 42 (5) herein shall be promulgated in the *State Gazette*.

Article 44

Any protected areas as designated and any modifications thereof shall be recorded in a State Register at the Ministry of Environment and Water.

Article 45

- (1) In the event of risk of destruction of, or damage to, any areas proposed for designation as protected areas, the Minister of Environment and Water may issue an order prohibiting or restricting the use and construction therein for a period not exceeding two years, with the exception of sites allocated for national defence and to the armed forces.
- (2) Any violation of an order of the Minister of Environment and Water referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be penalized as a violation within a protected area according to the criminal liability and administrative penalty provisions of this Act or of other laws.

Chapter Four

MANAGEMENT AND PHYSICAL SECURITY OF PROTECTED AREAS

Section I

Management Authorities

Article 46

- (1) The Ministry of Environment and Water and the regional authorities thereof shall conduct and implement:
 1. the management and control in protected areas;
 2. (*Amended, SG No. 28/2000*) the management, the commissioning of maintaining and restorative activities, the commissioning of tourism activities, physical security and control in the forests, land tracts and aquatic areas within the protected areas constituting exclusive state property.
- (2) The activities referred to in Item 2 of Paragraph (1) shall be performed under terms and according to a procedure established by Rules endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 47

In discharge of the powers vested therein, the Minister of Environment and Water shall perform the following functions:

1. elaborate strategies, plans, programmes, bills and secondary legislative acts for development of the protected areas system;
2. build the protected areas system;
3. (*Amended, SG No. 23/2002*) organize the collection, the maintenance of an up-to-date status and the storage of the data on the protected areas covered under Item 1 of Article 32 (1) of the Cadastre and Property Register Act for the purpose of the creation of a selective map, a register and an information system of the said protected areas;
4. commission the preparation of the management plans of national and natural parks and lay the said plans before the Council of Ministers for endorsement;
5. commission the preparation and endorse the management plans for any protected areas other than such specified in Item 4, and clear the spatial-development plans and schematic designs of any protected areas which do not constitute exclusive state property;

6. assist the activities of owners or users, associations, non-governmental organizations and others, intended to conserve, maintain or rehabilitate protected areas;
7. organize control over the activities of all owners and users within protected areas;
8. coordinate the activities of any other ministries, central-government departments, municipalities, public organizations, research and academic institutes and others in connection with protected areas;
9. represent the State before international institutions and organizations in the sphere of protected areas;
10. propose to international institutions the inclusion of protected areas in the List of Biosphere Reserves, the World Heritage List, the List of Wetlands of International Importance, and others;
11. organize the physical security of protected areas constituting exclusive state property;
12. order the construction and maintenance of visitor service centres within protected areas for information and educational purposes;
13. establish specialized structures for management of protected areas.

Article 48

The National Park Directorates and the Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water shall be regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water in respect of protected areas.

Article 49

The National Park Directorates shall be separate public-financed juristic persons directly reporting to the Ministry of Environment and Water.

Article 50

In discharge of the powers vested therein, the directors of the regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water shall perform the following functions in the protected areas within the regions thereof:

1. implement or organize the management of the protected areas;
2. organize the elaboration of management plans;
3. apply the management plans in the protected areas constituting exclusive state property and implement the physical security therein;
4. *(Amended, SG No. 28/2000)* commission the execution of maintaining, steering, controlling or restorative activities, tourism activities within protected areas constituting exclusive state property;
5. *(Amended, SG No. 28/2000)* issue annual grazing permits and timber harvesting permits to the local population within the maintaining and restorative activities in the forests, in the national parks and in managed nature reserves, in accordance with the plans and designs under Chapter Four herein;
6. *(Amended and supplemented, SG No. 98/2000)* issue permits for commercial harvesting of mushrooms and wild fruits, with the exception of fruits of medicinal plants, in the national parks in accordance with the plans and designs under Chapter Four herein;

7. control the activities of owners or users of forests, land tracts and aquatic areas;
8. coordinate and control the application of the management plans in the sphere of scientific research, the maintaining and restorative measures for endangered species and habitats, the awareness raising and educational ecological programmes and other nature conservation activities implemented by other state bodies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations and persons;
9. organize monitoring of the quality of environmental media;
10. *(Repealed, SG No. 23/2002)*;
11. organize the functioning of visitor service centres;
12. penalize offenders in the cases as provided for.

Article 51

The functions, the tasks and the structure of National Park Directorates shall be regulated in Rules of Organization and Operation of the said Directorates, which shall be endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 52

- (1) The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, as well as the natural and juristic persons and the municipalities owning any forests, land tracts and aquatic areas within the protected areas other than such constituting exclusive state property shall implement the stewardship and physical security of the said forests, tracts and areas according to the provisions of this Act and of other special laws.
- (2) *(Amended, SG No. 28/2000)* The National Forestry Board with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry shall establish specialized Natural Park Directorates for execution of the management plans of the natural parks.
- (3) *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* The functions, tasks and activities of the directorates referred to in Paragraph (2) shall be determined by Rules which shall be endorsed by the Head of the National Forestry Board with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- (4) *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* The owners of forests, land tracts and aquatic areas in any protected areas other than such constituting exclusive state property or being natural parks may establish specialized units for conduct of maintaining, steering and controlling activities according to the designation orders and the management plans.

Article 53

The Ministry of Environment and Water and the authorities and the persons referred to in Article 52 (1) herein may grant non-governmental and other organizations and associations the right to organize maintaining, steering, controlling, restorative and other nature conservation activities in protected areas.

Article 54

(Amended, SG No. 23/2002)

- (1) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall create a selective map, a register and an information system of the protected areas.
- (2) The contents of the selective map, register and information system of the protected areas, as well as the procedure for the creation and maintenance thereof, shall be determined by

a regulation of the Minister of Environment and Water and the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

- (3) The data of the selective map and register of protected areas shall be open to the public and shall be provided for use by the Ministry of Environment and Water and the regional authorities thereof against payment of a fee according to a rate schedule approved by the Council of Ministers.
- (4) The terms and the procedure for provision of data under Paragraph (3) shall be established by a regulation of the Minister of Environment and Water.

Section II

Management Plans

Article 55

- (1) Management plans shall be elaborated for protected areas under terms and according to a procedure established by a regulation endorsed by the Council of Ministers.
- (2) The management plans of national and natural parks shall be elaborated within three years, and the management plans of strict and managed nature reserves shall be elaborated within two years after designation. The management plans shall be updated once every ten years.

Article 56

Management plans shall conform to:

1. the requirements to the category of protected area;
2. the protected area regime as established in the designation order thereof;
3. the requirements of international treaties.

Article 57

Each management plan shall contain:

1. a general description of the protected area and of the components thereof;
2. the management objectives in the protected area;
3. the standards, regimes, conditions or recommendations for the performance of: activities in the forests, land tracts and aquatic areas; development of infrastructure and construction; organization of management and other activities ensuring attainment of the objectives as set;
4. short-term and long-term action programmes associated with scientific research and monitoring of the environmental media, maintenance of endangered species, communities and habitats, environmental awareness and education, etc.

Article 58

- (1) Management plans of protected areas shall be commissioned by the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (2) Management plans of protected areas may furthermore be commissioned by the owners, municipalities, non-governmental organizations or associations and others after obtaining a written consent from the Ministry of Environment and Water.

- (3) The terms of reference for management plans shall be endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 59

- (1) In the process of elaboration of management plans of national and natural parks and of managed nature reserves, the planners shall organize public discussions with the participation of representatives of the central and local government authorities concerned, of the owners or associations thereof, of research, academic and non-governmental organizations and others.
- (2) The common observations, recommendations and remarks at the public hearings shall be documented in minutes that shall be attached to the draft management plan. The management plan shall take into account the observations, recommendations and remarks as stated.

Article 60

- (1) The management plans of national and natural parks and of managed nature reserves shall be laid before the Council of Ministers for adoption by the Minister of Environment and Water after a conclusion by the Supreme Environmental Expert Council with the Ministry of Environment and Water. If the Council of Ministers makes a favourable decision, the Minister of Environment and Water shall sign the management plans.
- (2) Representatives of the state bodies, regional governors, municipalities, research and non-governmental organizations concerned shall be invited to participate in the meetings of the Council referred to in Paragraph (1). The notices shall be dispatched in advance, not later than twenty days prior to the date of the meeting, and announcements of any such meeting shall furthermore be posted in a prominent place in the relevant municipalities, at the Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water and at the Ministry of Environment and Water within the same time limit.
- (3) Once every four years, the Ministry of Environment and Water shall organize a public discussion of the implementation of the management plans of national and natural parks, inviting thereto the persons covered under Paragraph (2).

Article 61

(Amended and supplemented, SG No. 28/2000)

The management plans of strict and managed nature reserves, natural monuments and protected sites shall be endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water after obtaining a clearance from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works and from the relevant municipalities, as well as from the Ministry of Culture, where cultural assets fall within the protected area.

Article 62

The plans referred to in Article 61 herein shall be endorsed by an order of the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 63

Any management plans as endorsed may be modified in connection with the standards and regimes referred to in Item 3 of Article 57 herein according to the procedure established by Articles 60 and 61 herein.

Article 64

The type and scope of activities comprehending use of natural resources, spatial development, construction and other activities within protected areas shall be determined by spatial-development plans and schematic designs.

Article 65

Any plans and designs referred to in Article 64 herein, with the exception of regional-development plans, in any protected areas constituting exclusive state property, shall be commissioned, endorsed and modified according to the procedure established by Articles 61 and 62 herein.

Article 66

- (1) Any plans and designs referred to in Article 64 herein for any protected areas not constituting exclusive state property shall be commissioned and endorsed according to the procedure established by the relevant laws.
- (2) Any plans and designs referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be endorsed after:
 1. a favourable environmental impact assessment decision in the cases provided for in the Environmental Protection Act;
 2. a written clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Water in the cases other than the cases referred to in Item 1.
- (3) Any spatial-development plans and designs as endorsed shall be modifiable according to the procedure established by Paragraph (2) in the event of natural disasters, such as fires, floods and others, or upon change of any objective circumstances pre-existing upon endorsement of the said plans and designs.

Section III

Physical Security

Article 67

- (1) The physical security of any protected areas constituting exclusive state property and of any Ramsar Convention Sites and any sites under other international treaties and conventions shall be organized by the Ministry of Environment and Water. The forests in all other protected areas shall be subject to physical security according to the Forests Act.
- (2) The regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water shall organize and implement the physical security of the protected areas constituting exclusive state property in the regions thereof. The said authorities shall organize mobile park security and checkpoints.
- (3) *(New, SG No. 77/2002)* The physical security of particular strict and managed nature reserves outside the boundaries of the national parks may be commissioned by the Minister of Environment and Water to other executive authorities or to municipalities.

Article 68

Any protected areas constituting exclusive state property shall be divided into security sectors of a size not exceeding 1,500 hectares.

Article 69

- (1) Physical security in protected areas constituting exclusive state property shall be implemented by park security.
- (2) The park security guards shall be under the direct orders of the directors of the regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (3) Each park security guard shall be responsible for the security sector assigned thereto, shall wear a uniform with insignia and firearms.
- (4) At a minimum, the guards referred to in Paragraph (1) must have graduated from secondary school.
- (5) *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* Rights under Paragraph (3) shall furthermore vest in other officials of the regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water applying the Protected Areas Act, as designated by an order of the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 70

- (1) *(Redesignated from Article 70, SG No. 28/2000)* In the sectors assigned thereto, the park security guards shall perform the following functions:
 1. guard the forests, land tracts and aquatic areas against illegal use and activities;
 2. monitor compliance with the regime in the protected area as established by the designation order and the management plan;
 3. check all documents permitting uses, activities and movements within the protected area;
 4. monitor compliance with the requirements of fire protection and, in the event of fire, take part in the extinguishment thereof;
 5. monitor the protection of waters and grounds against pollution with household, industrial and other waste;
 6. monitor the state of forests and, where necessary, notify the director of the regional authority of the Ministry of Environment and Water;
 7. *(Repealed, SG No. 28/2000)*;
 8. protect the flora and fauna;
 9. accompany visitor groups, provide information and render assistance to visitors;
 10. liaise and interact with the authorities of the Mountain Rescue Service, the fire protection service and the Ministry of Interior;
 11. participate in the execution of activities associated with restoration of animal and plant species, of the habitats thereof, as well as of remarkable non-living natural features;
 12. perform activities associated with the monitoring of environmental media quality;
 13. draw up written statements on ascertained violations;
 14. impound any corporeal movables subject to a violation, as well as any corporeal movables which have served for commission of a violation.

- (2) *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* The guards referred to in Paragraph (1) may halt and inspect any means of transport transporting timber, forest and agricultural products and others within the protected area, in the adjoining nucleated settlements and the land-use areas thereof.
- (3) *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* The authorities of the Ministry of Interior shall be obliged to cooperate in the inspections referred to in Paragraph (2).

Article 71

- (1) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall contract life assurance and accident insurance for the park security guards.
- (2) Any park security guards, who sustain any personal injury in the discharge or in connection with the discharge of the official duties thereof shall be paid a lump-sum pecuniary compensation amounting to ten gross monthly remunerations in the event of a severe bodily injury, and six gross monthly remunerations in the event of a medium bodily injury.
- (3) The spouse, the children or the parents of any guard who has been killed in the discharge or in connection with the discharge of the official duties thereof shall be paid a lump-sum pecuniary compensation amounting to twelve gross monthly remunerations to each rightful beneficiary.
- (4) The rightful beneficiaries may furthermore claim compensation in an action proceeding according to the standard procedure for any uncompensated injury under Paragraphs (2) and (3).

Article 72

- (1) Park security guards may use residential premises within the protected areas provided thereto by the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (2) The guards referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be entitled to gratuitous use of up to 10 cubic metres of firewood annually by permission of the director of the regional authority of the Ministry of Environment and Water.

Article 73

The bodies of central and local government, the organizations and the persons shall be obliged to render assistance to the park security guards in the discharge of the official duties thereof.

Chapter Five

FINANCING OF PROTECTED AREAS

Article 74

- (1) *(Amended, SG No. 91/2002)* Financing of activities within protected areas shall be supported by the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities, whereto the following shall be credited:
 1. (Repealed, SG No. 77/2002);
 2. the fees referred to in Article 76 herein;
 3. the fees referred to in Article 77 herein;
 4. (Repealed, SG No. 77/2002);

5. financial resources to the amount of 5 per cent of the amount agreed under any contract of concession for a protected area constituting exclusive state property;
 6. proceeds from performance of activities referred to in Item 4 of Article 50 herein;
 7. the proceeds from fines and sanctions collected under this Act and under the Nature Conservation Act, where the penalty decree has been issued by the Minister of Environment and Water or by a person authorized thereby;
 8. proceeds from sale of corporeal movables confiscated under Chapter Six herein;
 9. donations by resident and non-resident natural and juristic persons;
 10. other revenues by virtue of a law.
- (2) The financial resources covered under Paragraph (1) shall be expended on:
1. preparation of management plans;
 2. maintenance and restoration of rare and extinct wild plant and animal species and of the habitats thereof;
 3. construction and maintenance of visitor service centres;
 4. educational programmes, promotion and advertising, publication of printed works;
 5. scientific research and monitoring;
 6. assistance to municipalities, natural and juristic persons owning forests, land tracts and aquatic areas within protected areas to perform restorative, maintaining and other nature conservation activities therein;
 7. maintaining and restorative activities in protected areas constituting exclusive state property;
 8. other activities associated with management and control of protected areas.
- (3) *(Amended, SG No. 77/2002)* Up to 30 per cent of the financial resources referred to in Item 7 of Paragraph (1) shall furthermore be available for additional incentives to the park security guards according to a procedure established by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (4) *(Amended, SG No. 91/2002)* The resources covered under Paragraph (1) shall be expended according to the Rules of Operation of the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities.

Article 75

(Repealed, SG No. 77/2002)

Article 76

- (1) *(Redesignated from Article 76, SG No. 28/2000)* Fees shall be paid for any authorized uses under Items 5 and 6 of Article 50 herein according to a procedure established by the Council of Ministers.
- (2) *(New, SG No. 28/2000)* No fees referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be paid for timber harvested for construction, repair and heating of the buildings of the authorities referred to in Article 48 herein; for construction and repair of shelters, bridges, fences, marking, erosion control and other public amenities related to tourism, visitor safety and maintenance of protected areas constituting exclusive state property.

Article 77

- (1) Admission fees may be introduced by the Minister of Environment and Water for visits to protected areas constituting exclusive state property.
- (2) The amount of the fees referred to in Paragraph (1), the procedure and manners for payment of the said fees shall be determined by an act of the Council of Ministers.

Chapter Six

ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY PROVISIONS

Section I

Coercive Administrative Measures

Article 78

For the purpose of prevention and cessation of any administrative violations under this Act and of the detrimental consequences thereof, the competent authorities or persons authorized thereby shall apply coercive administrative measures according to the procedure established by Article 79 herein.

Article 79

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall suspend:
 1. any orders of central-government departments which contravene this Act or are inconsistent with the established regime of activities in the protected areas;
 2. the implementation of any spatial-development plans and schematic designs endorsed in violation of this Act.
- (2) The directors of the regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water shall:
 1. suspend any activities comprehending use of forests, land tracts and aquatic areas and of other resources, as well as any construction within protected areas which violate the management plans, spatial-development plans and schematic designs as endorsed according to the established procedure, or which have not been cleared according to the procedure established by this Act, where no such plans and designs exist;
 2. suspend any activities or sites which damage or pollute the environment within protected areas in excess of the permissible limit levels;
 3. suspend any orders of the regional forestry boards, state forestry units and the municipal authorities contravening this Act or breaching the regimes of the protected areas;
 4. issue prescriptions for measures to prevent and eliminate the detrimental consequences of violations as committed or environmental damage or pollution within protected areas.
- (3) (*Supplemented, SG No. 77/2002*) The directors of regional forestry boards, state forestry units and Natural Park Directorates, as well as the municipality mayors shall be obliged to suspend any activities and construction within forests, land tracts and aquatic areas allocated for use within any protected areas constituting state, municipal or private property where performed in violation of the management plans and spatial-development plans and schematic designs as endorsed.

Article 80

The coercive administrative measures shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedures Act.

Section II

Administrative Violations and Sanctions

Article 81

- (1) A fine of BGN 500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000 will be imposed on any natural person who:
 1. shall perform any activities within a protected area in violation of the regime determined by this Act, the designation order or any endorsed management plans and designs under Chapter Four herein;
 2. shall perform any activities within a protected area without a permission or clearance provided for in this Act.
- (2) Where the activity referred to in Items 1 and 2 of Paragraph (1) shall be construction, it will be punishable by a fine of BGN 5,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000, and where the said activity is development of areas, it will be punishable by a fine of BGN 2,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000.
- (3) Minor cases under Paragraph (1) shall be punishable by a fine of BGN 5 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 100.

Article 82

A fine of BGN 500 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 will be imposed on any official who:

1. shall allow or order, or fail to penalize, any activities or construction within a protected area in violation of the regime established by this Act, by the designation order or by the endorsed management plans and designs under Chapter Four herein;
2. shall fail to clear any activities within a protected area with the competent authorities, where no endorsed plans and projects under Chapter Four herein exist.

Article 83

- (1) A fine or a pecuniary penalty, as the case may be, of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000 will be imposed on any sole trader or juristic person who or which:
 1. shall perform any activities within a protected area in violation of the regime established by this Act, by the designation order or by endorsed plans and designs under Chapter Four herein;
 2. shall perform any activities within a protected area without a permission or clearance provided for in this Act.
- (2) Where the activity referred to in Items 1 and 2 of Paragraph (1) shall be construction or development of areas, it will be punishable by a fine of BGN 5,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 50,000.
- (3) Minor cases under Paragraph (1) shall be punishable by a fine of BGN 100 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 1,000.

Article 84

- (1) Any corporeal movables subject to a violation and any corporeal movables which have served for commission of any such violation within any protected area constituting exclusive state property shall be confiscated.
- (2) The sale of any corporeal movables referred to in Paragraph (1) shall follow a procedure established by a regulation of the Council of Ministers.

Article 85

- (1) Any violation covered under Articles 81 and 83 herein shall be ascertained by a written statement drawn up by an official designated by the Minister of Environment and Water or by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, or by the Municipality Mayor. The penalty decrees shall be issued, respectively, by the Minister of Environment and Water, by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, or by the Municipality Mayor, or by persons authorized thereby.
- (2) Any violation covered under Article 82 herein shall be ascertained by a written statement drawn up by an official designated by the Minister of Environment and Water, and the penalty decrees shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Water or by persons authorized thereby.
- (3) The ascertainment of violations, the issuance, appeal against and execution of penalty decrees shall follow the procedure established by the Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act.

Article 86

(Amended, SG No. 91/2002, repealed, No. 77/2002)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

§1. Within the meaning of this Act:

1. "Land tracts" shall be any tracts of agricultural land within the meaning of the Agricultural Land Tenure Act.
2. "Forests" shall be any forests and land tracts of the forest stock within the meaning of the Forests Act.
3. "Aquatic areas" shall comprehend the inundated areas of the forest stock, the land stock and the continental shelf.
4. "Dispersed settlements" shall comprehend country house zones, industrial zones and resort complexes.
5. "Parks of national significance" shall be the parks listed in Annex 1 hereto.
6. "Strict nature reserves" shall be the reserves listed in Annex 2 hereto.
7. "Biological diversity" shall be the variability among living organisms from all sources, including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species, and diversity of ecosystems.
8. "Ecosystem" shall be any dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.
9. "Habitat of a species" shall be any region defined by specific abiotic and biotic factors, wherein the said species is present at any stage of the life cycle thereof.

10. "Genetic resources" shall be any material of plant, animal or micro-organism origin, containing functional units of heredity and possessing actual or potential value.
11. "Rare species" shall be any species whereof the populations are small in size and, if not immediately then indirectly endangered within the meaning of Item 12.
12. "Endangered species" shall be any species threatened with extinction within the entire or a large portion of the geographic range thereof.
13. "Endemic species" shall be any species restricted to a particular geographic region.
14. "Relict species" shall be any species which was widespread in past geological eras but at present has a small occupancy area or home range.
15. "Spatial-development plans and schematic designs" shall be the spatial-development plans, construction plans and others that are subject matter of other laws.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

- §2.** (1) (*Amended, SG No. 98/1999 & No. 28/2000*) Within three months after the entry of this Act into force, the part of the Rila Park, incorporating the forests in the forest stock of the Municipality of Rila, Region of Kyustendil, according to the forest-management design of the Rila Monastery State Forestry Unit of 1990, Section: 1a - d, f, g, 1, 2; 2; 3; 4 a - e, 1 - 3; 7a - e, 1 - 3; 8 - 12; 14a - c, 1, 8 - 11; 15a, b, 1, 2, 9; 16a - g, m, 1 - 5; 17 - 45; 46a - i, 1 - 5; 47 - 74; 75d - k; 76; 77a - k, 1, 3 - 5; 78d - 1, 6; 79b - p, 2 - 5; 80 - 82; 83e - s, 4 - 9; 84h - x; 8 (part), 9 - 19; 85; 86a - dd, 2 - 5; 87e - q, 2 - 5; 88a - s, 3 - 6; 89 - 91; 101 - 108; 113 - 117; 119; 120; 121a - f, 1, 2; 400 - 410, of an aggregate size of 14,370.7 hectares, as well as the high-mountain pastures and meadows of the Municipality of Rila, Region of Kyustendil, of an aggregate size of 13,000 hectares, shall be recategorized as a natural park to be known by the name of "Rila Monastery Natural Park".
- (2) (*Amended, SG No. 28/2000*) The provisions of Article 21 herein shall be applied in the management plan of the Rila Monastery Natural Park.
- (3) Any protected areas which, at the time of passage of this Act, fall within nucleated settlements, shall retain the protected area status thereof and shall be recategorized according to this Act.
- §3.** (*Supplemented, SG No. 28/2000*) Within three years after the entry of this Act into force, all protected areas other than such listed in the Annexes to this Act, shall be recategorized where necessary as one of the categories of protected areas referred to in Items 3, 5 and 6 of Article 5 herein.
- §4.** (*Amended, SG No. 28/2000*) The boundaries of the recategorized protected areas shall be delimited within the time limits specified in § 2 and 3 herein.
- §5.** (*Supplemented, SG No. 28/2000*) Until recategorization of the protected areas referred to in § 2 and 3 herein, the pre-existing regimes thereof shall subsist unless modified according to the procedure established by Chapter Three of this Act.
- §6.** (*Amended, SG No. 28/2000*) (1) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall consult the Regional Governors on the draft designation orders for any protected areas in respect of which the procedures had been implemented according to the procedure established by the Nature Conservation Act prior to the entry of the Protected Areas Act into force.

(2) Any designation orders for protected areas referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be issued in pursuance of Article 39 (1) herein.

§7. The owners and users referred to in Article 11 herein shall clear with the Ministry of Environment and Water any activities as the said owners and users plan to perform within the protected areas where no management plan exists or where any such activities are not provided for in the plans and designs under Chapter Four herein, regardless of the permits required under other laws.

§8. The Nature Protection Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 47 of 1967; amended in No. 3 of 1977, No. 39 of 1978, No. 28 of 1982, No. 26 of 1988, No. 86 of 1991, No. 85 of 1997 and No. 11 of 1998) shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

1. In Paragraph (2) of Article 9, the word "cultivation" shall be replaced by "use by order of the Minister of Environment and Water, which shall be promulgated in the *State Gazette*".

2. Article 11 shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

(a) in Paragraph (1), sentence two shall be amended to read as follows:

"It shall be impermissible to use wild animals in quantities and for periods of time leading to endangerment of populations or interfering with the normal reproduction thereof";

(b) the following three new paragraphs shall be inserted:

"[(2)] The wild animal species whereof the populations are endangered shall be placed under a special regime of protection and use by order of the Minister of Environment and Water, after consulting the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and any such order shall be promulgated in the *State Gazette*.

[(3)] It shall be prohibited to capture, kill and use any wild animals by the means and methods specified in the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats.

[(4)] Any specimens of plants and animals or any readily recognizable part or derivative thereof of any species included in the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora shall be imported, exported and re-exported by a permit issued by the Ministry of Environment and Water."

(c) the existing Paragraph (2) shall be renumbered to become Paragraph (5), and the words "Bulgarian Academy of Sciences" therein shall be replaced by "Ministry of Environment and Water".

3. Articles 14 to 20 shall be amended to read as follows:

"[Article] 14. [(1)] Individual wild plant and animal species, which are rare or in danger of extinction, are of interest to science, or are the subject of international conventions or treaties whereto the Republic of Bulgaria is a party, shall be designated as protected.

[Article] 15. It shall be prohibited to:

1. pick, collect, cut or uproot any protected plants, and to sell and export any such plants;
2. hunt, capture or kill any protected animals, destroy the lairs, nests or eggs thereof, as well as sell and export any such animals.

[(2)] Any exemption from the provisions of Paragraph (1) shall be determined by the order referred to in Article 19 herein.

[Article] 16. [(1)] Individual centuries-old or remarkable trees inside or outside nucleated settlements shall be designated as protected.

[(2)] It shall be prohibited to uproot, cut, prune or destroy or otherwise damage any centuries-old trees that have been designated as protected.

[Article] 17. [(1)] Buffer zones, intended to contain the anthropogenic impact on the reserves, shall be designated around the strict nature reserves and the managed nature reserves designated under the Protected Areas Act.

[(2)] Any activities or construction as specified in the designation order shall be prohibited or restricted in the buffer zones.

[Article] 18. [(1)] Any proposals for designation of centuries-old trees and buffer zones shall be studied by a commission consisting of representatives of state bodies and municipalities, natural and juristic persons and non-governmental organizations concerned.

[(2)] The commission referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be appointed by the directors of the regional authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Water.

[(3)] The commission referred to in Paragraph (1) shall compile a dossier or shall reject the proposal.

[(4)] The dossier referred to in Paragraph (3) shall include minutes recording a proposal to designate the sites, the regime of protection thereof and a plat, and shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Water.

[Article] 19. [(1)] Any sites covered under Article 14, Article 16 (1) and Article 17 herein shall be designated by order by the Minister of Environment and Water after consultation with the central-government departments concerned.

[(2)] Any order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be promulgated in the State Gazette.

[Article] 20. Designation of centuries-old trees as protected and of buffer zones shall not alter the ownership thereof."

4. Articles 21 to 27 shall be repealed.

5. In Article 37, after the words "Article 10 (2)", the conjunction "and" shall be deleted and there shall be added "Article 11", and after the words "Article 12" there shall be added "Article 15 (1), Article 16 (2) and Article 17 (2)".

6. A new Article 37A shall be inserted to read as follows:

"[Article] 37A. A pecuniary penalty or a fine, as the case may be, of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5000 will be imposed on any juristic person or sole trader which or who shall be blameworthy of any violation of Article 4 (2), Article 9 (2), Article 11, Article 15 (1), Article 16 (2) and Article 17 (2) herein."

7. Throughout the Act, the words "Minister of Agriculture and Forestry", "the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry" and "the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry" shall be replaced by "Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Agrarian Reform", "the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Agrarian Reform" and "Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Agrarian Reform", respectively, and the words "people's councils" and "the Chairmen of the Executive Committees of the Municipal People's Councils" shall be replaced by "the municipalities" and "the municipality mayors", respectively.

§9. In the Penal Code (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 26 of 1968; corrected, No. 29 of 1968; amended and supplemented in No. 92 of 1969, Nos. 26 and 27 of 1973, No. 89 of 1974, No. 95 of 1975, No. 3 of 1977, No. 54 of 1978, No. 89 of 1979, No. 28 of 1982; corrected in No. 31 of 1982; amended and supplemented in No. 44 of 1984, Nos. 41 and 79 of 1985; corrected in No. 80 of 1985; amended and supplemented in No. 89 of 1986; corrected in No. 90 of 1986; amended in Nos. 37, 91 and 99 of 1989, Nos. 10, 31 and 81 of 1990, Nos. 1 and 86 of 1991; corrected in No. 90 of 1991; amended and supplemented in No. 105 of 1991, No. 54 of 1992, No. 10 of 1993, No. 50 of 1995; [modified by] Constitutional Court Judgment No. 19 of 1995, [promulgated in the *State Gazette*] No. 97 of 1995; amended and supplemented in No. 102 of 1995, No. 107 of 1996, No. 62 of 1997, No. 85 of 1997; [modified by] Constitutional Court Judgment No. 19 of 1997,

[promulgated in the *State Gazette*] No. 120 of 1998; amended and supplemented in Nos. 83, 85, 132, 133 and 153 of 1998), Article 278C shall be amended as follows:

1. In Paragraph (1), the words "protected natural site" shall be replaced by "protected area or a specimen of a protected plant or animal species".
2. In Paragraph (3), the words "formations, wild animals, birds, plants etc., designated as unique" shall be replaced by "and rock formations, caves, specimens of wild plants and animals endangered on a European or a global scale, designated as protected".

§10. In the Law on ownership and use of agricultural lands (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 17 of 1991; corrected in No. 20 of 1991; amended and supplemented in No. 74 of 1991, Nos. 18, 28, 46 and 105 of 1992, No. 48 of 1993; [modified by] Constitutional Court Judgement No. 12 of 1993, [promulgated in the *State Gazette*] No. 64 of 1993; amended in No. 83 of 1993, No. 80 of 1994, Nos. 45 and 57 of 1995; [modified by] Constitutional Court Judgements Nos. 7 and 8 of 1995, [promulgated in the *State Gazette*] No. 59 of 1995; amended in No. 79 of 1996; [modified by Constitutional Court Judgment] No. 20 of 1996, [promulgated in the *State Gazette*] No. 79 of 1996; amended and supplemented in No. 104 of 1996, Nos. 62, 87, 98, 123 and 124 of 1997, Nos. 59 and 88 of 1998), Paragraph (4) of Article 24 shall be amended to read as follows:

"(4) Ownership shall not be restituted in any agricultural land incorporated into parks of national significance and nature reserves constituting exclusive state property, designated according to the procedure established by the Protected Areas Act, and over land tracts containing subsurface or surface archaeological sites inseparable therefrom."

§11. In the Forests Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 125 of 1997, amended in No. 79 of 1998), in Article 3 a new paragraph shall be added to read as follows:

"(2) The provisions of this Act shall not apply to any forests and land tracts of the forest stock within any protected areas constituting exclusive state property."

§12. In the Transitional and Final Provisions of the Law on restitution of the ownership of the forests and lands from forestry fund (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 110 of 1997, amended in Nos. 33 and 59 of 1998), a new clause shall be inserted to read as follows:

"§ 4a. The land commissions shall pronounce on claims for restoration of ownership in any forests and forest stock land tracts falling within the boundaries of national parks after delimitation of the boundaries under § 4 of the Protected Areas Act."

§13. In § 2 of the Transitional and Final Provisions of the State taxes Act (promulgated in *Transactions of the Presidium of the National Assembly* No. 104 of 1951; amended and supplemented in No. 89 of 1959, No. 21 of 1960; *State Gazette* No. 53 of 1973, No. 87 of 1974, No. 21 of 1975, No. 21 of 1990, No. 55 of 1991, No. 100 of 1992, Nos. 69 and 87 of 1995, Nos. 37, 100 and 104 of 1996, Nos. 82 and 86 of 1997), at the end of sentence one there shall be added "and the Protected Areas Act."

§14. Law on territorial and spatial development (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 29 of 1973; corrected in No. 32 of 1973; amended and supplemented in No. 87 of 1974, Nos. 3 and 102 of 1977, No. 36 of 1979, No. 3 of 1980, No. 45 of 1984, No. 19 of 1985, No. 36 of 1986, No. 14 of 1988, No. 31 of 1990; corrected in No. 32 of 1990; amended in No. 15 of 1991; amended and supplemented in No. 63 of 1995, No. 104 of 1996, Nos. 41 and 79 of 1998; corrected in No. 89 of 1998; amended in No. 124 of 1998) shall be supplemented as follows:

1. In Article 170, a new paragraph shall be added to read as follows:

"(8) Any illegal construction projects within protected areas as defined by the Protected Areas Act and within water withdrawal areas shall be subject to compulsory removal and reclamation of the ground for the account of the offender."

2. In Article 162, the following new Paragraph (5) shall be added to read as follows:

"(5) No construction projects or parts of construction projects within protected areas and water withdrawal areas shall be subject to legalization if performed without a permit or if deviating from the approved designs, as well as in violation of the Protected Areas Act."

§15. The implementation of this Act shall be entrusted to the Minister of Environment and Water, to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, to the Minister of Finance, and to the municipality mayors.

Annex 1 to Article 8 (1)
(Amended, SG No. 28/2000 & No. 77/2002)

No.	National Park Name	Administrative Region	Document Type	Document No.	Date
1.	Pirin	Blagoevgrad	Order	395	15.10.1999
2.	Central Balkan	Lovech Gabrovo Sofia Plovdiv Stara Zagora	Order	396	15.10.1999
3.	Rila	Pazardjik Sofia Kyustendil Blagoevgrad	Order	397	15.10.1999

Annex 2 to Article 8 (1)
(Amended, SG No. 28/2000 & No. 77/2002)

No.	Reserve Name	Municipality/ Land Use Area	Document Type	Document No.	Date
I. STRICT NATURE RESERVES					
1.	Silkosia	Kosti Village	Order Order CoMD*	1046 8455 1046	23.07.1931 29.04.1933 20.09.1934
2.	Parangalitsa	Blagoevgrad	CoMD* Order Order	8517 1980 523	30.12.1933 07.08.1961 09.06.1987
3.	Bayuvi Dupki - Djindjiritsa	Razlog	CoMD* Order Order	1388 301 976	29.01.1934 04.02.1976 26.12.1979
4.	Bistrishko Branishte	Vitosha National Park	CoMD* Order Order Order	15422 106 230 66	27.10.1934 24.01.1968 04.04.1980 25.01.1991
5.	Torfeno Branishte	Vitosha National Park	CoMD* Order Order	16362 602 82	01.10.1935 12.08.1980 08.02.1991
6.	Kaliakra	Bulgarevo	CoMD* Order Order	16298 356 231	27.09.1941 05.02.1966 04.04.1980
7.	Boatin	Cherni Vit Village	CoMD* Order Order Order Order Order Order	7285 1171 1700 2245 4537 993 67	12.06.1948 24.09.1951 17.07.1961 30.12.1956 17.11.1975 30.09.1983 25.01.1991
8.	Tsarichina	Ribaritsa Village	CoMD* Order Order	4942 1171 2245	18.07.1949 24.09.1951 30.12.1956

			Order	2809	10.10.1962
			Order	359	09.02.1973
			Order	281	04.05.1979
			Order	1255	22.12.1983
			Order	67	25.01.1991
			Order	500	29.06.1992
9.	Tissata	Kresna	CoMD*	6663	05.12.1949
			Order	440	09.12.1977
			Order	130	22.02.1985
			Order	844	31.10.1991
10.	Doupkata	Fotinovo Village	Order	1700	17.12.1961
			Order	3899	15.09.1975
			Order	587	08.06.1983
11.	Kamchiya	Novo Oryahovo Village	CoMD*	14829	29.06.1951
			Order	1749	27.07.1962
			Order	105	14.02.1980
12.	Gorna Topchiya	Konevets Village	CoMD*	1171	24.09.1951
			Order	754	19.07.1984
13.	Ali Botoush	Gotse Delchev Katountsi Village	CoMD*	1171	24.09.1951
			CoMD*	14825	29.06.1952
			Order	27	13.01.1981
			Order	131	22.02.1985
14.	Djendema	Karlovo	Order	606	28.03.1953
			Order	1700	11.07.1961
			Order	1080	21.10.1983
			Order	67	25.01.1991
15.	Ouzounbodjak	Kosti Village	Order	2245	13.12.1956
16.	Soskovcheto	Smolyan	Order	508	28.03.1968
17.	Skakavitsa	Sapareva Banya Village	Order	508	28.03.1968
18.	Beglika/Vassil Kolarov	Batak	Order	751	11.05.1960
			Order	482	23.06.1992
19.	Elenova Gora	Sahrane Village	Order	2200	30.08.1961
20.	Koupena	Peshtera	Order	2969	24.09.1961
			Order	3539	13.11.1973
			Order	503	11.07.1979
			Order	530	07.07.1992
21.	Chervenata Skala	Bachkovo Village	Order	2631	21.04.1962
			Order	1555	21.10.1969
			Order	1050	17.12.1990
22.	Mantaritsa	Rakitovo	Order	960	08.06.1968
			Order	3812	06.09.1975
			Order	529	07.07.1992
23.	Gornata Koriya	Berkovitsa	Order	508	28.03.1968
			Order	15	08.01.1981
24.	Byala Krava	Kostel Village	Order	508	28.03.1968
			Order	20	05.01.1974
25.	Kastraklii	Borino Village	Order	508	28.03.1968
26.	Kazanite	Mougla Village	Order	508	28.03.1968
27.	Chouprene	Chouprene Village	Order	358	09.02.1973
28.	Steneto	Cherni Ossum Village	Order	214	05.04.1979
			Order	280	04.05.1979
			Order	44	15.01.1991

29.	Sokolna	Skobelevo Village, Asen Village	Order	501	11.07.1979
			Order	9	09.01.1985
30.	Peeshti Skali	Stokite Village, Kruvenik Village	Order	502	11.07.1979
31.	Boukaka	Shoumen	Order	79	5.02.1980
32.	Beli Lom	Tsar Kaloyan, Vetovo	Order	393	12.05.1980
33.	Tsurnata Reka	Sazhdenik Village	Order	876	25.11.1980
34.	Vulchi Dol	Boynik Village	Order	877	25.11.1980
35.	Stara Reka	Karlovo	Order	200	19.03.1981
			Order	67	25.01.1991
36.	Vitanovo	Malko Turnovo	Order	1113	3.12.1981
			Order	1021	30.12.1992
37.	Kitka	Kitka Island	Order	1106	2.12.1981
38.	Vrachanski Karst	Vratsa	Order	854	10.08.1983
			Order	9	9.01.1985
			Order	1449	21.12.1989
39.	Severen Djendem	Apriltsi	Order	995	30.09.1983
			Order	9	9.01.1985
40.	Koutelka	Sliven	Order	1253	22.12.1983
41.	Orlitsata	Medven Village	Order	791	10.08.1984
42.	Kamenshtitsa	Enina Village	Order	792	10.08.1984
				9	9.01.1985
43.	Leshnitsa	Yassenovo Village	Order	793	10.08.1984
44.	Orelyak	Gotse Delchev	Order	129	22.02.1985
			Order	432	24.11.1995
45.	Ibur	Kostenets	Order	148	26.02.1985
			Order	114	24.02.1992
46.	Sokolata	Igralishte Village	Order	115	18.02.1985
47.	Rila Monastery Forest	Rila	Order	307	10.04.1986
			Order	114	24.02.1992
48.	Kozya Stena	Chiflik Village, Lovech	Order	1048	22.12.1987
			Order	67	25.01.1991
49.	Kongoura	Petrich	Order	671	15.06.1988
50.	Sredoka	Malko Turnovo	Order	75	18.01.1989
51.	Tissovitza	Bulgari Village	Order	169	16.02.1990
52.	Central Rila Reserve	Samokov	Order	114	24.02.1992
53.	Ropotamo	Tsarevo	Order	318	7.05.1992
54.	Yulen	Bansko		223	26.08.1994
55.	Milka	Belene Island	CoMD*	849	28.03.1948
			Order	2245	30.12.1956

II. MANAGED NATURE RESERVES

1.	Patleina	Veliki Preslav	Order	360	15.10.1999
2.	Dervisha	Veliki Preslav	Order	361	15.10.1999
3.	Chamdja	Hristo Danovo Village	Order	362	15.10.1999
4.	Izgoryaloto Gyune	Krichim	Order	363	15.10.1999
5.	Gabra	Tsurvaritsa Village	Order	364	15.10.1999
6.	Kazul Cherpa	Zhenda Village .	Order	365	15.10.1999
7.	Ardachluka	Borintsi Village	Order	366	15.10.1999
8.	Sreburna	Sreburna Village	Order	367	15.10.1999
9.	Bororvets	Raven Village	Order	368	15.10.1999
10.	Chamluka	Momchilgrad	Order	369	15.10.1999

11.	Shabanitsa	Trigrad Village	Order	370	15.10.1999
12.	Vulchi Prohod	Golitsa Village	Order	371	15.10.1999
13.	Momchilovski Dol	Momchilovtsi Village	Order	372	15.10.1999
14.	Amzovo	Smolyan	Order	373	15.10.1999
15.	Sini Bryag	Izgrev Village	Order	374	15.10.1999
16.	Momin Grad	Byala Reka Village	Order	375	15.10.1999
17.	Balabana	Elhovo	Order	376	15.10.1999
18.	Dolna Topchiya	Elhovo	Order	377	15.10.1999
19.	Ostritsa	Pernik	Order	378	15.10.1999
20.	Pyassuchnata Liliya	Sozopol	Order	379	15.10.1999
21.	Konski Dol	Satovcha Village	Order	380	15.10.1999
22.	Velyov Vir (The Water Lillies)	Sozopol	Order	381	15.10.1999
23.	Tumna Gora	Kovachevitsa Village	Order	382	15.10.1999
24.	Ouchilishтна Gora	Bozhenitsa Village	Order	383	15.10.1999
25.	Boraka	Surnitsa Village	Order	384	15.10.1999
26.	Vurbov Dol	Asparouhovo Village	Order	385	15.10.1999
27.	Kirov Dol	Dolen Chiflik	Order	386	15.10.1999
28.	Kalfata	Polyatsite Village	Order	387	15.10.1999
29.	Savchov Chayr	Kladni Dyal Village	Order	388	15.10.1999
30.	Haydoushki Choukar	Bouynovtsi Village	Order	389	15.10.1999
31.	Bogdan	Koprivshitsa	Order	390	15.10.1999
32.	Baltata	Obrochishte Village	Order	391	15.10.1999
33.	Lake Atanassovsko	Bourgas	Order	392	15.10.1999
34.	Persinski Blata	Belene Island	Order	393	15.10.1999
35.	Ibisha	Dolni Tsibur Village	Order	394	15.10.1999

* Council of Ministers Decree

REGULATION
on the Conditions, Procedure and Methods for Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programs

Adopted with Letter of the Council of Ministers No 139 of 24.06.2004, promulgated in State Gazette, number 57/ 2.07.2004, enforced as of 1.07.2004.

Chapter One
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. This Regulation sets forth the conditions, procedure and methods for environmental assessment of plans and programs, which are in progress and/or subject to approval by the central and local executive authorities, the local self-government authorities and the Parliament, hereinafter referred to as “environmental assessment” or “EA”.

Article 2. (1) EIAs shall be mandatory performed for the plans and programs, required under article 85, paragraph 1 of the Law for the Protection of the Environment (LPE) in accordance with Annex 1.

(2) The necessity of performing an EIA shall be established in accordance with the provisions of Annex 2 for the following:

1. plans and programs and their amendments in accordance with Annex 2, which outline the framework for future development of investment proposals under the terms of Annex 1 and Annex 2 to Article 81, paragraph 1, item 2 of the LPE;
2. plans and programs under Annex 1 of the local level for small territories;
3. amendments to the plans and programs under Annex 1;
4. plans and programs outside the scope of Annex 1 and Annex 2, in case their application is presumed to exert a substantial impact on the environment.

Article 3 (1). The Environmental impact assessment shall be performed in the following succession:

1. evaluation of the needs, the scope and methods for the EIA;
2. preparation of an EIA report;
3. consultations for learning the public opinion, the interested bodies and third parties, in case there is a chance to affect them by the plan or the program;
4. indicating the results of the above consultations in the EIA report;
5. defining the supervision and control measures under the plan or program application;
6. issuing an EIA statement;
7. supervision and control under the plan or program application;

(2) The activities under paragraph 1, item 1 - 7 or those of them that are applicable according to the respective situation shall be compatible with the stages of the procedure for preparation and approval of the plan/program under compliance with the following conditions:

1. The environmental impact assessment shall be performed simultaneously with the preparation of the plan or program and the statement thereof shall be issued prior to the plan/program approval;

2. The documentation required for the performance of an EIA under the provisions of this Regulation may be amended in compliance with the respective special law for the plan/program;
- (3) The Provisions pertaining to the EIA report shall be applied to the ecological part of the plan/program when such an assessment is required as a part of the plan/program under the conditions of a special law.

Article 4. The competent bodies for EIA of plans and programs shall be:

1. for the plans and programs approved by the central bodies of the executive power and by the Parliament – the Minister of Environment and Waters;
2. for the plans and programs, approved by the territorial bodies of the executive power or by the municipal councils – the director of the respective Regional Inspectorate for Environment and Waters (RIEW) or the Minister of Environment and Waters within the scope of their competency, as determined in Article 10, paragraph 2 of the LPE or the respective special law.

Article 5. (1) In executing their powers the bodies under Article 4 hereof shall be supported by:

1. The Interdepartmental Commission, hereinafter referred to as “the commission” – a special board of the Supreme Expert Ecological Council (SEEC) to the Minister of Environment and Waters;
 2. An Ecological Expert Council (EEC) to the Regional Inspectorate for Environment and Waters.
- (2) In the Commission and the Expert Councils under paragraph 1 except for the representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Waters (MOW) there must be mandatory representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry of Regional Development and Welfare.

Article 6. (1) The assignor of the plan/program shall ensure the assignment of the EIA and the necessary support by the experts for carrying out consultations with the bodies, responsible for the preparation and application of the plan/program, the interested and affected bodies and with the team that develops the plan or program.

(2) The assignor shall ensure the funds necessary for the implementation of an EIA.

Article 7. The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall keep a public register of the procedures for EIA of plans and programs as a database to the register under Article 102 of LPE.

Chapter Two ASSESSMENT OF THE NEED, SCOPE AND METHODS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Article 8. (1) The assigner of the plan/program shall submit a request in writing to the attention of the respective competent body under Article 4 hereof for the assessment of the need of an EIA. This request shall comprise:

1. information about the assigner (a body or a legally authorized third person): name, complete postal address, contact person – phone number, fax and email;

2. general information on the proposed plan/program:
 - a) grounds for the development of the plan/program – a legislative or an administrative act;
 - b) action period and stages of the plan/program implementation;
 - c) territorial scope (national, regional, provincial, municipal, for smaller territories) where the respective regions and municipalities are explicitly mentioned;
 - d) affected elements of the National Ecological Network (NEN);
 - e) primary purposes of the plan/program;
 - f) funding of the plan/program (for example from the state and municipal budget, international programs, finance institutions);
 - g) time and stages for the preparation of the plan or program and requirements for public discussions or other procedural form for public participation;

3. the body responsible for the plan/program implementation.

(2) The following shall be added to the request under paragraph 1 hereof:

1. plan/program characteristics with regard to:
 - a) the investment proposals under Annexes 1 and 2 to Article 81, paragraph 1, item 2 of the LPE and/or other investment proposals with probable substantial impact on the environment, to which the proposed plan or program have laid down criteria, legislation requirements and other guiding principles that are important for their future acceptance or approval with regard to their location, character, scope and exploitation conditions;
 - b) the place of the proposed plan/program in the general process or planning hierarchy, extent of the details of the forecasts;
2. justification of the specific need for the plan/program preparation;
3. information of plans and programs and investment proposals, relating the plan/program proposed, including already implemented EAs or environmental impact assessment (EIA);
4. characteristics of the affected territory and of the anticipated impacts on the environment;
5. a map or other up-to-date graphic material of the affected territory, tables, schemes, photographs and other annexes – after the assignor's discretion.

(3) For the assessment of the need of EIA of plans/programs with legally required ecological part, an assignment shall be submitted for the implementation of such plans/programs in the scope stipulated in the Territory Development Act or in another respective legislative or administrative act. The information under paragraph 2, item 1, letter "a" shall not apply for the development schemes and plans.

(4) In case the assigner is also a competent body under Article 4, the request in writing shall be submitted by the head of the structural administration body responsible for the plan/program development.

Article 9. (1) In case the request under Article 8, paragraph 1 hereof goes along with documents about the circumstances in accordance with the legally stipulated exceptions, the competent body shall confirm with an assessment, that the no EIA implementation shall be necessary for the plan/program, when:

1. the plan/program is under Article 85, paragraph 3 of the LPE and the request has been submitted by a Minister, a regional governor or a municipal mayor;
2. the plan/program has been developed for an investment proposal included in Annex 1 or 2 to Article 81, paragraph 1, item 2 of the LPE, for which an environmental impact assessment (EIA) shall be implemented under the Regulation of Article 101 of the

LPE;

3. there is duplication of the procedures for environmental impact assessment of plans and programs, which, concern protected areas from the National Ecological Network or from the management of the water basins;

4. the environmental impact assessment of the plan/program has been stipulated for in an international agreement to which the Republic of Bulgaria is a party and the EIA is assigned under the terms of a procedure stipulated therein.

(2) In case the circumstances under paragraph 1, item 3 and 4 are available, the body under Article 4 may determine mandatory requirements for the carrying out of consultations with the public together with the assessment.

Article 10. (1) In case the plan/program is required to have an ecological part under Article 3, paragraph 3, the competent body under Article 4 shall rule out that EIA shall not be assigned as an independent report.

(2) In the assessment under paragraph 1 within the term under Article 85, paragraph 5 of the LPE, the competent body shall include instructions for the ecological part in relation to the plan/program specifics, as well as to the EIA methods.

(3) If necessary, together with the assessment under paragraph 1, the competent body under Article 4 shall also give instructions for the carrying out of consultations with the public in compliance with the provisions of the LPE and this Regulation.

Article 11. When the competent body under Article 4 confirms with an assessment that an EIA shall be assigned as an independent report, in its assessment in the term under Article 85, paragraph 5 of the LPE, the body shall instruct on the report's content depending on the plan/program's specifics as well as on the methods for EIA.

Article 12. (1) The competent body shall review the request under Article 8, paragraph 1 and the annexes thereto within 14 days and shall specify the applicable procedure under Article 3, paragraph 1 for each specific case.

(2) In case of incomplete documents, omissions or inaccuracies in the request or in the submitted documentation, the assignor shall be required to correct these in writing and/or to submit additional information within a specified term.

(3) In case the inaccuracies are not corrected and/or no additional information is submitted within the term under paragraph 2, the request reviewing procedure shall be cancelled and the submitted documentation shall be returned to the plan assignor.

(4) The time that shall be determined for the correction of inaccuracies and omissions in the documentation shall not be included in the pronouncement term under Article 85, paragraph 5 of the LPE.

Article 13. (1) The competent body under Article 4 shall submit the documentation presented together with the request under Article 8, paragraph 1 for getting a statement by the specialized competent bodies of the Ministry of Health and if necessary – to the municipal authorities and other specialized bodies, and the term for an answer by the above bodies shall be thirty days.

(2) In case the respective authorities do not present a statement within the term under paragraph 1, then it shall be presumed that there are no objections, comments and suggestions on the documentation.

Article 14. (1) The competent body under Article 4 shall assess the need of performing an EIA, by determining the extent of importance of the impact on the environment and the human health based on:

1. the information presented by the assignor under Article 8 hereof;
2. the criteria under Article 85, paragraph 4 of the LPE;
3. the statements under Article 13 hereof.

(2) Within the term under Article 85, paragraph 5 of the LPE, the body under Article 4 shall pronounce an assessment for the need of performing an EIA, that shall comprise:

1. the assigner's data and the data for the proposed plan/program;
2. motives;
3. conclusion.

(3) In case the assessment is that the respective plan/program shall not be subjected to an EIA, the motives shall include detailed grounds for the respective conclusion, i.e. that the plan/program implementation does not presume any substantial impact on the environment.

Article 15. Within 7 days after the pronouncement under Article 9, paragraph 1, Article 10, paragraph 2 or Article 14, paragraph 2, the competent body shall:

1. present an assessment of the plan/program to the assigner and the assigner shall be obliged to make it public within three days from its obtaining via the assigner's web site and/or in another appropriate manner, including the manner for issuing the plan/program assignment as per the provisions of the respective special law (promulgation, publication in an official bulletin, etc.);

2. provides information on the assessment and for the access to the assessment by posting an announcement on the web sites of the Ministry of Environment and Waters and/or the RIEW and in their respective premises.

Chapter three

PREPARING AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Article 16. (1) The development of an EIA report or the ecological part of the plan/program shall be assigned to experts registered under Article 83, paragraph 9 of the LPE.

(2) The experts under paragraph 1 hereof shall present a declaration under Article 83, paragraph 1 of the LPE.

(3) The experts under paragraph 1 shall not be personally interested, in case:

1. they are not assigner of the plan/program;
2. they are not related persons in the sense of paragraph 1 of the additional provisions of the Commercial Act or are not in any labor, civil or employment relations with the assigner of the plan/program;
3. are not in any labor, civil or employment relations with the competent bodies under Article 10 of the LPE;
4. are not members of the Commission / the Expert Ecological Council under Article 5 hereof or the SEEC under Article 12, paragraph 1, item 1 of the LPE.

(4) The head of the experts shall be responsible for:

1. determining the team of experts necessary for the implementation of the EIA, with regard to the plan./program specifics and the respective conditions;

2. the consideration of a scheme, proposed by the assigner, for compatibility of the planning process with the main procedural stages of the EIA in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 1, including the interaction of the teams for the plan/program development and the EIA/ecological part report;

3. the completeness and credibility of the information used for the EIA and the selection of methods for the EIA, included in the assessment under Article 10, paragraph 2 and Article 11;

4. the indication of the consultation results;

5. the impartiality of the conclusion in the report for the EIA/ecological part of the plan/program;

6. the quality of the EIA report.

(5) The expert who has developed the respective item of the EIA report shall bear the responsibility for the completeness, credibility, impartiality and quality of the respective items.

Article 17. (1) The EIA report shall be an integral document that shall include:

1. a basic part under the requirements of Article 86, paragraph 3 of the LPE and the instructions in the assessment under Article 11;

2. a list of information sources for the methods used for assessment and forecast of the impact on the environment and reference to the source whether the above have been published;

3. a list of the experts and the head of the experts who have prepared the EIA report; where every person shall certify the item(s) he/she has developed by placing his/her signature;

4. copies of the certificates for entering the registry of the MEW under Article 83, paragraph 4 of the LPE;

5. declarations under Article 16, paragraph 2 hereof;

6. references for the carried out consultations and the opinions and suggestions obtained thereafter as well as the way they have been indicated.

(2) In the reference under paragraph 1, item 6, the assigner of the EIA report and the registered experts shall describe the comments, recommendations or suggestions that they have taken into account or have disregarded and shall enclose the documents they have prepared about the consultations results (protocols, statements, enquiries, etc.).

(3) As a separate independent annex to the EIA report there shall be a non-technical summary written in common language that should be not less than 10 percent of the original report. Besides the text the summary shall contain also the necessary visual materials (maps, photographs, schemes).

Article 18. (1) The assigner may require the competent body under Article 4 to make a review of the report quality of the EIA/ecological part of the plan/program, by presenting the report/ a copy of the ecological part.

(2) The body under Article 4 shall check the compliance of the report with:

1. the procedural rules;

2. the requirements for content and accuracy of the presented information;

3. the applicable legislation and administrative requirements.

(3) The body under Article 4 shall notify the assigner about the results from the quality check within 14 days.

Chapter Four
CARRYING OUT CONSULTATIONS AND INDICATING THE RESULTS THEREOF

Article 19. (1) The assigner shall organize consultations with the public, the interested bodies and third parties that might be affected by the plan or program.

(2) The bodies under Article 4 shall ensure the discussions under paragraph 1 hereof, when they are concurrently an assigner of the plan/program.

(3) The consultations shall be performed as per a scheme developed by the assigner, and in the cases under Article 9, paragraph 2 and Article 10, paragraph 3, the scheme shall follow the instructions of the competent body.

(4) The consultations with the public, the interested bodies and third parties shall be performed under the provisions for compatibility of the draft with the legislative act or the individual administrative act, which approves the plan or program, as well.

Article 20. (1) The consultations shall include:

1. Publication of an announcement for the consultation that shall include:

a) the information under Article 8, paragraph 1, as well as the information for the bodies that approve and implement the plan/program;

b) a public place and announced time for seeing the plan/program draft, the EIA report and the materials thereto;

c) a term for communicating a statement, which shall not be less than 14 days;

d) a manner for communicating the statement, which shall not be only via internet or other electronic media;

2. Ensuring:

a) access and adequate technical opportunity for seeing the materials of the EIA report, the draft of the plan/program and the visual material for each of the evaluated alternatives;

b) a registered expert or a person with the necessary qualifications from the planning team who shall be responsible for providing additional verbal clarifications on the spot;

c) the acceptance of the statements that have been communicated within the scheduled term.

(2) The consultations may be performed in one or more of the following manners:

1. sending announcements to the central and territorial authorities of the executive power and to the municipal councils;

2. preparing and distributing a leaflet or a brochure with brief information on the plan/program;

3. organizing expert or public groups under the assessment scope;

4. sending opinions, suggestions, statements and recommendation to the EIA report team and the assigner via regular mail or email;

5. public discussions.

(3) The announcement under paragraph 1, item 1 shall be posted on the assigner's web site and/or via another publicly accessible manner.

Article 21. (1) The public discussion of the EIA report shall be mandatory when:

1. it is required under the provisions of a special law for the draft plan/program;

2. there are more than two motivated negative statements or suggestions for

alternatives, indicated in the EIA report or during the consultations.

(2) The public discussions shall be performed in the following succession:

1. the assigner shall notify in writing the body under Article 4, as well as the bodies that have participated in the consultations, for the availability of circumstances under paragraph 1, and sets the place, date and time for holding the public discussion;

2. the assigner shall notify in writing the persons who have presented a statement under paragraph 1, item 2, and after their own discretion may notify in writing other persons, bodies and organizations for the public discussion as well;

3. the public discussion shall be convened earliest 7 days after the notification under item 1 and shall be headed by the assigner or by a person who has been duly authorized by the assigner;

4. the assigner shall ensure the attendance of the head of the independent experts during the public discussion; the independent experts shall briefly introduce the attending people to the plan or program and the respective results from the implemented EIA;

5. minutes of the public discussion shall be kept by a person determined by the assigner; the minutes shall be signed by the representative of the assigner and by the minutes-keeper and the written statements presented in advance or during the discussion shall be enclosed to the minutes;

6. the person under item 5 shall provide the materials with the results from the public discussion to the assigner within three days after the discussion date.

Article 22. If as a result of the consultations it becomes necessary to consider and evaluate other alternatives, opinions or suggestions to the plan or program, the assigner shall assign an amendment to the EIA report and shall assess the need of continuing the consultations, including a new public discussion under Article 21, paragraph 2.

Chapter Five

ANNOUNCEMENT OF A STATEMENT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Article 23. (1) The assigner shall require a statement for EIA by the competent body under Article 4, to which the assigner shall enclose:

1. the EIA report and the non-technical summary - in three copies on hard copy and soft copy;

2. documents for the results of the public consultations and the consultations with the interested and affected bodies and persons.

(2) In the cases under Article 3, paragraph 3, the assigner shall submit a request supplemented by a copy of the ecological part of the plan/program.

(3) The request under paragraph 1, that has not been submitted according to the requirements shall be returned to the assigner within 7 days with the respective instructions.

(4) The assigner shall provide access to the plan/program draft and the supplementing documentation, including the results of the public consultations to the representatives of the competent body under Article 4.

Article 24. (1) Within 7 days after submitting the request under Article 23, paragraph 1, the body under Article 4, based on the documentation shall propose measures for the supervision and control of the plan or program implementation.

(2) The body under Article 4 shall send to the assigner and the body responsible for the plan/program implementation, the suggested measures under paragraph 1 and shall stipulate a term for their concurrence, that shall not be shorter than 7 days.

(3) If within the term under paragraph 2 there is no answer, it shall be deemed that there are no objections and the measures shall be accepted as a condition for the plan/project implementation.

Article 25. (1) Within 30 days after submitting the request under Article 23, paragraph 1, the competent body under Article 4 shall pronounce a statement based on a decision of the Commission/ the Expert Ecological Council under Article 5, paragraph 1.

(2) To decide under paragraph 1 the commission/the expert council shall evaluate the documents under Article 23, paragraph 1 and 2 for compliance with the requirements for:

1. structure and content of the EIA report under Article 86, paragraph 3 of the LPE;
2. the profile of the report, including the necessary enclosures;
3. credibility and up-to-date of the data sources;
4. consideration of reasonable alternatives, including a "zero" alternative, for achieving the primary goals of the plan/program;
5. compatibility of the goals and the measures of the plan/program with the main goals and priorities of the National Environmental Strategy and with the municipal environmental programs of the affected municipalities;
6. organization for developing the EIA report along with the plan/program;
7. indicate the consultation results in the EIA report.

(3) In the decision under paragraph 1 the commission/the expert council shall include the measures under Article 24, paragraph 1, agreed with the assigner and with the body responsible for the plan/program implementation.

Article 26. (1) The competent body under Article 4 shall pronounce a statement on the EIA and shall:

1. concur the plan/program, when the estimations of the plan/program comply with the legal requirements for the environment and as a result of the consultations there are not any motivated objections in terms of legal compliance;
2. not concur the plan/program, when the estimations of the plan/program do not comply with the legal requirements for the environment and/or in the EIA report there are certain motivated objections against its implementation or there are motivated objections in terms of legal compliance;

(2) The statement shall comprise:

1. motives for the conclusion for the preferred alternative in terms of the environment, including the consideration of the results of the consultations of the interested bodies and the public;
2. measures for prevention, decreasing or possibly complete remedy of the presumable unfavorable consequences of the plan/program implementation for the environment;
3. the measures of supervision and control of the plan/program implementation, including regular reports on the control and supervision.

Article 27. (1) The EIA statement shall be given to the assigner within 5 days of its announcement and shall be announced together with the plan/program in the assigner's

web site and/or in another appropriate manner, including the manner for announcing the plan/program, as stipulated in the respective special law.

(2) The competent body shall ensure access to the EIA statement content after its announcement.

(3) The access to the EIA report/ the ecological part of the plan or program shall be performed under the provisions of Chapter Two of the LPE.

Chapter Six

SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE PLAN/PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Article 28. The body under Article 4, that has issued the statement under Article 26, paragraph 1, item 1, or a duly authorized person under Article 14, paragraph 2 of the LPE shall be competent for the supervision and control of the measures as indicated in the EIA statement, during the plan/program implementation.

Article 29. (1) The assigner shall be obliged within 14 days prior to the final adoption or approval of the plan/program to send to the bodies under Article 28 and to the bodies responsible for the plan/program implementation a summarized reference, including analysis of:

1. the plan/program compliance with the main results and recommendations in the EIA report and with the results from the consultations included in the EIA statement;

2. the plan/program compliance with the grounded alternative in the EIA statement under Article 26, paragraph 2, item 1 for reaching the goals of the plan/program;

3. the extent to which the measures under Article 26, paragraph 2, item 2 and 3 have been provided for in the plan or program.

(2) The body under Article 28 shall pronounce in writing on the reference under paragraph 1 within 7 days after its submission and shall notify the body that approves the plan thereof.

Article 30. (1) The assigner shall prepare a report on the supervision and control during the plan/program implementation, including the measures for prevention, decreasing or remedy of the ecological damages as a result of the plan/program implementation on the regular basis, as determined in the EIA statement.

(2) The body under Article 28 shall approve the report under paragraph 1 or shall return it for amendments with mandatory instructions.

(3) The assigner shall ensure public access to the report under paragraph 1 and the reference under Article 29, paragraph 1.

Article 31. (1) In the cases when there is no request under Article 8, paragraph 1, reference under Article 29, paragraph 1, the procedure has been cancelled with the returning of the documents to the assigner or if the announcement under Article 29, paragraph 2 or under Article 30, paragraph 2 is negative, the competent body under Article 28 may discontinue the plan/program preparation and implementation depending on the implementation stage, as a compulsory administrative control measure, as well as may propose to other control bodies to undertake measures under their competence.

(2) The institutions that control the funding of the plan/program with budget and public finances, shall notify the bodies under Article 28 for any ascertained violations of

the requirements for EIA implementation as well as for non-observance of the measures under Article 26, paragraph 2, items 2 and 3.

Chapter Seven IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

Article 32. Environmental impact assessment of plans and programs with transboundary impact shall be implemented in compliance with the requirements of the LPE, this Regulation, the Convention on the Environmental Impact Assessment in Transboundary Context (The Convention on EIATC), ratified by an act (State Gazette, number 86 of 1999) and an international agreement between the Republic of Bulgaria and any affected country or countries.

Article 33. The competent body for the EIA procedure in transboundary context shall be the Minister of Environment and Waters. The other bodies related with the environment shall be obliged to provide in due timing any information they have received on any implemented procedures and to support the competent body and the assigners.

Article 34. (1) In case it has been assessed that a plan/program proposed for EIA will most probably have a substantial impact on the environment of the territory of another country or counties, to which the Republic of Bulgaria is a source country, the Minister of Environment and Waters shall notify the assigner and the affected country or countries thereof and shall determine a term for an answer whether the respective country will participate in the procedure.

(2) In the notification under paragraph 1 hereof, shall be indicated the following:

1. the affected country or countries;
2. data on the assigner;
3. the term when the assigner shall be obliged to send a copy of the plan/program, including an ecological part or the EIA report, after being informed about the contact person in the affected country;
4. the term when the affected country shall provide the necessary information on the contact person under item 3 hereof.

(3) In case of a positive answer by the affected country, with enclosed decision of the competent national body for participation in the procedure, the transboundary aspects shall be taken into account and bilateral or multilateral interstate consultations shall be held for reaching an agreement about:

1. the procedure for notification and providing opportunities for expressing a statement by the competent bodies for protection of the environment and healthcare and the affected public in a specified term;
2. defining a reasonable term for the consultations duration;
3. ensuring access to the EIA statement.

Article 35. The environmental impact assessment of the plans and programs with transboundary impact, implemented on the territory of other countries, to which the Republic of Bulgaria is the affected country, shall be performed in the following succession:

1. when obtaining a notification for a plan/program that will be implemented on

the territory of another country with a presumable substantial impact on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, within the term specified in the notification the MEW shall notify the country of source for its decision to participate or not to in the EIA procedure:

a) in case of expressed consent the national procedure of the country of source shall be followed, unless stipulated otherwise in an international agreement to which the republic of Bulgaria is a party;

б) the Minister of Environment and Waters shall ensure public access to the presented information on EIA under the conditions of Article 20 and shall send in due timing all statements on the documentation prior to the decision of the competent body of the other country;

2. in case there is no notification by the country of source about a plan/program with transboundary context, which might have a substantial impact on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, the MEW shall make the necessary steps in front of the competent body of the country of source for holding consultations for participation in the procedure.

ADDITIONAL REGULATION

§ 1. In the sense of this Regulation:

1. "Country of source" shall be a party to an agreement or a party to the Convention on IECC or to the Protocol for strategic environmental impact assessment to the Convention above, as well as any other country, under whose jurisdiction shall be implemented the plan/program.

2. "Affected country" shall be a party to an agreement or a party to the Convention on IECC or to the Protocol for strategic environmental impact assessment to the Convention above, as well as any other country, that might be affected by transboundary impact of the plan/program on the environment.

3. "Body responsible for the implementation of the respective plan/program" shall be the body as stipulated in the respective legal or administrative act, and when such body has not been explicitly provided for – the assigner.

MISCELLANEOUS

§ 2. (1) The environmental impact assessments and enforced decisions under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of plans and programs, that have been performed prior to the enforcement of this Regulation, shall remain in force.

(2) Procedures for EIA of plans and programs, for which an assignment has been approved under Article 7, paragraph 1 of the repealed Regulation № 2 from 2003 for the procedures for environmental impact assessment of the national, regional and province development plans and program, the development plans and their amendments (State Gazette, number 24 from 2003), shall be finalized under the provisions of this Regulation.

(3) For a period of 24 months from the date of enforcement of this Regulation for plans and programs and their amendments under Article 1 – that are in preparation process, and that have not been approved by a central or a territorial body of the executive power and by a municipal council or the draft of the such plan/program has not been submitted to the Parliament as of the date of enforcement of this Regulation, then the need for an EIA shall be assessed under the provisions of Chapter Two.

§ 3. (1) The assigners of plans/programs in the areas under Article 85, paragraph 1 of the LPE, that are developed and adopted on the grounds of a legislation or

administrative act, or amendments to the above plans/programs, which have been enforced after July 1st, 2004, shall notify the Minister of Environment and Waters upon the enforcement of the respective act.

(2) In case of any changes in the names of the plans/programs under Annexes 1 and 2 due to legal changes, the requirements for EIA shall apply for the respective plans/programs according to the new requirements.

§ 4. The Minister of Environment and Waters shall provide instructions on the application of this Regulation.

§ 5. (1) This Regulation shall be adopted on the grounds of Article 90 of the LPE.

(2) This Regulation shall be in force as of July 1st, 2004.

Annex 1 to Article 2, paragraph 1

Plans and programs, for which the implementation of environmental impact assessment is mandatory

(Area under Article 85, paragraph 1 of the LPE /legislative act/plan or program)

1. Agriculture

1.1. Irrigation Co-Operations Act

TM Strategy for Irrigated Agriculture

2. Forestry

2.1. Forests Act

TM National Strategy for Long-term Development of the Forests and the Forestry in the Republic of Bulgaria

TM Program for Accelerated Forestation of the Deforested and Eroded Regions in the Country through Stimulation of Alternative Employment

3. Fish Husbandry

3.1. Fish Husbandry and Aquacultures Act

TM National Program for the Fish Husbandry and Aquacultures

4. Transport

4.1. Roadways Act

TM Medium-term and Long-term Programs for Development of the Roadways Network

4.2. Railway Transport Act

TM Program for the Development of the Railway Transport and the Railway Infrastructure

TM Long-term Program for Development of the Railway Infrastructure and its Safe and Reliable Exploitation, Including Crisis Situations (Acts of God, Acts of Terrorism and Warfare)

5. Power Generation industry

5.1. Power Generation Act

TM Strategy for the Power Generation in the Republic of Bulgaria

5.2. Power Generation Efficiency Act

TM National Long-term Programs for Power Generation Efficiency

6. Waste Management

6.1. Waste Management Act

TM National Program for Management of the Waste Collection Activities

7. Water Resources Management

7.1. Waters Act

TM National Water Administration Plan

TM Plans for River Basins Management

8. Industry, including Extraction of Underground Resources

8.1. Underground Resources Act

TM Strategy for Exploration, Research and Extraction of the Underground Resources and Preservation of the Earth Core on the Territory of the Republic of Bulgaria in the Continental Shelf and in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Black Sea.

9. Telecommunications

9.1. Telecommunications Act

TM Sector Policy that Comprises the Strategy, Principles and Development Stages in the Telecommunications.

10. Tourism

10.1. Tourism Act

TM Strategy for the Development of Tourism

10.2. National Strategy for Eco-Tourism

11. Development Planning and Land Utilization

11.1. Territory Development Act

TM National Complex Development Scheme

TM Regional Development Scheme

TM General Development Plans

11.2. Approval and Application of the General Development Plan of the City of Sofia Act

TM General Development Plans of the City of Sofia and the Municipality of Sofia

11.3. Regional Development Act

TM National Operational Program for Regional Development

TM Regional Development Plans

Annex 2 to Article 2, paragraph 2, item 1

Plans and programs, for which the need of environmental impact assessment is subject to assessment

(Area under Article 85, paragraph 1 of the LPE /legislative act/plan or program)

1. Agriculture

1.1. Agricultural Land Ownership and Utilization Act

TM Plans for the Formation of Large Agricultural Land Areas and their Utilization

1.2. Agricultural Land Preservation Act

TM Short-term and Long-term Programs for Improvement of the Production Qualities of the Agricultural Lands and their Protection from Erosion, Pollution, Salination, Oxidation and Creation of Marshlands

- 1.3. Animal Husbandry Act
 - ™ Strategy for Development of the Animal Husbandry by Sub-sectors
- 1.4. Irrigation Co-operations Act
 - ™ Plan for Irrigation and Water Distribution
 - ™ Program for Design, General Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of the Hydro-melioration Infrastructure
- 1.5. Wine and Spirit Beverages Act
 - ™ National Strategy for Development of the Vine-cropping and Wipe Production in the Country
- 1.6. Tobacco and Tobacco Products Act
 - ™ National Strategy for Development of the Tobacco production
- 2. Forestry
 - 2.1. Forests Act
 - ™ Forestry Development Projects
- 3. Transport
 - 3.1. Roadways Act
 - ™ Programs for Development and Improvement of the Republican Roads
 - 3.2. Civil Air Flights Act
 - ™ General Plan for Development of the Airport
 - 3.3. Sea Areas, Internal Water Roads and Ports in the Republic of Bulgaria Act
 - ™ General Plans for Building, Reconstruction or Enlargement of the Ports and the Navigation Equipments
- 4. Power Generation
 - 4.1. Power Generation Act
 - ™ National Long-term and Short-term Programs for Stimulation of the Utilization of Replenishing Energy Sources
 - 4.2. Energy Efficiency Act
 - ™ National Short-term Programs for Energy Efficiency
 - ™ Target Annual Programs for Implementation of Measures for Energy Efficiency
 - 4.3. Safe Utilization of Nuclear Energy Act
 - ™ Strategy for the Management of the Utilized Nuclear fuel and the Radioactive Waste
- 5. Waste Management Act
 - 5.1. Waste Management Act
 - ™ Municipal programs for management of the Waste Collection Activities - as part of the municipal environmental programs (Article 79 of the LPE)
- 6. Water Resources Management
 - 6.1. Waters Act
 - ™ National Programs for Building, Enlargement, Reconstruction and Modernization of Equipments and/or Systems for Water Utilization and Preservation
 - ™ National Programs for Priority Building of City Water Treatment Stations for Waste Waters for Towns of Population above Ten Thousand Equivalent People in the Republic of Bulgaria
 - ™ National Programs in the field pf protection and sustainable development of waters
 - ™ Programs for Decreasing the Pollution of Water and the Water Sites
- 7. Industry, including underground resources extraction
 - 7.1. Underground Resources Act
 - ™ Strategy and Approved Long-term Plans for Geological Researched
- 8. Tourism

- 8.1. Tourism Act
 - ™ Municipal Program for Development of Tourism
- 8.2. Strategy for Development of Cultural Tourism
- 9. Development Planning and Land Utilization
 - 9.1. Territory Development Act
 - ™ Detailed Development Plans
 - ™ Specialized Detailed Development Plans
 - 9.2. Approval and Application of the General Development Plan of the City of Sofia Act
 - ™ Detailed Development Plans of the City of Sofia and the Municipality of Sofia
 - 9.3. Regional Development Act
 - ™ Municipal Development plans
 - 9.4. Protected Territories Act and Biological Diversity Act
 - ™ Plans for Management of Protected Zones and Protected Territories (excluding the reservoirs)
 - 9.5. Protection of the Soil from Pollution Act
 - ™ Programs for development of water treatment processing equipment with funds allocated by the state and the municipal budgets in all existing industrial plants, animal cropping farms, etc, as well as in separate units that pollute the soil with solid and liquid polluters.

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MEDICINAL PLANTS ACT

*Promulgated, State Gazette No. 29/7.04.2000
Amended, SG Nos. 23/1.03.2002, 91/25.09.2002*

Chapter One

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

- (1) This act shall regulate the management, conservation and sustainable exploitation activities with regard to medicinal plants, including the collection and buy-out of herbs obtained thereof.
- (2) The provisions of this act shall apply to medicinal plants in a list in the Annex hereto, regardless of the ownership thereof.

Article 2

The provisions of this act shall not apply to:

1. The use of herbs for treatment or prevention purposes;
2. Activities of persons using herbs, whether or not processed, for the production of medications, foodstuffs and cosmetics, except as regards accounting for herbs purchased, sold or stored.

Article 3

Research, development, growth, and use of medicinal plants on the continental shelf and the exclusive economic zone shall be regulated in accordance with the provisions laid down in Concessions Act

Article 4

Medicinal plants are a natural resource; therefore fees pursuant to this law shall be paid for their exploitation.

Chapter Two

CONSERVATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS

Article 5

- (1) Medicinal plants in their natural habitats shall be subject to protection from deterioration and destruction, to the aim of ensuring their sustainable exploitation as part of the natural vegetation genetic fund, of present or future value.
- (2) Conservation of medicinal plants shall be operated as a system of measures and activities aimed at maintaining biodiversity of medicinal plants and their resources.
- (3) Conservation shall comprise maintenance and conservation of ecosystems where medicinal plants are found, and of their habitats, as well as maintenance and restoration of viable populations of species.

- (4) Deterioration of medicinal plants shall be a change in their population, which leads to deterioration in biodynamic indicators or hinders their natural restoration.
- (5) Destruction shall be the deterioration leading to extinction of the population.

Article 6

Conservation of medicinal plants is focused on biological resources thereof in their natural environment, including genetic resources, separate specimens of plant species, populations of species and ecosystems, containing said populations.

Article 7

- (1) Owners of lands, forests, waters and water bodies, representing natural habitats of medicinal plants, shall be under the obligation to apply the measures for conservation of medicinal plants set out in the relevant plans, programs and projects pursuant to Article 50 items 2, 3 and 4.
- (2) In the case of deterioration in habitats of species or in populations of medicinal plants, used as a source of herbs, the owner shall take the requisite measures for restoration of environmental conditions, leading in turn to restoration of the population.
- (3) In the cases set out in paragraph 2, as well as when plans, programs and projects do not duly provide for the conservation of medicinal plants or when environmental conditions have considerably changed, the owner shall submit a written request to the relevant Regional Inspectorate for Environment and Water, which shall affix these measures.
- (4) The inspectorate shall issue a prescription on grounds of the request under paragraph 3 regarding:
 1. Re-establishment of the light, temperature or water regime in the habitat of species;
 2. Carrying out certain soil cultivation and fertilization, irrigation, re-sowing or other measures to prevent spreading of undesirable plant species;
 3. Terms and conditions for using the habitat.

Article 8

When the site or the activity - subject to concession - are different from the site under Article 3, a concessionaire shall have the obligations under Article 7, paragraphs 1 and 2, in case the right to use medicinal plants has been made part of the concession contract, or the obligations set out in Article 7, paragraph 1, where medicinal plants have been excluded from a specific right of exploitation.

Article 9

Exploitation of medicinal plants by methods and means resulting in deterioration of their natural habitats, depletion of their resources, hindering restoration of populations or decreasing their biodiversity, as well as in violation of the provisions of Article 27, shall be prohibited.

Article 10

- (1) Certain wild species of medicinal plants shall be granted a special regime of conservation and exploitation, in case their biodiversity or resources have a strong tendency towards depletion or a risk indicative of such a tendency has been registered.

- (2) The special regime shall be annually granted by 10 February with an Order issued by the Minister of Environment and Water, to be published in the State Gazette.
- (3) The special regime shall cover:
 1. Temporary prohibition of the collection of medicinal plants from natural habitats of species on the territory of the country, from certain regions or single natural habitats;
 2. Establishment of annual quotas, by regions or natural habitats, for the collection of herbs;
 3. Adoption and implementation of measures for the restoration of populations and their habitats.
- (4) Herbal quotas in the Order under paragraph 2 shall be distributed among persons processing medicinal plants by the Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water.
- (5) Distribution pursuant to paragraph 4 shall be implemented in accordance with an Order issued by the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water on the basis of an Order of the Minister of Environment and Water concerning the terms and conditions for the distribution of herbal quotas, to be promulgated in the State Gazette.

Article 11

Collection of genetic material from medicinal plants under a special regime within natural habitats with the aim of cultivation shall be allowed in an Order issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 12

Collection, buying out, primary processing and trade in herbs of medicinal plants under a special regime of conservation and exploitation in violation of the provisions of the order referred to in Article 10, paragraph 2 shall be prohibited.

Article 13

Herbs of medicinal plants under a special regime that have been collected shall be accompanied by the following documents until they reach end users:

1. An Order issued by the Director of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water pursuant to Article 10, paragraph 5, where herbs have been collected from their natural habitats;
2. A Certificate issued by the relevant municipality, where herbs have been collected from artificially cultivated medicinal plants;
3. Permit for exploitation of herbs pursuant to Article 21, paragraph 2.

Article 14

- (1) Plant species that have been proclaimed under protection by virtue of other acts and which have been included in a list in the Annex hereto, shall be subject to conservation in accordance with the provisions of this law.
- (2) The following activities shall be prohibited with regard to wild medicinal plants under protection:
 1. Cutting, collection, picking, uprooting, and inclusion in herbaria, irrespective of their condition and biological cycle stage.

2. Destruction and deterioration of their natural habitats;
 3. Possession, transportation, sale, and export of whole plants or parts thereof, whether or not dried;
 4. Collection of seeds, bulbs, rhizomata and other reproductive organs.
- (3) Derogations under paragraph 2, items 1, 3 and 4 with regard to medicinal plants under protection shall be allowed by Order of the Minister of Environment and Water, where specimens are taken for the purpose of:
1. Research conducted by scientific institutions, the creation and replenishment of collections at museums of natural science, higher educational institutions, botanical gardens and dendraria;
 2. Establishment of cultivations for artificial propagation;
 3. Restoration of deteriorated populations within their natural habitats or re-introducing these in the wild.
- (4) Conditions and procedures for issuing an Order under paragraph 3 shall be laid down in a Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 15

- (1) With regard to conservation of biodiversity of medicinal plants within protected areas and of natural processes within ecosystems of which they are part, the following requirements shall be observed:
1. All activities within reserves with regard to medicinal plants shall be prohibited, except for collecting seed material and medicinal plants for the purpose of scientific research or for re-introducing these plants in other areas in such quantities, methods and periods that shall exclude deterioration of ecosystems;
 2. Within national parks the following activities shall be prohibited:
 - a) Collection of herbs and wild fruits of plants, included in a list in the Annex hereto, within areas, designated in the Management Plans and projects as provided for in Protected Areas Act;
 - b) Disturbances to the biodiversity of medicinal plants, the introduction of species of medicinal plants not native to the site inclusive;
 - c) Collection of rare, endemic, relict and protected species of medicinal plants;
 - d) Other activities with regard to medicinal plants, as provided for in the Order for Designation of Protected Areas or in a Management Plan.
 3. In the management process of natural sites provision shall be made for measures regarding the conservation of medicinal plants and their habitats on their territory in addition to the measures for conservation, maintenance or restoration of natural sites,
 4. All activities related to medicinal plants within the territory of reserves subject to maintenance shall be prohibited, except for the activities regarding maintenance and restoration of populations and their natural habitats in accordance with the Management Plan, as well as collecting of seed material and medicinal plants for the purpose of scientific research or for re-introducing these plants in other areas;
 5. The activities referred to in paragraph 1, items 2, b), c) and d) within the territory of nature conservation parks shall be prohibited;

6. The following activities regarding medicinal plants shall be prohibited within protected areas:
 - a) Execution of activities in defiance to requirements for conservation, maintenance and restoration of populations and conditions in their habitats;
 - b) Their exploitation, if provided so in the Regulation for designation of protected areas.
- (2) Derogations of paragraph 1, items 1 and 4 shall be regulated by ad hoc Order of the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (3) For the purpose of conservation of medicinal plants within protected areas requirements set out in Article 16, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 and Article 17, paragraph 1 shall be observed.

Article 16

- (1) For the purpose of conservation of medicinal plants within lands and forests included in the Forestry Fund, preventive and current measures shall be adopted on a long-term and short-term projection basis.
- (2) Measures pursuant to paragraph 1 shall include maintenance of soils, of a light, temperature and water regime within habitats of medicinal plants, as well as activities and regimes aimed at ensuring a favorable conservation status and restoration of populations and resources of medicinal plants.
- (3) With regard to priority habitats and species of medicinal plants, including rare or endangered species, appropriate biological, chemical, mechanical and integrated methods of conservation shall be developed and implemented in certain areas or habitats.
- (4) Grazing of domestic animals in forests and lands, which are part of the Forestry Fund, in contravention of the provisions for conservation of certain species of medicinal plants shall be prohibited.

Article 17

- (1) For the purpose of conservation of medicinal plants within farm lands:
 1. All the information available on medicinal plants within the territory of the relevant municipality, on land suitability for their propagation, as well as the information on obligations and recommendations regarding the use of land, including the use of environment friendly technologies for propagation of plants in every municipality, shall be made available to owners and users of farm lands,
 2. In case of changing the intended use of farm lands for non-agricultural purposes, environmental impact assessment reports or the opinions of the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water - where an environmental impact assessment is not required - shall specify the impact of the site and/or activity over the conservation status and sustainable development of medicinal plants.
- (2) With regard to medicinal plants within farmlands requirements laid down in Article 16, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be observed.

Article 18

For the purpose of conservation of medicinal plants within construction boundaries of populated areas territorial structure schemes and plans shall set forth requirements for the protection of medicinal plants against deterioration and destruction.

Article 19

- (1) For the purpose of conservation of medicinal plants within waters and water bodies, requirements to the quantity and quality of waters laid down in river basin Management Plans shall be based also on data from monitoring and assessment of medicinal plants.
- (2) Requirements set out in paragraph 1 shall also apply to the procedure for permit delivery for the use of waters and water bodies, as well as during the construction and exploitation of water utilization systems and equipment.

Chapter Three

EXPLOITATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS

Section I

General Provisions

Article 20

- (1) Exploitation of medicinal plants shall be the exploitation of their resources and it shall include:
 1. Collection of herbs of wild and artificially propagated medicinal plants;
 2. Purchasing of herbs intended for primary or further processing;
 3. Collection of genetic material from wild medicinal plants for the purpose of artificial propagation, for conservation out of the natural environment of medicinal plants or for re-introduction into other areas.
- (2) Obtainment of genetic material from artificially propagated medicinal plants shall be provided for in Seed Stock and Planting Stock Act and also in Protection of New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds Act.

Article 21

- (1) Collection of herbs from natural habitats of medicinal plants shall be carried out in accordance with requirements herein laid down, as well as with provisions made in the relevant plans, programs and projects pursuant to Section II of Chapter Four of the present.
- (2) Exploitation of medicinal plants, as provided for in Article 20, paragraph 1, items 1 and 3, which is deemed to constitute a form of economic activity, shall be carried out on the basis of a permit for exploitation, issued in compliance with this law.
- (3) A permit under paragraph 2 shall not be required when herbs for personal use are collected within lands, forests and water bodies that are property of the state or the municipality.
- (4) A permit shall not be required either when medicinal plants have been artificially propagated by owners or users of lands, forests or water bodies, except in case of artificial propagation carried out by the relevant municipality.

Article 22

A permit for the exploitation of medicinal plants shall be issued by:

1. The Director of the State Forestry Unit - where exploitation occurs in lands and forests part of the Forestry Fund, as follows:

- a) With regard to forests within the State Forestry Fund - following payment of a fee to the relevant forestry unit;
 - b) With regard to forests that are municipal property - following payment of a fee to the relevant municipality;
 - c) With regard to forests that are private property a permit shall be issued in the name of the owner without payment of a fee and the opportunity for remission to third parties shall be made available with or without payment, as a result of free negotiations and following registration at the State Forestry Unit
2. The Mayor of the relevant municipality in the case of exploitation within:
 - a) Farmlands included in the land fund and those, that are property of the municipality, included in construction boundaries of populated areas, following payment of a fee to the relevant municipality;
 - b) Territories and water territories, that are property of the municipality, within construction boundaries of populated areas, irrespective of their intended use, following payment of a fee to the relevant municipality;
 - c) Territories and water territories, that are private property, and have not been included in the Forestry Fund, the permit shall be issued in the name of the owner in accordance with the procedure laid down in item 1, c);
 3. The Regional Governor, in the case of exploitation within farmlands, waters and water bodies that are property of the municipality, either within the boundaries of populated areas, or which have been included in the land fund, following payment of a fee to the regional administration;
 4. The Director of the National Park Directorate, in the case of exploitation within territories and water territories of national parks, following payment of a fee to the relevant Directorate.

Article 23

- (1) For the collection of herbs and genetic material from medicinal plants, either wild, or artificially propagated by the municipality, persons shall pay exploitation fees.
- (2) Fees paid shall not be refunded when exploitation has not been carried out or has been suspended before the expiry date, laid down in the exploitation permit, and this has occurred due to a fault of the exploiter.
- (3) Fees paid shall be refundable when exploitation has not been carried out or has been suspended before the expiry date, laid down in the exploitation permit, due to a fault of authorities, referred to in Article 22 and in the case of a *force majeure* as provided for in Commerce Act.

Article 24

- (1) Fees for the exploitation of medicinal plants within lands, forests, waters and water bodies that are property of the State, shall be determined in a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.
- (2) Fees for the exploitation of medicinal plants within lands, forests, waters and water bodies that are municipal property, shall be determined by the relevant Municipal Councils at an amount not to exceed fees under paragraph 1.

Article 25

- (1) Fees pursuant to Article 23, paragraph 1 shall go to:
1. The Bulgarian Forest National Fund, in the case of exploitation of natural habitats located within lands, forests, waters and water bodies included in the National Forestry Fund;
 2. *(Amended, SG 91/2002)* The Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities, in the case of exploitation of habitats within the territory of national parks;
 3. *(Amended, SG 91/2002)* The budget of the relevant municipality, in the case of exploitation of habitats within forests, lands, waters and water bodies that are municipal property and are included, either in towns and villages, or in the Forestry and land funds;
 4. The State Budget in the case of exploitation of habitats within farmlands, waters and water bodies that are property of the State and are included, either in the boundaries of populated areas, or in the land fund.
- (2) Fees referred to in Article 23, paragraph 1 shall be used for:
1. Planning documentation under Article 50;
 2. Activities for the maintenance and restoration of medicinal plants and their natural habitats;
 3. Scientific research and monitoring of medicinal plants;
 4. *(Amended, SG No. 23/2002)* Development and upkeeping of specialized maps, a register and an information system on medicinal plants;
 5. Artificial propagation and processing of medicinal plants;
 6. Training, publication of training materials, conferences on medicinal plants;
 7. Other activities related to management and control, as provided for in this law.

Article 26

An exploitation permit shall be issued in the name of a natural person collecting medicinal plants for the purpose, either of sale or primary processing, or for genetic material from medicinal plants; it shall specify:

1. The type of exploitation,
2. The quantity of medicinal plants or genetic material allowed, specified per types of morphologic organs,
3. The area or particular habitat,
4. The method of exploitation.

Article 27

The method of exploitation shall be laid down in a Regulation on the Rules and Requirements for the Collection of Herbs or Genetic Material from Medicinal Plants, issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 28

Issuing of exploitation permits in violation either of the provisions made according to the relevant plans, programs and projects or of the special regime referred to in Article 10, paragraph 1, shall be prohibited.

Article 29

- (1) Buying out and/or primary processing of herbs shall be carried out at stations for the primary processing of herbs.
- (2) Storing of dried herbs shall occur in herb storage facilities.
- (3) Stations for the primary processing of herbs and herb storage facilities shall meet the requirements, laid down in a special Regulation jointly issued by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 30

- (1) Primary processing of herbs shall consist of drying, cutting, dedusting, decontamination and baling.
- (2) The minimum primary processing at stations shall at least comprise drying of herbs.

Article 31

- (1) A person who processes herbs shall be the one who buys out collected herbs and/or performs the primary processing thereof.
- (2) Persons processing herbs shall be obligated to:
 1. Notify the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water of stations for the primary processing of herbs and herb storage facilities established by him before undertaking any activities therein;
 2. Keep a log record, registered at the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water, for quantities of herbs bought out, sold and available;
 3. Provide access of supervising authorities, referred to in this law, for control over herbs available or subjected to primary processing and to requisite documentation;
 4. Submit by 31st of January summary information on herbs bought out, processed and sold in the course of the previous year, as well as on stored quantities available, to the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water.

Article 32

- (1) Buying out of unprocessed herbs may be carried out by persons, other than persons performing herb processing, for the needs of production technologies requiring unprocessed herbs.
- (2) Persons referred to in paragraph 1, as well as those storing herbs in herb storage facilities, shall be obligated to comply with requirements laid down in Article 31, paragraph 2.
- (3) Drugstores and traders in the pharmaceutical, perfumery, cosmetic and food industries which have purchased herbs in the course of their activities, shall be obligated to comply with requirements laid down in Article 31, paragraph 2, item 4.

Article 33

Fresh or processed herbs bought out shall be accompanied by documents referred to in Article 13, items 2 and 3.

Section II

Procedure for Issuing Exploitation Permits

Article 34

Persons applying for permit shall submit an application to the authorities under Article 22, specifying:

1. The name, address and ID card data of applicant;
2. Species and quantities to be collected;
3. The area where collection will take place.

Article 35

The authorities referred to in Article 22 shall issue a permit within one day of submission of the application, except where additional information is required, but no later than 5 days after application was lodged.

Article 36

Exploitation permits shall be issued in the filing order of the applications.

Article 37

- (1) For the purpose of determining quotas the authorities under Article 22 shall assess the projections made in planning documents set out in this law, including also documents at the project stage.
- (2) When the documents referred to in paragraph 1 have not entered into force or projects have not been developed, the amount of quotas shall be determined by the authorities under Article 22.

Article 38

The authority under Article 22 shall refuse to issue licenses when quantities of medicinal plants under planning documentation have been exhausted, through a reasoned opinion in writing within a time limit under Article 35.

Article 39

A permit issued in accordance with the provisions of the above articles, as well as a refusal under Article 38 shall be subject to appeal by the parties concerned, following the procedure laid down in Administrative Procedure Act.

Article 40

Alterations to permit may only be made by the authority that issued it, when a permit holder has requested changes with regard to species, quantities or the site for collection.

Article 41

- (1) The authority under Article 22 shall suspend an exploitation permit, if damage to or destruction of habitats of medicinal plants have occurred as a result of activities conducted by the permit-holder.
- (2) The order referred to in paragraph 1 shall be subject to appeal following the procedure provided for in Administrative Procedure Act.

Chapter Four MANAGEMENT

Section I Powers of Executive Authorities

Article 42

- (1) The management of conservation and sustainable exploitation activities with regard to medicinal plants shall be carried out by:
 1. The Minister of Environment and Water and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry,
 2. Regional Governors,
 3. Mayors of municipalities,
 4. Directors of National Park Directorates,
 5. The Head of the National Forestry Board at the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- (2) The management of artificial propagation activities with regard to medicinal plants shall be carried out by:
 1. The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry;
 2. Mayors of municipalities.

Article 43

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall manage and coordinate the development and implementation of State Policy on conservation and sustainable exploitation of medicinal plants, including its integration into sectoral policies.
- (2) In order to exercise his/her activity under paragraph 1, the Minister of Environment and Water, within his/her powers, shall:
 1. Manage the development of a National Strategy on Medicinal Plants and shall put it forward for adoption by the Council of Ministers;
 2. Coordinate monitoring functions of executive authorities with regard to medicinal plants;
 3. Organize a system for control and assessment of wild medicinal plants as regards their condition and exploitation;
 4. (*Amended, SG No. 23/2002*) Organize the collection, updates and submission of data on medicinal plants as provided for in Article 32 paragraph (1), item 1 of Cadastre and Property Register Act, and shall establish and maintain a specialized map, a register and an information system on these.

5. Together with the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry put forward for adoption by the Council of Ministers tariffs for exploitation of wild medicinal plants within lands, forests, waters and water bodies that are property of the State;
 6. Designate medicinal plants under a special regime of conservation and exploitation.
- (3) A Consultation Expert Council on Medicinal Plants shall be established to assist the Minister in discharging his obligations.
 - (4) The Consultation Expert Council shall exercise the functions of a state and public authority in the field of medicinal plants and shall include representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Water, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Health, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, non-governmental organizations, the National Association of Municipalities, branch and scientific organizations, etc.
 - (5) The Minister of Environment and Water shall issue a Regulation on the Structure and Activities Performed by the Consultation Expert Council on Medicinal Plants.

Article 44

- (1) The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall provide for the propagation, selection and plant protection of medicinal plants, as well as for their sustainable exploitation on the territory of forestry and land funds.
- (2) For the purpose of carrying out the activities under paragraph 1 the Minister shall:
 1. Determine the policy on conservation and exploitation of medicinal plants outside construction boundaries of populated areas in accordance with the National Strategy referred to in Article 50, item 1;
 2. Manage and coordinate activities with regard to propagation of medicinal plants through the organization of:
 - a) Selection, introduction, maintenance of varieties and variety testing,
 - b) Production and control of sowing and planting material,
 - c) Development of environment-friendly technologies of propagation,
 - d) Maintenance of collections and seed banks outside their natural environment.
 3. Promote activities related to the artificial propagation of medicinal plants;
 4. License the importation and exportation of sowing and planting material of medicinal plants;
 5. Organize the maintenance and re-introduction of medicinal plants within lands, forests, waters and water bodies that are property of the State.

Article 45

- (1) Regional Governors shall secure compliance of municipal programs on environmental protection with the National Strategy with regard to medicinal plants.
- (2) For the purpose set out in paragraph 1 Regional Governors shall:
 1. Coordinate the development of municipal programs referred to in paragraph 1;
 2. Be in charge of the conservation of wild medicinal plants within lands included in the land fund that are property of the State and issue permits for the exploitation of medicinal plants.

Article 46

Mayors of municipalities shall manage local executive activities with regard to the exploitation, conservation and propagation of medicinal plants, through:

1. Implementing the activities with regard to medicinal plants included in a municipal program for environmental protection;
2. Issuing permits for the exploitation of medicinal plants within lands, waters and water bodies that are municipal property;
3. Issuing certificates for herbs of artificially propagated medicinal plants;
4. (*Amended, SG No. 23/2002*) Submitting information to the Minister of Environment and Water in response to the need for monitoring and assessment of medicinal plants and for the establishment and maintenance of a specialized map and a register thereof.

Article 47

Directors of National Park Directorates shall:

1. Organize preservation of medicinal plants on the territory of the park and shall control their exploitation and reproduction,
2. Issue permits for exploitation of medicinal plants on the territory of the park,
3. Provide the Minister of Environment and Water information in accordance with the provisions of Article 46, item 4.

Article 48

The Head of the National Forestry Board with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry shall:

1. Control the exploitation and reproduction of medicinal plants within the Forestry Fund,
2. Provide for and organize activities for the conservation and preservation of medicinal plants within the Forestry Fund,
3. Provide the Minister of Environment and Water information in accordance with the provisions of Article 46, paragraph 4.

Article 49

The Director of the State Forestry Unit shall:

1. Organize the preservation of medicinal plants within state and municipal Forestry Funds on the territory of the forestry unit;
2. Issue permits for the exploitation of medicinal plants within the state and municipal Forestry Funds on the territory of the forestry unit.

Section II

Planning Documentation on Conservation and Exploitation of Medicinal Plants

Article 50

For the purposes of conservation and sustainable exploitation of medicinal plants the following documents shall be developed:

1. A National Strategy on Medicinal Plants - by the Minister of Environment and Water,
2. A Medicinal Plants Section within the Management Plans in compliance to Protected Areas Act - on request of the Minister of Environment and Water,
3. A Medicinal Plants Section within the municipal program on environmental protection - by the Mayor of the relevant municipality,
4. A Medicinal Plants Section within projects, plans and programs for forest management in compliance with Forestry Act - by the Head of the National Forestry Directorate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Article 51

The National Strategy on Medicinal Plants shall contain:

1. A description and analysis of:
 - a) The conservation status of medicinal plants on the territory of the state as regards their range, genetic fund, resources, features of their habitats, conservation of ecosystems and habitats, level of exploitation and restoration,
 - b) Factors influencing ecosystems, populations, the genetic fund and medicinal plant resources,
 - c) Resources of medicinal plants together with information about their present or future value.
2. Prognosis about:
 - a) Quantitative and qualitative characteristics of medicinal plants and their resources,
 - b) The exploitation of medicinal plants.
3. Strategic decisions with regard to:
 - a) Possible directions to achieve sustainable development of medicinal plants,
 - b) Objectives and indicators to be achieved with regard to resources and biodiversity, tasks and activities ranked in stages and by priority, the means of achieving the objectives set, including those having an impact over unfavorable factors influencing the natural environment of medicinal plants,
 - c) Financial and other resources for achieving the objectives set out in item 3, b).

Article 52

The National Strategy shall specify requirements to the policy, plans and programs in economic sectors or activities, in order to ensure conservation of habitats, biodiversity of medicinal plants and of their resources within the natural environment.

Article 53

The National Strategy shall be developed for a period of 20 years and shall be up-dated each 5 years.

Article 54

The National Strategy shall be adopted with a decision of the Council of Ministers.

Article 55

Medicinal Plants Sections referred to in Article 50, items 2, 3 and 4 shall contain:

1. A location description for natural habitats of medicinal plants, a description of their features, of the quantity and condition of their resources;
2. An analysis of the activities on conservation of ecosystems, including medicinal plants, in order to ensure their sustainable exploitation and the conservation of their resources;
3. Priority measures for conservation of resources and biodiversity of medicinal plants, including rare or endangered species;
4. Selection and regulation of territories which are not under protection, but require adequate management aimed at the sustainable exploitation of medicinal plants therein;
5. Proposals for the development of regional legislative acts on the ways of land utilization in compliance with the provisions laid down in legislative acts and plan documentation of higher ranking.

Section III

System for Monitoring and Assessment of Medicinal Plants. Specialized Map and Register

(Title, amended, SG No. 23/2002)

Article 56

- (1) With regard to wild medicinal plants a system for long-term monitoring and assessment of their populations and resources and of their exploitation shall be established and implemented, aimed at due identification of negative processes, prognostication of their development, avoidance of adverse effects and determination of the effectiveness of conservation measures with regard to medicinal plants.
- (2) Monitoring and assessment referred to in paragraph 1 shall be organized by the Ministry of Environment and Water and shall represent an integral part of the National Operation System for Environmental Monitoring (NOSEM).
- (3) State and regional authorities, within their powers and within the functions of relevant administrations, shall be obligated to provide the Ministry of Environment and Water data on monitoring and assessment objectives under paragraph 1.
- (4) The Minister of Environment and Water shall approve:
 1. A methodological description for performing monitoring and assessment of populations of medicinal plants;
 2. A Regulation on the Exploitation, Maintenance, Communicative Support and Information Services Provided to the Laboratory Network for the Purposes of Research on Plant Material.

Article 57

(Amended, SG No. 23/2002)

- (1) The specialized map and register of medicinal plants shall supply data on the location, boundaries, size and ownership of habitats, the conservation status of medicinal plants, the quantity of reserves and the level of exploitation of their resources.

- (2) The map and register under paragraph 1 shall be public and shall be kept to secure the conservation and sustainable exploitation of medicinal plants.
- (3) Data from Medicinal Plants Sections in plans, programs and projects under Article 50, items 2, 3 and 4, as well as data from monitoring and assessment under Article 56 shall be used for the elaboration and upkeeping of the specialized map and register.
- (4) Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water National Park Directorates shall create and upkeep a specialized map and register of medicinal plants within the territory under their control, and data therefrom shall be summarized and systematized by the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (5) The contents of the specialized map and register of medicinal plants and the terms and conditions for their creation and upkeeping shall be laid down in a Regulation issued by the Minister of Environment and Water and the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.
- (6) Persons shall use data from the specialized map and register of medicinal plants after payment of a fee in accordance with a tariff adopted by the Council of Ministers.
- (7) The terms and conditions for provision of data from the specialized map and register under paragraph 1 shall be set forth in a Regulation issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Chapter Five

CONTROL

Article 58

The Minister of Environment and Water shall control:

1. The implementation of the State Policy on conservation and sustainable exploitation of medicinal plants,
2. The condition of the medicinal plants genetic fund on the territory of the State and its sustainable exploitation,
3. The introduction of species of medicinal plants, which are not native.

Article 59

Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water shall control:

1. The implementation of Management Plan provisions under Article 50;
2. Compliance with special regimes under Article 10, paragraph 1,
3. Activities of persons processing herbs at herb processing stations and herb storage facilities,
4. The nature and quantities of herbs subject to processing,
5. Conservation of natural habitats and exploitation of medicinal plants,
6. Persons collecting herbs or genetic material, with regard to species and quantity, as well as the methods and means of collecting.

Article 60

The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall control sowing and planting material from medicinal plants.

Article 61

Regional Governors shall control exploitation of medicinal plants within lands, waters and water bodies included in the land fund, which are property of the State.

Article 62

Municipality Mayors shall control exploitation of medicinal plants within lands, waters and water bodies, which are municipal property and are included in the land fund within the boundaries of populated areas.

Article 63

Directors of National Park Directorates shall control:

1. The implementation of Management Plans regarding medicinal plants;
2. The exploitation of medicinal plants within the territory of national parks.

Article 64

The State Forestry Unit shall control the exploitation and reproduction of medicinal plants within the Forestry Fund.

Chapter Six

PENAL ADMINISTRATIVE LIABILITY

Article 65

- (1) Where in violation of Art. 7, paragraphs 1 and 2 measures for conservation of medicinal plants are not applied, as required under the relevant plans, programs and projects, the individual or entity at fault shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 1,000 or, correspondingly, to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 3,000.
- (2) The sanction under paragraph 1 shall also apply to persons who fail to abide by the instructions for medicinal plants conservation of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water.

Article 66

Where in violation of Article 12 individuals or entities collect, buy out, conduct primary processing or trade in herbs of medicinal plants under a special regime of conservation and exploitation and in violation of the Article 10, paragraph 2 Order provisions, they shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 3,000.

Article 67

- (1) Any person, who in violation of Article 14, paragraph 2, item 1, cuts, collects, picks, uproots, or includes protected medicinal plants in Herbaria, irrespective of their condition and the stage of their biological cycle, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 3,000.

- (2) Any person who, in violation of Article 14, paragraph 2, item 2, destructs and deteriorates the natural habitats of protected medicinal plants, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 7,000, correspondingly to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 10,000.
- (3) Any person who fails to abide by Article 14, paragraph 2, item 3 and keeps, transports or exports whole plants or parts of protected plants, whether or not dried, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 3,000, correspondingly to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 5,000.
- (4) Any person, who collects seeds, bulbs, rhizomata and other reproductive organs of protected plants in violation of Article 14, paragraph 2, item 4, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 3,000.

Article 68

Any person who, in violation of Article 14, paragraph 3, establishes or replenishes collections of protected plants, establishes cultivations for artificial propagation, restores reduced populations in their natural habitats or re-introduces them in the wild in the absence of an order of the Minister of Environment and Water or in violation of provisions or requirements therein contained, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 2,000, correspondingly to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 6,000.

Article 69

- (1) Any person who, in violation of Article 15, paragraph 1, items 1 and 4, performs activities with regard to medicinal plants in reserves and special areas for protection subject to maintenance, in the absence of a written order of the Minister of Environment and Water or in violation of the provisions or requirements therein contained, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 3,000, correspondingly to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 6,000.
- (2) Any person who, in violation of Article 15, paragraph 1, item 2, introduces species in national parks who are not native to the site, collects herbs and wild fruits of plants, included in the list in the Annex, from areas, different from the ones designated under Protected Areas Act, and who collects rare, endemic, relict and protected species of medicinal plants and performs other activities prohibited by the Regulation for Designation of Protected Areas or by the Management Plan, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 2,000, correspondingly to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 5,000.
- (3) Any person who acts in violation of the prohibition under Article 15, paragraph 1, item 5 by introducing species of medicinal plants not native to the site in nature conservation parks; by collecting rare, endemic, relict and protected species of medicinal plants or by performing other activities, related to medicinal plants, prohibited by the Regulation for Designation of Protected Areas or by the Management Plan, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 2,000 or a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 5,000.
- (4) Any person who, in violation of Article 15, paragraph 1, item 6, carries out activities related to medicinal plants in defiance to requirements set out under the regime of the protected area or under a Management Plan, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 2,000 or a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 5,000.

Article 70

Any person who, in violation of Article 16, paragraph 4, grazes domestic animals outside the areas or places specified in forestry structure plans shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 1,000. The same sanction shall be imposed for grazing within protected areas under Article 15, paragraph 3 and for grazing in farmland under Article 17, paragraph 2.

Article 71

- (1) Any official who issues a permit in violation of Article 28, failing to observe the provisions of relevant plans, programs, and projects, as well as of the special conservation and exploitation regime Order under art. 10, s. 1, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 5,000.
- (2) Any official who issues a permit for exploitation of protected medicinal plants in violation of Article 14, paragraphs 2 and 3, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 7,000.

Article 72

Any person who, in violation of Article 21, paragraph 2, exploits medicinal plants for economic activity purposes without a permit, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 5,000.

Article 73

Any person who exploits medicinal plants by ways and means resulting in the deterioration of their natural habitats, in the depletion of their resources, or impeding the restoration of their populations or decreasing their biodiversity, as well as in violation of Article 27, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 3,000, correspondingly to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 5,000.

Article 74

Any person who, in violation of Article 31, paragraph 2, fails to notify the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water of stations for the primary processing of herbs established by him; fails to keep a log record of quantities of herbs bought out, sold and available; fails to provide access of supervising authorities to herbs - available or in primary processing; as well as fails, upon request, to submit to the inspectorate a summary of information on herbs bought out and on quantities available, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 1,000 or a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 2,500.

Article 75

Any person who, in violation of Article 32, fails to submit to the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water a summary of information on herbs bought out, sold, as well as on quantities available in store, shall be liable to a pecuniary sanction of up to BGN 5,000.

Article 76

Any official who discloses information collected under Article 74 to third parties and where the information is a commercial or company secret, shall be liable to a fine of up to BGN 5,000, unless he/she is subject to a severer sanction.

Article 77

- (1) Any violations under this Act shall be ascertained by acts in writing of competent officials, authorized by authorities under Article 42, paragraph 1.
- (2) Any penalty decrees shall be issued by the persons under Article 42, paragraph 1 or by officials by them authorized.

Article 78

Ascertainment of violations, issuing, appeal, and amendments to penalty decrees shall follow the procedures established in Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act.

ADDITIONAL PROVISION

§ 1. Within the meaning of this Act:

1. "Medicinal plants" shall be those that can be used for obtaining herbs.
2. "Herbs" shall be separate morphological plant parts or whole plants, as well as fruits and seeds obtained from them, whether or not dried, intended for treatment or prevention, production of medical preparations, foodstuffs, cosmetics, and for technical purposes.
3. "Natural habitat" shall be a habitat jointly considered with a population of wild medicinal plants.
4. "Habitat of a species" shall be a geographically distinguished area, including abiotic and biotic factors, whose parameters determine the living conditions of natural populations.
5. "Environmental conditions" shall be all abiotic and biotic factors characteristic for a habitat of species.
6. "Population" shall be a geographically distinguished aggregation of individuals of one and the same species, which are capable of a free exchange of genetic material.
7. "Sustainable exploitation" shall be the exploitation of medicinal plants in quantities, based on methods and by means that do not lead to a permanent decrease in their genetic or resource potential and allow for a long-term supplementation of needs of the present and future generations.
8. "Genetic fund" shall be the aggregation of hereditary features of organisms.
9. "Genetic material" shall be the material of plant origin, containing functional hereditary units.
10. "Medicinal plant resources" shall be the aggregation of medicinal plants, considered as a natural product used to meet the present or potential needs of man.
11. "Regime of exploitation of a natural habitat" shall be a system of measures, including a period of exploitation and a resting period for the restoration of medicinal plant resources.
12. "Biodiversity" shall be the diversity of living organisms within all types of ecosystems, as well as ecological complexes, to which they belong, including diversity within the species itself, among different species and in various ecosystems.
13. "Artificially propagated medicinal plants" shall be species, which are cultivated under controlled conditions.
14. "Priority species" shall be medicinal plants, which, due to their biological or resource value, are in need of particular measures for conservation or which have been designated as such by international agreements to which the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.

15. "Priority natural habitat types" shall be habitats of priority species of medicinal plants or those that have been designated as such by international agreements to which the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.
16. "Morphological parts" shall be the root, rhizoma, bulb, tuber, stalk, leaf or the flower of a plant.
17. "Method of exploitation" shall be instructions on the ways of collecting herbs (digging out, picking, cutting, barking), the instruments to be used and the requirements necessary for restoration of the habitat.
18. "Herbs for personal use" shall be a quantity of fresh herbs, collected by one person within a day, as specified below:
 - a) Roots, rhizomata, bulbs and tubers - up to 1 kg,
 - b) Stalks - up to 2 kg,
 - c) Leaves - up to 1 kg,
 - d) Cortices - up to 0,5 kg,
 - e) Flowers - up to 0,5 kg,
 - f) Seeds - up to 0,1 kg,
 - g) Fruits - up to 10 kg,
 - h) Buds - up to 0,5 kg,
 - i) Talus - up to 1 kg.

TRANSITIONAL AND CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

- § 2. The National Strategy on Medicinal Plants Conservation shall be developed within 3 years of the entry into force of the Act.
- § 3. (1) Medicinal Plants Sections to documents under Article 50, items 2, 3 and 4 shall be developed within 3 years of the entry into force of the Act.
 - (2) Until development of Sections under paragraph 1, within a year of the entry into force of the Act the relevant authorities shall make, on the basis of terrain research, a preliminary assessment of the resources and possibilities for exploitation.
 - (3) Research and assessment under paragraph 2 shall be made in the form of a preliminary draft of Sections under paragraph 1 to be agreed with the relevant Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water.
- § 4. Until development of Sections under § 3 any permits under this Act shall be issued by taking into account information contained in preliminary drafts under § 3, paragraph 3.
- § 5. (*Amended, SG No. 23/2002*) The specialized map and register of medicinal plants shall be set up within 5 years of the entry into force of the Act.
- § 6. Registration with relevant Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water of existing stations for buying out herbs shall be completed within 2 months of the entry into force of the Act.
- § 7. In Forestry Act (Published in SG No 125 of 1997, amended SG Nos 79 and 133 of 1998 and SG No 26 of 1999) the following amendments and supplements have been made:
 1. In Article 63:

- a) The words “cortices” and “herbs” shall be deleted in paragraph 1 and after the words “seeds” and “forest fruits”, “with the exception of such medicinal plants” shall be added,
 - b) A new paragraph 2 is inserted: “(2) The exploitation of medicinal plants shall be governed by a separate law”,
 - c) Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 shall become paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 respectively.
2. The words “lightwood and cortices” in Article 64 shall be replaced with “and lightwood”.
 3. In Article 65, paragraph 1 the word “herbs” shall be deleted and after the words “forest fruits”, “with the exception of such medicinal plants” shall be added.
 4. In Article 93, item 2 after the word “services”, “including fees for exploitation of wild medicinal plants from the state Forestry Fund” shall be added.
 5. In Article 93, items 26, 27 and 28 have been added:
 - “26. Activities for the restoration, maintenance and propagation of medicinal plants and their habitats in the State Forestry Fund;
 - 27. Supervision and assessment of medicinal plants within the Forestry Fund;
 - 28. Development and maintenance of medicinal plants cadastre.”
- § 8. In Protected Areas Act (Published in SG No 47 of 1967, amended SG No 3 of 1977, SG No 39 of 1978, SG No 28 of 1982, SG No 26 of 1988, SG No 86 of 1991, SG No 85 of 1997 and SG Nos 11 and 133 of 1998) the following amendments and supplements have been made:
1. In Article 9, paragraph 2 the words “herbs” and “valuable herbs” have been deleted.
 2. Article 14a has been added:
 - “14a. The conservation of protected medicinal plants shall be governed by a separate law.”

List of Medicinal Plants Falling under the Provisions of this Act

A			
<i>Abies alba</i> Mill.	Pinaceae		
<i>Acanthus balcanicus</i> Heyw. et Richards (A. longifolius Host)	Acanthaceae		
<i>Acanthus spinosus</i> L. (A. hirsutus)	Acanthaceae		
<i>Acer platanoides</i> L.	Aceraceae		
<i>Acer tataricum</i> L.	Aceraceae		
<i>Achillea erythropoda</i> Juz.	Rosaceae		
<i>Achillea clypeolata</i> Sm.	Asteraceae		
<i>Achillea grandifolia</i> Friv.	Asteraceae		
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> gr.	Asteraceae		
<i>Achillea nobilis</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Acinos arvensis</i> (Lam.) Dandy (Calamintha acinos Clairv.)	Lamiaceae		
<i>Acinos suaveolens</i> (S. et S.) G. Don.	Lamiaceae		
<i>Aconitum licoctonum</i> L. ssp. neapolitanum (Ten.) Nym. (A. Lamarckii Reichenb.)	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Aconitum variegatum</i> L. (A. cammarum Jacq.)	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Acorus calamus</i> L.	Araceae		
<i>Actaea spicata</i> L.	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i> L.	Adiantaceae		
<i>Adonis aestivalis</i> L.	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Adonis vernalis</i> L.	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i> L.	Adoxaceae		
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i> L.	Hippocastanaceae		
<i>Aethusa cynapium</i> L.	Apiaceae		
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> L.	Rosaceae		
<i>Agrimonia odorata</i> All.	Rosaceae		
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Ajuga chamaepitris</i> (L.) Schreb.	Lamiaceae		
<i>Ajuga laxmannii</i> (L.) Benth.	Lamiaceae		
<i>Alcea pallida</i> (W.K.) Bess.	Malvaceae		
<i>Alcea rosea</i> L.	Malvaceae		
<i>Alchemilla flabellata</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla achtarowii</i> Pawl.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla acutiloba</i> Opiz.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla anisiaca</i> Wettst.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla asterolanthe</i> Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla catachnoa</i> Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla cinerea</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla connivens</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla crinita</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla fissa</i> Gunt. et Schum.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla glabra</i> Neygenf.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla glaucescens</i> Wallr.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla gorceensis</i> Pawl.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla gracilis</i> Opiz.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla gracillima</i> Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla grossidens</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla incisa</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla indivisa</i> (Buser.) Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla jumrukczalica</i> Pawl.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla mollis</i> (Buser) Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla monticola</i> Opiz.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla obtusa</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla pawlowskii</i> Assen.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla plicata</i> Gand.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla pyrenaica</i> Dufour.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla reniformis</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla subcrenata</i> Buser.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla viridiflora</i> Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla xathochlora</i> Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alchemilla bulgarica</i> Rothm.	Rosaceae		
<i>Alisma plantago</i> L.	Alismataceae		
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> (Bieb.) Cavara et Grande.	Brassicaceae		
<i>Allium rotundum</i> L.	Liliaceae		
<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> L. (A. sibiricum L.)	Liliaceae		
<i>Allium scorodoprasum</i> L.	Liliaceae		
<i>Allium ursinum</i> L.	Liliaceae		
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Betulaceae		
<i>Althaea officinalis</i>	Malvaceae		
<i>Alyssum alyssoides</i> L.	Brassicaceae		
<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L.	Amaranthaceae		
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i> (L.) L. C. Rich.	Orchidaceae		
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Primulaceae		
<i>Anchusa officinalis</i> L.	Boraginaceae		
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i> L.	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Anemone ranunculoides</i> L.	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Anemone sylvestris</i> L.	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Anethum graveolens</i> L.	Apiaceae		
<i>Angelica archangelica</i> L.	Apiaceae		
<i>Angelica panicii</i> Vand.	Apiaceae		
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i> L.	Apiaceae		
<i>Antennaria dioica</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Asteraceae		
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Anthemis tinctoria</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> L.	Poaceae		
<i>Anthriscus cerefolium</i> (L.) Hoffm.	Apiaceae		
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> L.	Fabaceae		
<i>Aquilegia nigricans</i> Baumg. (A. vulgaris L.)	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Arctium minus</i> Bernh.	Asteraceae		
<i>Arctium nemorosum</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Arctium tomentosum</i> Mill.	Asteraceae		
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> (L.) Spreng.	Ericaceae		
<i>Aristolochia clematitis</i> L.	Aristolochiaceae		
<i>Aristolochia rotunda</i> L.	Aristolochiaceae		
<i>Artemisia absinthium</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Artemisia alba</i> Turra	Asteraceae		
<i>Artemisia annua</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Artemisia campestris</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Artemisia lerchiana</i> Weber	Asteraceae		
<i>Artemisia santonicum</i> L. ssp. patens (Neilr.) K. Pers. (A. maritima L.)	Asteraceae		
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Arum italicum</i> Mill.	Araceae		
<i>Arum maculatum</i> L.	Araceae		
<i>Asarum europaeum</i> L.	Aristolochiaceae		
<i>Asparagus officinalis</i> L.	Liliaceae		
<i>Asphodelus albus</i> Mill.	Liliaceae		
<i>Asphodelus albus</i> Mill.	Liliaceae		
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i> L.	Aspleniaceae		
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i> L.	Aspleniaceae		
<i>Asplenium septentrionale</i> (L.) Hoffm.	Aspleniaceae		
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i> L.	Aspleniaceae		
<i>Astragalus glycyphylloides</i> DC.	Fabaceae		
<i>Astragalus glycyphyllos</i> L.	Fabaceae		
<i>Astrantia major</i> L.	Apiaceae		
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> (L.) Roth.	Athyriaceae		
<i>Atriplex rosea</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae		
<i>Atropa belladonna</i> L.	Solanaceae		
B			
<i>Ballota nigra</i> L.	Lamiaceae		
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i> R. Br.	Brassicaceae		
<i>Bellis perennis</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Bellis perennis</i> L. (B. hybrida L.)	Asteraceae		
<i>Berberis vulgaris</i> L.	Berberidaceae		
<i>Betonica officinalis</i> L. (Stachys officinalis (L.) Trev.	Lamiaceae		
<i>Betula pendula</i> Roth. (B. verrucosa Ehrh.)	Betulaceae		
<i>Bidens tripartita</i> L.	Asteraceae		
<i>Bifora tadians</i> Bieb.	Apiaceae		
<i>Bistorta major</i> Gray.	Polygonaceae		
<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i> (L.) Stirt. (Psoralea bituminosa L.)	Fabaceae		
<i>Brassica juncea</i> (L.) Czern.	Brassicaceae		
<i>Brassica nigra</i> (L.) Koch.	Brassicaceae		
<i>Briza media</i> L.	Poaceae		
<i>Bryonia alba</i> L.	Cucurbitaceae		
<i>Buglossoides arvensis</i> (L.) Lohnst. (Lithospermum arvense L.)	Boraginaceae		
<i>Buglossoides purpureoerulea</i> (L.) Lohnst. (Lithospermum purpureo-coeruleum L.)	Boraginaceae		
<i>Bunias orientalis</i> L.	Brassicaceae		
<i>Bupleurum rotundifolium</i> L.	Apiaceae		
<i>Butmus umbellatus</i> L.	Butomaceae		
C			
<i>Calamintha nepeta</i> (L.) Savi.	Lamiaceae		
<i>Calamintha nepeta</i> (L.) Savi. ssp. glandulosa (Req.) P. Ball. (C. officinalis Moench.)	Lamiaceae		
<i>Caltha palustris</i> L.	Ranunculaceae		
<i>Caluna vulgaris</i> (L.) Hull.	Ericaceae		
<i>Calystegia sepium</i> (L.) Rr.	Convolvulaceae		
<i>Campanula lanata</i> Friv.	Campanulaceae		
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i> L.	Campanulaceae		
<i>Camphorosma monspeliaca</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae		
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> (L.) Medic.	Brassicaceae		
<i>Cardamine amara</i> L.	Brassicaceae		

Cardamine bulbifera (L.) Crantz. (Dentaria bulbifera L.)	Brassicaceae	Dianthus pontederiae A. Kern.	Caryophyllaceae
Cardamine pratensis L.	Brassicaceae	Dictamnus albus L.	Rutaceae
Carduus acanthoides L.	Asteraceae	Digitalis ferruginea L.	Scrophulariaceae
Carlina acanthifolia All.	Asteraceae	Digitalis grandiflora Mill. (D. ambigua Murr.)	Scrophulariaceae
Carlina vulgaris L.	Asteraceae	Digitalis lanata Ehrh.	Scrophulariaceae
Carpinus betulus L.	Betulaceae	Diphysastrum alpinum (L.) Holub. (Lycopodium alpinum L.)	Lycopodiaceae
Carthamus lanatus L.	Asteraceae	Diplotaxis tenuifolia (L.) DC.	Brassicaceae
Carum carvi L.	Apiaceae	Dipsacus fullonum L. (D. sylvestris Huds.)	Dipsacaceae
Carum graecum Boiss. et Heldr.	Apiaceae	Doronicum columnae Ten.	Asteraceae
Celtis australis L.	Ulmaceae	Drosera rotundifolia L.	Droseraceae
Centaurea calcitrapa L.	Asteraceae	Dryas octopetala L.	Rosaceae
Centaurea cyanus L.	Asteraceae	Dryopteris filix-mas (L.) Schott.	Aspidiaceae
Centaurea pannonica (Heuff.) Simk.	Asteraceae	E	
Centaurea rocheliana (Heuff.) Dost.	Asteraceae	E. fluviatile L. (E. limosum L.)	Equisetaceae
Centaurea solstitialis L.	Asteraceae	Ecbalium elaterium (L.) A. Rich.	Cucurbitaceae
Centaureum erythraea Rafn.	Gentianaceae	Ecbalium elaterium L.	Cucurbitaceae
Centaureum pulchellum (Swartz) Druce	Gentianaceae	Echinops sphaerocephalus L.	Asteraceae
Cercis siliquastrum L.	Fabaceae	Echium italicum L.	Boraginaceae
Cerinth glabra Mill.	Boraginaceae	Echium russicum J. Gmel. (E. rubrum Jacq.)	Boraginaceae
Cerinth minor L.	Boraginaceae	Echium vulgare L.	Boraginaceae
Ceterach officinarum DC.	Aspleniaceae	Elaeagnus angustifolia L.	Elaeagnaceae
Cetraria islandica (L.)	Ach.	Ephedra distachya L.	Ephedraceae
Chaerophyllum bulbosum L.	Apiaceae	Equisetum telmateia Ehrh. (E. maximum Lam.)	Equisetaceae
Chaerophyllum tenulentum	L. Apiaceae	Equisetum arvense L.	Equisetaceae
Chamaecytisus albus (Jacq.) Rothm. (Cytisus albus Hacq.)	Fabaceae	Equisetum palustris L.	Equisetaceae
Chamaecytisus hirsutus (L.) Link. (Cytisus hirsutus L.)	Fabaceae	Equisetum sylvaticum L.	Equisetaceae
Chamaecytisus lejoecarpus (A. Kern.) Rothm. (Cytisus lejoecarpus W. K.)	Fabaceae	Eriophorum angustifolium Honck.	Cyperaceae
Chamaecytisus ratisbonensis (Schaeff.) Rothm. (Cytisus ratisbonensis Schaeff.)	Fabaceae	Eriophorum latifolium Hoppe.	Cyperaceae
Chamaespartium sagittale (L.) Gibbs. (Genista sagittalis L.)	Fabaceae	Eriophorum vaginatum L.	Cyperaceae
Chamomilla suaveolens (Pursh.) Rydb.	Asteraceae	Erodium cicutarium (L.) L'Her.	Geraniaceae
Chelidonium majus L.	Papaveraceae	Eryngium campestre L.	Apiaceae
Chenopodium album L.	Chenopodiaceae	Eryngium maritimum L.	Apiaceae
Chenopodium bonus-henricus L.	Chenopodiaceae	Euclidium syriacum (L.) R. Br.	Brassicaceae
Chenopodium botrys L.	Chenopodiaceae	Euonymus europaeus L.	Celastraceae
Chenopodium hybridum L.	Chenopodiaceae	Euonymus verrucosus Scop.	Celastraceae
Chenopodium polyspermum L.	Chenopodiaceae	Euphorbia amygdaloides L.	Euphorbiaceae
Chenopodium rubrum L.	Chenopodiaceae	Euphorbia cyparissias Host.	Euphorbiaceae
Chenopodium virgatum L. (Ch. foliosum L.)	Chenopodiaceae	Euphorbia myrsinites L.	Euphorbiaceae
Chenopodium vulvaria L.	Chenopodiaceae	Euphorbia peplis L.	Euphorbiaceae
Chrisosplenium alternifolium L.	Saxifragaceae	Euphorbia peplus L.	Euphorbiaceae
Cichorium intybus L.	Asteraceae	Euphrasia rostkoviana Kayne. (E. officinalis L.)	Scrophulariaceae
Cicuta virosa L.	Apiaceae	F	
Cionura erecta (Marsdenia erecta R. Br.)	Asclepiadaceae	Fagus orientalis Lipsky	Fagaceae
Clematis recta L.	Ranunculaceae	Fagus sylvatica L.	Fagaceae
Clematis vitalba L.	Ranunculaceae	Ferulago sylvatica (Bess.) Rchb.	Apiaceae
Clinopodium vulgare L.	Lamiaceae	Filaginella uliginosa (L.) Opiz. (Gnaphalium uliginosum L.)	Asteraceae
Cnicus benedictus L.	Asteraceae	Filago lutescens Jord. (F. germanica L.)	Asteraceae
Colchicum autumnale L.	Liliaceae	Filago vulgaris Lam. (F. arvensis L.)	Asteraceae
Colutea arborescens L.	Fabaceae	Filipendula ulmaria Maxim.	Rosaceae
Conium maculatum L.	Apiaceae	Filipendula vulgaris Moench. (F. hexapetala Gilib.)	Rosaceae
Consolida hispanica (Costa) Greut. et Burdet. (Dilphinium orientalis Schreb.)	Ranunculaceae	Foeniculum vulgare Mill.	Apiaceae
Consolida regalis S. F. Gray. (Delphinium consolida L.)	Ranunculaceae	Fragaria vesca L.	Rosaceae
Convallaria majalis L.	Liliaceae	Frangula alnus Mill.	Rhamnaceae
Convolvulus arvensis L.	Convolvulaceae	Fraxinus excelsior L.	Oleaceae
Coriandrum sativum L.	Apiaceae	Fraxinus ornus L.	Oleaceae
Cornus mas L.	Cornaceae	Fraxinus oxycarpa Willd.	Oleaceae
Coronilla scorpioides (L.) Koc.	Fabaceae	Fraxinus pallisiae Wilm.	Oleaceae
Coronilla varia L.	Fabaceae	Fumaria officinalis L.	Papaveraceae
Coronopus procumbens Gilib.	Brassicaceae	Fumaria vaillantii Loisel.	Papaveraceae
Corydalis bulbosa (L.) DC. (C. cava Schweigg.)	Papaveraceae	G	
Corydalis solida (L.) Swartz.	Papaveraceae	Galanthus elwesii Hook. (G. maximus Vel.)	Amaryllidaceae
Corylus avellana L.	Betulaceae	Galanthus nivalis L.	Amaryllidaceae
Cotinus coggygia Scop.	Anacardiaceae	Galega officinalis L.	Fabaceae
Crataegus monogyna Jacq.	Rosaceae	Galeopsis ladanum L.	Lamiaceae
Crataegus pentagyna W. et K. ex Willd.	Rosaceae	Galeopsis speciosa Mill.	Lamiaceae
Crocus chrysanthus Herb.	Iridaceae	Galeopsis tetrachit L.	Lamiaceae
Crocus pallasii Bieb.	Iridaceae	Galinsoga parviflora Cav.	Asteraceae
Cruciata laevipes Opiz. (Galium cruciatum (L.) Scop.)	Rubiaceae	Galium aparine L.	Rubiaceae
Cuscuta epilinum Weihe	Cuscutaceae	Galium lucidum All. (G. mollugo ssp. lucidum All.)	Rubiaceae
Cuscuta europaea L.	Cuscutaceae	Galium odoratum (L.) Scop. (Asperula odorata L.)	Rubiaceae
Cyclamen coum Mill.	Primulaceae	Galium verum L.	Rubiaceae
Cyclamen hederifolium Ait. (C. neapolitanum Ten.)	Primulaceae	Genista ovata W. et K.	Fabaceae
Cynoglossum officinale L.	Boraginaceae	Genista tinctoria L.	Fabaceae
Cystoseira barbata (Good. et Wood.)	Cystoseiraceae	Gentiana asclepiadea L.	Gentianaceae
D		Gentiana cruciata	Gentianaceae
Daphne mezereum L.	Thymeleaceae	Gentiana lutea L.	Gentianaceae
Datura stramonium L.	Solanaceae	Gentiana pneumonanthe L.	Gentianaceae
Descurainia sophia (L.) Webb. ex Prantl.	Brassicaceae	Gentiana punctata L.	Gentianaceae
		Gentiana verna	Gentianaceae
		Gentianella bulgarica (Vel.) Holub. (Gentiana bulgarica Vel.)	Gentianaceae
		Geranium macrorrhizum L.	Geraniaceae

Geranium pyrenaicum Burm.fil.	Geraniaceae	Lathyrus tuberosus L.	Fabaceae
Geranium robertianum L.	Geraniaceae	Lathyrus vernus (L.) Bernh.	Fabaceae
Geranium sanguineum L.	Geraniaceae	Laurocerasus officinalis Roem.	Rosaceae
Geranium sylvaticum L.	Geraniaceae	Lavatera thuringiaca L.	Malvaceae
Geum coccineum S. et S.	Rosaceae	Lemna minor L.	Lemnaceae
Geum montanum L.	Rosaceae	Leonurus cardiaca L.	Lamiaceae
Geum reptans L.	Rosaceae	Lepidium campestre (L.) R. Br.	Brassicaceae
Geum rivale L.	Rosaceae	Lepidium graminifolium L.	Brassicaceae
Geum urbanum L.	Rosaceae	Lepidium latifolium L.	Brassicaceae
Gladiolus communis L.	Iridaceae	Lepidium perfoliatum L.	Brassicaceae
Gladiolus imbricatus L.	Iridaceae	Lepidium ruderales L.	Brassicaceae
Glaucium flavum Crantz.	Papaveraceae	Lepidium sativum L.	Brassicaceae
Glechoma hederaceae L.	Lamiaceae	Leucanthemum vulgare Lam. (Chrysanthemum	Asteraceae
Glechoma hirsuta W et K.	Lamiaceae	leucanthemum L.)	
Globularia ahyllanthes Crantz (G. vulgaris L.)	Globulariaceae	Ligularia glauca (L.) Hoffm.	Asteraceae
Globularia cordifolia L.	Globulariaceae	Ligustrum vulgare L.	Oleaceae
Glycyrrhiza glabra L.	Fabaceae	Lilium martagon L.	Liliaceae
Gratiola officinalis L.	Scrophulariaceae	Limonium vulgare Mill.	Plumbaginaceae
Gymnadenia conopsea (L.) R. Br.	Orchidaceae	Linaria vulgaris Mill.	Scrophulariaceae
Gypsophila paniculata L.	Caryophyllaceae	Linum catharticum L.	Linaceae
H		Lithospermum officinale L.	Boraginaceae
Haberlea rhodopensis Friv.	Gesneraceae	Lolium temulentum L.	Poaceae
Hedera helix L.	Araliaceae	Lonicera xilostemum L.	Caprifoliaceae
Helichrisum arenarium (L.) Moench.	Asteraceae	Loranthus europaeus Jacq.	Loranthaceae
Heliotropium europaeum L.	Boraginaceae	Lotus corniculatus L.	Fabaceae
Helleborus odorus W. et K.	Ranunculaceae	Lunaria rediviva L.	Brassicaceae
Hepatica nobilis Mill.	Ranunculaceae	Lychnis coronaria (L.) Desr.	Caryophyllaceae
Heracleum sibiricum L.	Apiaceae	Lychnis flos-cuculi L.	Caryophyllaceae
Heracleum verticillatum Panc. (H. sphondilium	Apiaceae	Lycopodium clavatum L.	Lycopodiaceae
L.)		Lycopodium europaeus L.	Lamiaceae
Herniaria glabra L.	Caryophyllaceae	Lysimachia nummularia L.	Primulaceae
Herniaria hirsuta L.	Caryophyllaceae	Lythrum salicaria L.	Lythraceae
Herniaria incana Lam.	Caryophyllaceae	Lythrum virgatum L.	Lythraceae
Hesperis matronalis L.	Brassicaceae	M	
Hieracium pilosella L.	Asteraceae	Malus sylvestris Mill.	Rosaceae
Himantoglossum hircinum (L.) Spreng.	Orchidaceae	Malva moschata L.	Malvaceae
Hippophae rhamnoides L.	Elaeagnaceae	Malva neglecta Wallr.	Malvaceae
Hottonia palustris L.	Primulaceae	Malva pusilla Sin.	Malvaceae
Huperzia inundata (L.) Bernh ex Schrank et	Lycopodiaceae	Malva sylvestris L.	Malvaceae
Mart. (Lycopodium selago L.)		Marrubium peregrinum L.	Lamiaceae
Hydrocharis morsus-ranae L.	Hydrocharitaceae	Marubium parviflorum Friv. et Mey. (Marubium	Lamiaceae
Hyoscyamus albus L.	Solanaceae	praecox Lka.)	
Hyoscyamus niger L.	Solanaceae	Marubium vulgare L.	
Hypericum androsaemum L.	Hypericaceae	Matricaria trichophylla (Boiss.) Boiss. (M.	Asteraceae
Hypericum cerastoides (Spach) N. Robson (H.	Hypericaceae	tenuifolia (Kit.) Simk.)	
rhodopeum Friv.)		Melilotus alba Med.	Fabaceae
Hypericum maculatum Crantz. (H.	Hypericaceae	Melilotus indica (L.) All.	Fabaceae
quadrangulum L.)		Melilotus officinalis (L.) Pal.	Fabaceae
Hypericum perforatum L.	Hypericaceae	Melittis melissophyllum L.	Lamiaceae
Hypochaeris maculata L.	Asteraceae	Mentha aquatica L.	Lamiaceae
Hypochaeris radicata L.	Asteraceae	Mentha arvensis L.	Lamiaceae
Hyssopus officinalis L.ssp. aristatus (Godr.)	Lamiaceae	Mentha longifolia (L.) Huds.	Lamiaceae
Briq.		Mentha pulegium L.	Lamiaceae
I		Mentha spicata L.	Lamiaceae
Ilex aquifolium L.	Aquifoliaceae	Mentha suaveolens Ehrh. (M. rotundifolia (L.)	Lamiaceae
Inula aschersoniana Janka	Asteraceae	Huds.)	
Inula ensifolia L.	Asteraceae	Menyanthes trifoliata L.	Mentyanthaceae
Inula germanica L.	Asteraceae	Mercurialis annua L.	Euporbiaceae
Inula helenium L.	Asteraceae	Mercurialis perennis L.	Euphorbiaceae
Iris graminea L.	Iridaceae	Meum athamanticum Jacq.	Apiaceae
Iris pseudacorus L.	Iridaceae	Minuartia setacea (Thuill) Hay.	Caryophyllaceae
Iris pumila L.	Iridaceae	Moneses uniflora (L.) Gray. (Pyrola uniflora L.)	Pyrolaceae
Isopyrum thalictroides L.	Ranunculaceae	Monotropa hypopitys L.	Monotropaceae
J		Mriophyllum spicatum L.	Haloragaceae
Jasione montana L.	Campanulaceae	N	
Juncus inflexus L. (J. glaucus Ehrh.)	Juncaceae	Najas marina L.	Najadaceae
Juniperus oxycedrus L.	Cupressaceae	Nasturtium officinale R. Br.	Brassicaceae
Juniperus sabina L.	Cupressaceae	Nasturtium sylvestris L.	Brassicaceae
Juniperus sibirica Burget.	Cupressaceae	Nectaroscordum siculum ssp. bulgaricum	Liliaceae
K		(Janka) Stearn. (Allium s. ucium var.	
Kichxia spuria (L.) Dum.	Scrophulariaceae	dioscoridis)	
Kickxia elatine (L.) Dum.	Scrophulariaceae	Nepeta cataria L.	Lamiaceae
Knautia arvensis (L.) Coult.	Dipsacaceae	Nigella arvensis L.	Ranunculaceae
L		Nigella damascena L.	Ranunculaceae
Lactuca serriola L.	Asteraceae	Nuphar lutea (L.) S. et S.	Nymphaeaceae
Lamium album L.	Lamiaceae	Nymphaea alba L.	Nymphaeaceae
Lamium maculatum L.	Lamiaceae	O	
Lamium purpureum L.	Lamiaceae	Oenanthe aquatica L.	Apiaceae
Laser trilobum (L.) Borkh.	Apiaceae	Oenothera liennis L.	Onagraceae
Laserpitium latifolium L.	Apiaceae	Ononis spinosa L.	Fabaceae
Laserpitium siler L.	Apiaceae	Onopordum acanthium L. (Onopordon)	Asteraceae
Lathraea squamaria L.	Scrophulariaceae	Onopordum tauricum Willd. (Onopordon)	Asteraceae
Lathyrus niger (L.) Bernh.	Fabaceae	Ophioglossum vulgatum L.	Ophioglossaceae
Lathyrus pratensis L.	Fabaceae	Opopanax chironium (L.) Koch.	Apiaceae
Lathyrus sativus L.	Fabaceae	Opopanax hispidus (Friv.) Grsb.	Apiaceae
Lathyrus sylvestris L.	Fabaceae	Orchis coriophora L.	Orchidaceae
		Orchis laxiflora Lam.	Orchidaceae

Orchis mascula L.	Orchidaceae	Pseudolysimachion orchideum (Crantz) Wraber	Scrophulariaceae
Orchis militaris L.	Orchidaceae	(Veronica spicata L.)	
Orchis morio L.	Orchidaceae	Peridium aquilinum (L.) Kuhn.	Hypolepidaceae
Orchis pallens L.	Orchidaceae	Pulicaria dysenterica (L.)	Bernh.
Orchis papilionaceae	Orchidaceae		Asteraceae
Orchis provincialis Balb.	Orchidaceae	Pulicaria vulgaris Gaerth.	Asteraceae
Orchis punctulatum Stev.	Orchidaceae	Pulmonaria mollis Wulf. et Horn. (P. mollissima Kern.)	Boraginaceae
Orchis purpurea Huds.	Orchidaceae		
Orchis simia L.	Orchidaceae	Pulmonaria officinalis L.	Boraginaceae
Orchis spitzelii Saut. ex Koch.	Orchidaceae	Pyrola chlorantha Swartz.	Pyrolaceae
Orchis tridentata Scop.	Orchidaceae	Pyrola rotundifolia L.	Pyrolaceae
Orchis ustulata L.	Orchidaceae	Q	
Origanum vulgare L.	Lamiaceae	Quercus coccifera L.	Fagaceae
Origanum vulgare L. ssp. hirtum (Link.)	Lamiaceae	Quercus frainetto Ten. (Q. conferta Kit.)	Fagaceae
Jetswaart (O. heracleoticum L.)		Quercus robur L. (Q. pedunculata Ehrh.)	Fagaceae
Orobancha minor Sm.	Orobanchaceae	R	
Orobancha rapum-genistae Thuill.	Orobanchaceae	Ranunculus ficaria L.	Ranunculaceae
Orthilia secunda (L.) House (Pyrola secunda L.)	Pyrolaceae	Ranunculus flammula L.	Ranunculaceae
Osmunda regalis L.	Osmundaceae	Ranunculus lingua L.	Ranunculaceae
Oxalis acetosella L.	Oxalidaceae	Ranunculus polyanthemos L.	Ranunculaceae
Oxyria digyna (L.) Hill.	Polygonaceae	Ranunculus repens L.	Ranunculaceae
P		Ranunculus scleratus L.	Ranunculaceae
Paeonia peregrina Mill.	Paeoniaceae	Raphanus raphanistrum L.	Brassicaceae
Paliurus spina-christi Mill.	Rhamnaceae	Reseda inodora Rchb.	Resedaceae
Papaver rhoeas L.	Papaveraceae	Reseda lutea L.	Resedaceae
Parietaria lusitanica L.	Urticaceae	Rhamnus catharticus L.	Rhamnaceae
Parietaria officinalis L.	Urticaceae	Rheum rhaponticum L.	Polygonaceae
Paris quadrifolia L.	Liliaceae	Rhinanthus minor L.	Scrophulariaceae
Parnassia palustris L.	Saxifragaceae	Rhodiola rosea L.	Crassulaceae
Pedicularis palustris L.	Scrophulariaceae	Rhus coriaria L.	Anacardiaceae
Peganum harmala L.	Zygophyllaceae	Ribes uva-crispa L. (R. glossularia L.)	Saxifragaceae
Periploca graeca L.	Asclepiadaceae	Roripia austriaca (Crantz.) Bess.	Borraginaceae
Persicaria hydropiper (L.) Spach.	Polygonaceae	Rosa corymbifera Borkh.	Rosaceae
Persicaria maculata (Raf.) S. Gray	Polygonaceae	Rosa gallica L.	Rosaceae
Petasites albus (L.) Gaertn.	Asteraceae	Rubia tinctorum L.	Rubiaceae
Petasites hybridus (L.) Gaertn. (P. officinalis Moench.)	Asteraceae	Rubus caesius L.	Rosaceae
Peucedanum cervaria (L.) Lapeyer.	Apiaceae	Rubus hirtus W. et K.	Rosaceae
Peucedanum officinalis L.	Apiaceae	Rubus idaeus L.	Rosaceae
Phlomis tuberosa L.	Lamiaceae	Rubus saxatilis L.	Rosaceae
Phyllirea latifolia L.	Oleaceae	Rumex acetosa L.	Polygonaceae
Phyllitis scolopendrium (L.) Newm.	Aspleniaceae	Rumex acetosella L.	Polygonaceae
(Scolopendrium vulgare Sw.)		Rumex alpinus L.	Polygonaceae
Physalis alkekengi L.	Solanaceae	Rumex aquaticus L.	Polygonaceae
Phytolaca americana L.	Phytolacaceae	Rumex crispus L.	Polygonaceae
Picea abies (L.) Karst.	Pinaceae	Rumex hydrolapathum Huds.	Polygonaceae
Pimpinella major (L.) Huds.	Apiaceae	Rumex obtusifolius L.	Polygonaceae
Pimpinella saxifraga L.	Apiaceae	Rumex patientia L.	Polygonaceae
Pinus sylvestris L.	Pinaceae	Rumex pulcher L.	Polygonaceae
Plantago afra L. (P. psyllium L.)	Plantaginaceae	Rumex scutatus L.	Polygonaceae
Plantago coronopus L.	Plantaginaceae	Ruscus aculeatus L.	Liliaceae
Plantago lanceolata L.	Plantaginaceae	Ruta graveolens L.	Rutaceae
Plantago major L.	Plantaginaceae	S	
Plantago media L.	Plantaginaceae	Salicornia europaea L. (S. herbacea L.)	Chenopodiaceae
Plantago scabra Moench. (P. arenaria W. K.)	Plantaginaceae	Salicornia ruthenica Iljin.	Chenopodiaceae
Plantago subulata L. (P. carinata Schrad.)	Plantaginaceae	Salix alba L.	Salicaceae
Platanthera bifolia (L.) L. C. Rich.	Orchidaceae	Salix caprea L.	Salicaceae
Platanthera chlorantha (Cust.)зеленоцветна Rehb.)	Orchidaceae	Salix pentandra L.	Salicaceae
Platanus orientalis L.	Platanaceae	Salix purpurea L.	Salicaceae
Plumbago europaea L.	Plumbaginaceae	Salvia aethiopsis L.	Lamiaceae
Polygala major Jacq.	Polygalaceae	Salvia glutinosa L.	Lamiaceae
Polygala vulgaris L.	Polygalaceae	Salvia nemorosa L.	Lamiaceae
Polygonatum multiflorum (L.) All.	Liliaceae	Salvia officinalis L.	Lamiaceae
Polygonatum odoratum (Mill.) Druce (P. officinale All.)	Liliaceae	Salvia pratensis L.	Lamiaceae
Polygonum arenastrum Boreau (P. arenarium W. K.)	Polygonaceae	Salvia sclarea L.	Lamiaceae
Polygonum aviculare L.	Polygonaceae	Salvia tomentosa Mill.	Lamiaceae
Polypodium vulgare L.	Polypodiaceae	Salvia verticillata L.	Lamiaceae
Polystichum lonchitis (L.) Roth.	Aspidiaceae	Sambucus ebulus L.	Caprifoliaceae
Populus nigra L.	Salicaceae	Sambucus nigra L.	Caprifoliaceae
Populus tremula L.	Salicaceae	Sambucus racemosa L.	Caprifoliaceae
Portulaca oleracea L.	Portulacaceae	Samolus valerandi L.	Primulaceae
Potentilla alba L.	Rosaceae	Sanguisorba minor Scop.	Rosaceae
Potentilla argentea L.	Rosaceae	Sanguisorba officinalis L.	Rosaceae
Potentilla erecta (L.) Rausch.	Rosaceae	Sanucula europaea L.	Apiaceae
Potentilla palustris (L.) Scop.	Rosaceae	Saponaria officinalis L.	Caryophyllaceae
Potentilla reptans L.	Rosaceae	Satureja montana L. ssp. kitaibelii (Wierzb.) Ball.	Lamiaceae
Potentilla rupestris L.	Rosaceae	Saxifraga bulbifera L.	Saxifragaceae
Pr unus fruticosa Pall. (Cerasus f.)	Rosaceae	Saxifraga rotundifolia L.	Saxifragaceae
Prangos ferulacea (L.) Lindl.	Apiaceae	Scabiosa ochroleuca L.	Dipsacae
Primula acaulis (L.) L. (P. vulgaris Huds.)	Primulaceae	Scilla bifolia L.	Liliaceae
Primula elatior (L.) Hill.	Primulaceae	Scleranthus annuus L.	Caryophyllaceae
Primula veris L. (P. officinalis (L.) Hill.)	Primulaceae	Scleranthus perennis L.	Caryophyllaceae
Prunella vulgaris L.	Lamiaceae	Sclerochloa dura (L.) Beaul.	Poaceae
Prunus mahaleb L.	Rosaceae	Scorzonera hispanica L.	Asteraceae
Prunus padus L.	Rosaceae	Scrophularia canina L.	Scrophulariaceae
Prunus spinosa L.	Rosaceae	Scrophularia nodosa L.	Scrophulariaceae
		Scutellaria altissima L.	Lamiaceae
		Scutellaria galericulata L.	Lamiaceae

Scutellaria hastifolia L.	Lamiaceae	Tilia cordata Mill. (T. parvifolia Ehrh.)	Tiliaceae
Securigera securidaca (L.) Roth.	Fabaceae	Tilia platyphyllos Scop. (T. grandifolia Neir.)	Tiliaceae
Sedum acre L.	Crassulaceae	Tilia rubra DC.	Tiliaceae
Sedum album L.	Crassulaceae	Tilia tomentosa Moench. (T. argentea Dest.)	Tiliaceae
Sedum maximum (L.) Suter.	Crassulaceae	Tordylium maximum L.	Apiaceae
Sempervivum marmoratum Grab.	Crassulaceae	Torilis arvensis (Huds.) Link.	Apiaceae
Senecio jacobaea L.	Asteraceae	Tragopogon pratensis L.	Asteraceae
Senecio nemorensis L.	Asteraceae	Tribulus terrestris L.	Zygophyllaceae
Senecio othonnae Bieb.	Asteraceae	Trifolium alpestre L.	Fabaceae
Senecio othonnae Bieb.	Asteraceae	Trifolium arvense L.	Fabaceae
Senecio paludosus L.	Asteraceae	Trifolium pannonicum Jacq.	Fabaceae
Senecio viscosus L.	Asteraceae	Trifolium pratense L.	Fabaceae
Senecio vulgaris L.	Asteraceae	Trifolium repens L.	Fabaceae
Sesili rigidum W. et K.	Apiaceae	Trigonella coerulea (L.) Ser.	Fabaceae
Sesili tortuosum L.	Apiaceae	Trigonella foenum-graecum L.	Fabaceae
Sideritis montana L.	Lamiaceae	Trigonella procumbens (Bess.) Rchb.	Fabaceae
Sideritis scardica Grsb.	Lamiaceae	Tussilago farfara L.	Asteraceae
Sideritis syriaca L. (S. taurica Steph.)	Lamiaceae	Typha angustifolia L.	Typhaceae
Silene otites (L.) Wibel.	Caryophyllaceae	U	
Sisymbrium loeselii L.	Brassicaceae	Ulmus glabra Huds.	Ulmaceae
Sisymbrium officinale (L.) Scop.	Brassicaceae	Ulmus minor Mill.	Ulmaceae
Smilax excelsa L.	Liliaceae	Urtica urens L.	Urticaceae
Solanum dulcamara L.	Solanaceae	V	
Solanum nigrum L.	Solanaceae	Vaccinium myrtillus L.	Ericaceae
Solidago virga-aurea L.	Asteraceae	Vaccinium uliginosum L.	Ericaceae
Sorbus aucuparia L.	Rosaceae	Vaccinium vitis-idaea L.	Ericaceae
Sorbus domestica L.	Rosaceae	Valeriana officinalis L.	Valerianaceae
Sorbus torinalis (L.)	Crantz. Rosaceae	Valerianella coronata (L.) DC.	Valerianaceae
Sparganium erectum L. (S. ramosum L.)	Sarganiaceae	Veratrum lobelianum Bernth. (V. album L.)	Liliaceae
Spartium juncea L.	Fabaceae	Veratrum nigrum L.	Liliaceae
Spergularia rubra (L.) J. et C. Prest.	Apiaceae	Verbascum densiflorum Bertol. (V. thapsiforme Schrad.)	Scrophulariaceae
Spirodela polyrhiza (L.) Schleid.	Lemnaceae	Verbascum nigrum L.	Scrophulariaceae
Stachys annua L.	Lamiaceae	Verbascum nobile Vel.	Scrophulariaceae
Stachys germanica L.	Lamiaceae	Verbascum phlomoides L.	Scrophulariaceae
Stachys recta L.	Lamiaceae	Verbascum phoeniceum L.	Scrophulariaceae
Stachys sylvatica L.	Lamiaceae	Verbascum pseudonobile Stoj. et Stef.	Scrophulariaceae
Stellaria graminea L.	Caryophyllaceae	Verberna officinalis L.	Verbenaceae
Stellaria media (L.) Vill.	Caryophyllaceae	Veronica anagallis-aquatica L.	Scrophulariaceae
Succisa pratensis Moench.	Dipsaceae	Veronica arvensis L.	Scrophulariaceae
Sylibium marianum (L.) Gaerth.	Asteraceae	Veronica austriaca L.	Scrophulariaceae
Symphytum officinale L.	Boraginaceae	Veronica beccabunga L.	Scrophulariaceae
Syringa vulgaris L.	Oleaceae	Veronica chamaedrys L.	Scrophulariaceae
T		Veronica officinalis L.	Scrophulariaceae
Tamarix ramosissima Ledeb.	Tamaricaceae	Veronica prostrata L.	Scrophulariaceae
Tamarix tetrandra Pall. et Bieb.	Tamaricaceae	Viburnum opulus L.	Caprifoliaceae
Tamus communis L.	Dioscoreaceae	Vicia cracca L.	Fabaceae
Tanacetum vulgare L.	Asteraceae	Vicia grandiflora Scop.	Fabaceae
Taraxacum officinale Web.	Asteraceae	Vicia pisiformis L.	Fabaceae
Taxus baccata L.	Taxaceae	Vicia sativa L.	Fabaceae
Telekia speciosa (Schreb.) Baumg.	Asteraceae	Vinca herbacea W. et K.	Apocynaceae
Teucrium chamaedrys L.	Lamiaceae	Vinca minor L.	Apocynaceae
Teucrium montanum L.	Lamiaceae	Vincetoxicum hirsutaria	Asclepiadaceae
Teucrium polium L.	Lamiaceae	Medic. (V. officinale L., Cynanchum	
Teucrium scordium L.	Lamiaceae	vincetoxicum (L.) R. Br.	
Thalictrum aquilegifolium L.	Ranunculaceae	Viola hirta L.	Violaceae
Thalictrum flavum L.	Ranunculaceae	Viola odorata L.	Violaceae
Thalictrum minus L.	Ranunculaceae	Viola tricolor L.	Violaceae
Thlaspi alliaceum L.	Brassicaceae	Viscaria vulgaris L.	Caryophyllaceae
Thlaspi arvense L.	Brassicaceae	Viscum album L.	Loranthaceae
Thymus callieri Borb.	Lamiaceae	Xanthium spinosum L.	Asteraceae
Thymus comptus Friv. (T. glaucus Friv.)	Lamiaceae	X	
Thymus glabrescens Willd.	Lamiaceae	Xanthium strumarium L.	Asteraceae
Thymus longicaulis C. Presl.	Lamiaceae	Xeranthemum annuum L.	Asteraceae
Thymus longidentatus (Deg. et Urum.) Ronn.	Lamiaceae	Z	
(T. bulgaricum Ronn.)	Lamiaceae	Zygophyllum fabago L.	Zygophyllaceae
Thymus pulegioides L. (T. montana W. K.)	Lamiaceae		
Thymus sibthorpii Benth.	Lamiaceae		
Thymus striatus Vahl.	Lamiaceae		

LAW FOR HUNTING AND PROTECTION OF THE GAME

Prom. SG. 78/26 Sep 2000, amend. SG. 26/20 Mar 2001, amend. SG. 77/9 Aug 2002, amend. SG. 79/16 Aug 2002, amend. SG. 88/4 Nov 2005, amend. SG. 82/10 Oct 2006, amend. SG. 108/29 Dec 2006, amend. SG. 64/7 Aug 2007, amend. SG. 43/29 Apr 2008, amend. SG. 67/29 Jul 2008, amend. SG. 69/5 Aug 2008

Chapter one. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 1. The law shall provide the relations, connected with the ownership, the protection and the management of the game, the organisation of hunting economy, the right to hunt and the trade with game and game products.

Art. 2. (1) The game in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be private ownership.

(2) The game shall be managed in hunting economic regions on the population principle.

Art. 3. (1) The protection of the game as national asset aims at preservation of the genetic fund and the species diversity, increase and sustainable development of the game reserves, enrichment of fauna and preservation of the ecological equilibrium in natural environment.

(2) (suppl. SG 79/02) The protection of the game is a basic principle for the organisation of the hunting area and management of hunting economy, management of the game, its habitats, ecosystems and processes, conducted therein, and exercising of the right to hunting.

(3) The protection shall include the activities for preservation, guarding and control at managing the game and exercising of the right to hunting.

Art. 4. (amend. – SG 64/07) The organisation of the hunting area, the management of hunting economy and the control of management of the game shall be implemented by the State Agency of Forests.

Art. 5. (1) Game in the context of the law are all mammals and birds – subject to hunting, which live freely under natural conditions or a bred in fenced territories with hunting economic purpose.

(2) Subject to hunting are:

1. (amend. SG 79/02) mammals and birds according to appendix No 1;
2. mammals and birds, introduced in the country with hunting economic purpose;
3. dogs and cats got wild and wandering in the hunting economic regions.

(3) The mammals and the birds of para 1, bred and grown in zoos, zoo gardens and zoo centres, as well as these, bred in farms, till the moment of settling in nature, are not

subject of hunting.

(4) According to the time of staying on the territory of the country the game shall be divided into local and migrating.

(5) (amend. SG 79/02) depending on the biological peculiarities, the regime of management and the way of hunting the game is divided into big and small, pointed out in appendix No 1.

Chapter two. ORGANISATION OF THE HUNTING AREA AND MANAGEMENT OF HUNTING ECONOMY

Section I. Organisation of the hunting area

Art. 6. The hunting area of the country shall include all lands, forests and water areas, dwelled by game or where there are conditions for its existence, out of the settlements, determined with general and detailed urban development plans or with surrounding polygons.

Art. 7. (1) The hunting area of the country is distributed into hunting economic regions regardless of the land entirety boundaries and the ownership of the lands, the forests and the water areas.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) No hunting economic regions shall be detached on natural reserves.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02; amend.- SG 64/07) On the protected territories the management of the game shall be implemented according to their regime and management plan, and in the sites, immediately connected with the defence and the national security of the country – by an order, determined with an order by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests and the Minister of Defence.

(4) (amend. SG 79/02) The area of the hunting economic regions depends on the basic kind of game and shall be determined under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law. In the territory, belonging to one settlement – village, shall not be detached more than one hunting economic region.

(5) (new – SG 79/02) The hunting economic regions shall be:

1. hunting economic regions of the hunting companies under art. 29;
2. (amend. – SG 43/08) hunting economic regions of state game husbandries;
3. hunting economic regions of bases for intensive management of the game;
4. hunting economic regions of game breeding sections.

(6) (prev. (5) – SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The boundaries of the hunting economic regions shall be determined along permanent terrain forms and facilities, complying with the boundaries of the territories, belonging to the settlements, and shall be approved with an order by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

Art. 8. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) State game husbandries, game breeding sections and bases for intensive management of the game shall be established for increase of the game resources, protection of the game diversity and preservation of the genetic fund.

(2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The boundaries of the state game husbandries, the game breeding sections and the bases for intensive management of the game shall be determined along durable terrain forms and facilities regardless of the boundaries of the territories, belonging to the settlements and the land entirety boundaries. Their total area shall be up to 15 percent of the hunting area of the country.

(3) The establishing of bases for intensive management of the game with area bigger than 5 hectares shall be co-ordinated with the Minister of Environment and Waters.

Art. 9. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) The state game husbandries according to appendix No 2 are corporate bodies with statute of state enterprises under art. 62, para 3 of the Commercial Law.

(2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The basic subject of activity of the state game husbandries shall be:

1. preservation and enrichment of the species diversity of game;
2. construction of hunting economic facilities and conducting of bio-technical measures;
3. reproduction, settlement, preservation and guarding of the game;
4. acclimatisation and re-acclimatisation of the game;
5. improvement of the exterior and the trophy qualities of the game;
6. use of the game, the game products and conducting of organised hunting tourism;
7. use of the forests of state forest entirety for preservation of the qualities of the bio-types and improvement of the habitats.

(3) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall determine with an order regions for activities of the state game husbandries, which shall implement activities, connected with:

1. reproduction of the forests in the forest entirety;
2. uses in the forests and the lands of the forest entirety;
3. preservation of the forests and the lands of the forest entirety;
4. design and construction in the forest entirety
5. management of the forests of the state forest entirety;
6. guarding of the forests and the lands of the forest entirety and the forests, created on land entirety;

(4) (amend. – SG 43/08) The state game husbandries can implement also other activities, connected with their basic subject of activity.

(5) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The assets of the state game husbandries shall be comprised by assets, conceded to them in kind, amount and value by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests and by the assets, acquired by them as result of their activity.

(6) (amend. – SG 43/08) Insolvency procedures cannot be opened against the state game husbandries.

(7) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The activity of the state game husbandries of para 2, items 1 – 5 and of para 3 shall be supported by the state through the budget of the State Agency of Forests.

(8) (amend. – SG 43/08) The state game husbandries shall be assignors of public procurement orders and for implementing their activity they shall organise and carry out procedures under the Law for the public procurement.

(9) (new – SG 43/08) Within their allocated region activity the state game

husbandries shall carry out the activities and shall fulfill the functions, assigned by the state forest husbandries by the Law for the forests and secondary legislative acts for its application.

(10) (new – SG 43/08) The organization and the activity of the state game husbandries shall be determined by regulations, approved by the Chairman of the State Forestry Agency.

Art. 9a. (new – SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) Management bodies of the state enterprises of art. 9, para 1 are the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests and the director.

Art. 9b. (new – SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests or a person, authorised by him shall:

1. (amend. – SG 43/08) exercise the rights of ownership of the state in the state game husbandries and conduct the state policy in the field of the organisation of the hunting area, the preservation and the management of game;

2. (amend. – SG 43/08) take decisions about disposition with long term material assets, for establishing or real rights and for letting for rent immovable properties, managed by the state game husbandries;

3. (amend. – SG 43/08) implement the authorities, connected with the state game husbandries, given to him with a law;

4. (amend. – SG 43/08; amend. – SG 67/08) approve the annual financial accounts of the separate state game husbandries;

5. (amend. – SG 43/08) exercise control over the preservation of the assets of the state game husbandries;

6. (new – SG 43/08) approve the regulations of Art. 9, par. 10.

Art. 9c. (new – SG 79/02) (1) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall appoint the directors of the state game husbandries for a term of 5 years and conclude with them contracts for management.

(2) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall discharge before the elapse of the term a director of state game husbandries, who:

1. violates the conditions, provided in the contract for management;

2. has submitted written application for discharge;

3. is in actual impossibility to fulfil his obligations more than 6 months.

(3) (amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall:

1. (amend. – SG 43/08) approve the annual financial plan of the state game husbandries;

2. (amend. – SG 43/08) approve the structure, the payroll list of the positions and the resources for salary of the state game husbandries in compliance with the annual financial plan;

3. (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08; amend. – SG 67/08) co-ordinate the annual financial accounts of the state game husbandries;

4. (amend. – SG 67/08) appoint diplomaed registered auditor for certifying the annual financial accounts;

5. (amend. – SG 64/07) take decisions for disposing with long term material assets, for establishing of real rights and for letting for rent of immovable properties;

6. (amend. – SG 64/07) propose to the Council of Ministers to undertake actions by the order of art. 6 of the Law for the state ownership;
7. take decisions for using of credits;
8. (amend. – SG 43/08) assign checks of the activity of the state game husbandries;
9. (amend. – SG 43/08) take decisions for discarding of long term material assets, managed by the state game husbandries;
10. (amend. – SG 43/08) exercise control over the observing of the normative acts and the financial discipline at the state game husbandries;
11. (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) implement also other functions, connected with the management of the state game husbandries in compliance with the normative acts.

Art. 9d. (new – SG 79/02) (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) The director of the state game husbandry shall:

1. (amend. – SG 43/08) represent the game husbandries before the state bodies, the courts and third persons in the country and abroad;
 2. (amend. – SG 43/08) implement the operational management of the state game husbandry;
 3. (amend. – SG 43/08) conclude contracts for the activities, implemented by the state game husbandry;
 4. (amend. – SG 43/08) conclude and terminate the employment contracts with the workers and the employees at the state game husbandry;
 5. (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 67/08) prepare and present for co-ordination to the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests the annual financial accounts;
 6. (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) prepare and present to the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests annual report about the activity of the state game husbandry;
 7. (amend. – SG 64/07) make proposal to the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests for discarding of long term material assets;
 8. (amend. – SG 43/08) take decisions for letting for rent of chattels, managed by the state game husbandry.
- (2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The director of the state game husbandry can delegate part of his authorities of para 1 to other employees in it.

Art. 10. (amend. SG 79/02; (amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall detach with an order:

1. (amend. – SG 43/08) the game breeding sections within the boundaries of the state forest husbandries;
2. bases for intensive management of the game upon proposal by the persons, who manage it also without the conditions of art. 7, para 4.

Art. 11. (amend. SG 79/02) In forests and lands of the forest entirety where right to use has been established for scientific institutes and higher schools, which scientific and education activity is connected with forest and hunting economy, can be detached game breeding sections by the order of art. 10 and bases for intensive management of the game.

Art. 12. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) On the territory of one or more hunting economic regions with common boundaries breeding farms can be detached for certain period. In them shall be conducted the planned hunting economic measures without hunting except predators.

(2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The boundaries of the breeding farms shall be determined by hunting development plan under a proposal of game husbandry commissions of the state forest husbandries.

Art. 13. (1) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) Hunting development plans shall be worked out for the hunting economic regions according to ordinances, issued by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests about:

1. the development of the forests and the lands of the forest entirety and of the hunting economic regions;
2. the grading of game habitats;
3. taxation of the game.

(2) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) The hunting development plans shall be approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests after co-ordination with the corresponding ministries and departments.

Section II. Management of hunting economy

Art. 14. (amend. – SG 64/07) The State Agency of Forests shall manage and control:

1. the organisation of the hunting economy;
2. the preservation, the reproduction, the settlement and the use of game;
3. the acquisition and the exercising of the right to hunting;
4. the conducting of organised hunting tourism;
5. the trade with game and game products;
6. the implementation of the hunting development plans;
7. the financing of the activities in the hunting economic regions, managed by its bodies.

Art. 15. (1) (amend. – SG 64/07) Hunting council shall be established at the State Agency of Forests as consultative body for the organisation of the hunting area, the management of the hunting economy, the preservation, the reproduction, the settlement and the use of the game in national scale.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall determine with an order the members of the Hunting council. Chairman of the Hunting council shall be a deputy Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

Art. 16. (1) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) The regional forest departments shall implement the activities of art. 14 in the regions determined for their activity except the regions of activity of the state game husbandries, where are implemented activities, connected with the guarding of the game as well as control of the fulfilment of forest and hunting development projects.

(2) (amend. – SG 79/02, amend. - SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of

Forests shall establish with an order hunting councils at the regional forest departments for discussing the problems of hunting and preservation of the game.

(3) (amend. SG – 82/06; amend. – SG 43/08; amend. – SG 69/08) Chairman of the hunting council of para 2 shall be the Director of the regional forestry directorate and members – representatives of the regional administration, the district directorate of the Ministry of Interior, the regional inspectorate for preservation of environment and waters, the hunting association and of other interested organisations.

Art. 17. (amend. – SG 43/08) The state forest husbandries and the state game husbandries shall implement their activities of art. 14 and the immediate guarding of the game in the regions determined for their activity and the adjacent hunting economic regions.

Art. 18. (1) (suppl. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) Commissions for hunting economy shall be established state forest husbandries and the state game husbandries as consultative bodies for issues, connected with the organisation of the hunting areas, the management of the hunting economy and the management of the game.

(2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The Director of the regional forestry directorate shall approve with an order the commission of para 1, in which shall be included representatives of the state forest husbandries, the state game husbandries, the regional inspectorates for environment and waters, the regional police departments, the municipal administrations and of the persons, managing the game.

(3) (suppl. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) Chairman of the commission for hunting economy shall be the director of the state forest husbandry or the state game husbandry, who if necessary can attract other specialists and representatives of the owners of lands and forests.

Art. 19. (amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall issue regulations for the organisation and the activity of the consultative bodies of art. 15, para 1, art. 16, para 2 and art. 18, para 1.

Art. 20. (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall conclude a management contract with the directors of the state game husbandries, who shall meet the requirements for a Director of a state forest husbandry.

Chapter three. RIGHT TO HUNTING

Art. 21. (1) The right to hunting shall include hunting and acquisition of game, hunting trophies and game products.

(2) The obligation for preservation of the game shall also be connected with the right to hunting.

Art. 22. (1) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) Right to hunting shall have major Bulgarian citizens, who have passed successfully theoretic and practical exam on the topics

knowledge of game, hunting legislation; game breeding, management, use and preservation of game; ways, methods and means for hunting; knowledge of arms and hunting shooting; knowledge of hunting dogs; diseases of game; rendering of first medical aid. The exam shall be before a commission, appointed with an order by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests or an official authorised by him.

(2) The commission shall issue a certificate to the persons, who have succeeded in the exam.

(3) The hunting and the forest guards, as well as other officials, implementing the control and the and the guarding of the game, can exercise the right to hunting out of the guarding sections determined for them.

Art. 23. (1) A document shall be issued for the right to hunting – a hunting license, which is personal and its rights cannot be transferred.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The hunting license shall be issued by the state forest husbandry or by the state game husbandry, in which region of activity is the permanent address of the person, acquired right to hunting after presenting of certificate under art. 22, para 2. The hunting license shall be according to model, approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests and it shall be certified every calendar year at the corresponding state forest husbandry or state game husbandry under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(3) The persons, who have not certified their hunting license for the calendar year, cannot exercise their hunting right during the year.

(4) The persons, who have not certified their hunting license for three consecutive years, shall be deprived from the acquired right to hunting.

(5) (suppl. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The state forest husbandries and the state game husbandries shall keep a public register of the issued and re-certified hunting licenses according to a model, approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

Art. 24. The graduates of higher and high schools, where the discipline "hunting economy" is studied, shall not pass theoretic exam of art. 22.

Art. 25. (amend. – SG 64/07) The State Agency of Forests shall issue to foreigners hunting licenses as follows:

1. to representatives of diplomatic missions – under the conditions for reciprocity;
2. to foreigners, staying for a long time in the Republic of Bulgaria – after passing an exam by the order of art. 22 or presenting a license for hunting, valid in the country, which citizens they are, after coordination with the Ministry of Interior for carrying hunting arms;
3. to foreigners, staying for a short time in the Republic of Bulgaria – for a term of one month - after presenting a license for hunting, valid in the country, which citizens they are.

Art. 26. (1) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) Right to selective hunting shall have persons, who have acquired right to hunting, with practice as hunters not less than 2 years and successfully passed exam before a commission, appointed with an order of the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

(2) (amend. – SG 64/07) A certificate according to a model, approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, shall be issued to the persons, acquired rights under para 1.

(3) Right to selective hunting shall have also the persons of art. 25, for them para 1 and 2 being not being applied.

Art. 27. (1) Hunting guides are the persons, acquired rights under art. 26, para 1, graduated a special course for preparation and successfully passed an exam.

(2) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) The exams of para 1 shall be carried out by a commission, appointed with an order by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests. A certificate according to a model, approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, shall be issued to the persons successfully passed the exam.

Art. 28. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) The order and the way for acquiring right to hunting, to selective hunting and for hunting guides shall be determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) For passing an exam under art. 22, issuing of hunting license, as well as for their re-certifying fees shall be paid in extent, determined with tariff of the Council of Ministers.

(3) The persons of art. 22 older than 65 years shall pay the fees provided in para 2 with 50 percent discount. The disabled shall be exempt from payment of fees under para 2.

Art. 29. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) Bulgarian citizens, acquired right to hunting, shall unite in hunting company with regard to the community of their interests for managing and preservation of the game in one hunting economic region.

(2) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The maximum number of the hunters in one state forest husbandry or state game husbandry shall be determined with an order by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests on the basis of recommended standard for area of 75 hectares per hunter and complied with the status of the game and the number of the hunters.

(3) For the formation of hunting company shall be necessary at least 20 hunters.

(4) (amend. – SG 43/08) The hunting companies shall be registered at the state forest husbandry, respectively at the state game husbandry.

(5) The registration of para 4 shall be implemented after submitting of application, to which shall be attached:

1. list of the members of the company;
2. record from a meeting of the company.

Art. 30. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The persons of art. 29, united in hunting companies with neighbouring hunting economic regions shall establish hunting associations with objective implementing of activities, connected with reproduction, management, preservation and use of the game.

(2) The hunting associations shall manage and organise the activities of the companies for reproduction, management, preservation and use of the game on the hunting economic regions, conceded to them.

(3) The hunting association shall represent and protect the interests of the hunters, associated under the conditions of art. 29 before the respective state and municipal bodies.

(4) The hunting associations of para 1 shall be corporate bodies, registered under the conditions and by the order of the Law for the corporate bodies with no economic objective.

Art. 31. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The hunting associations of art. 30, para 4 can establish on voluntary principle regional hunting associations and national hunting association.

(2) The national hunting association shall be the association, uniting hunting associations in which the number of the member hunters is more than half of the total number of the persons, registered in the country with acquired right to hunting.

(3) The hunting associations of para 1 shall be corporate bodies registered under the conditions and by the order of the Law for corporate bodies with no economic objective.

(4) The national hunting association shall represent the hunters, united under the conditions of para 2 and protect their interests at national and international level as well as implement activities in connection with the training, the increase of the hunting culture of its members, promoting of the hunting sport, co-operation for preservation of the ecosystems and enrichment of the game resources.

Art. 32. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The persons of art. 30, para 4 and art. 31, para 3 cannot participate in commercial companies and in other bodies, registered under the Commercial Law.

(2) The persons of art. 30, para 4 and art. 31, para 3 can establish commercial companies without right to non pecuniary payment in them. The profit, realised from the activity of the commercial companies shall be distributed for achieving of the objectives, determined in the statute of the hunting associations.

Chapter four. MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION OF THE GAME

Section I. Management of the game

Art. 33. The management of the game encompasses the activities for preservation and enrichment of the species diversity, improvements of the habitats, preservation and reproduction of the game, guaranteeing of the biological minimum, achieving and maintaining of the admissible reserves, ensuring of rational and sustainable use in the hunting economic regions.

Art. 34. (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) The game in the country shall be managed by state game husbandries, by the state forest husbandries, by the persons of art. 11 and the hunting associations of art. 30, para 4 and art. 31, para 1.

Art. 35. (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) The state game husbandries and the persons of art. 11 shall manage the game in the hunting economic regions determined for them and in detached bases for intensive management of the game.

Art. 36. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The state

forest husbandries shall manage the game in the game breeding sections of art. 10 and detached bases for intensive management of the game in their region of activity, determined with an order by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

(2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The state forest husbandries shall concede the management of the game in the hunting economic regions and detached bases for intensive management of the game, out of these of para 1 and art. 35, to the hunting associations of art. 30, para 4, by direct contracting.

(3) The conditions and the order for direct contracting for management of the game shall be provided with regulation for the implementation of the law.

Art. 37. The persons of art. 34 shall be obliged to:

1. organise and implement the feeding of the game;
2. create and maintain specialised fodder base for game;
3. construct hunting economic facilities;
4. adjust the number of the game;
5. participate in the taxation of the game;
6. preserve the game and participate in its guarding.

Art. 38. The construction of hunting economic facilities on lands and in forests, property of individuals and corporate bodies, shall be implemented after concluding a contract with them and observing the requirements of the forest development designs.

Art. 39. (1) A specialised fodder base shall be created and maintained for the feeding up of the game under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) Areas for specialised fodder base shall be conceded gratuitously from the state farm and forest entirety.

Art. 40. (1) For preservation of the ecological balance and the sustainable development of the populations, at proven need the number of some kinds of game shall be regulated under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) The dogs and cats got wild and wandering in the hunting economic regions shall be destroyed.

Art. 41. (1) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) The acclimatisation and the re-acclimatisation of the game in the country shall be implemented according to a long term programme, co-ordinated with the Ministry of Environment and Waters and approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The settlement of game shall be implemented for refreshing the blood, stock with game, maintaining biodiversity and hunting according to annual programme, approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law. The settlement and the use shall be implemented under the control

of the state forest husbandries, the state game husbandries and the hunting associations of art. 30 and 31.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) The shooting of the settled game for hunting shall be according to approved additional plan for use, the persons who manage it not making payment for using it.

Art. 42. (prev. art. 42 – SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The veterinary – medical supervision and the fight with the diseases of the game in national scale shall be implemented by the National Veterinary Medical Service and the State Agency of Forests.

(2) (new – SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall issue ordinance for the conditions and the order for production of game in farm conditions and semi-free breeding.

(3) (new – SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The prophylactics of the game shall be implemented according to state prophylactic programme according to the Law for the veterinary – medical activity, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Food Supplies.

Art. 42a. (new – SG 79/02) (1) (amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall establish division National scientific research station for hunting economy, biology and game diseases, which shall be independent corporate body.

(2) The National scientific research station for hunting economy, biology and game diseases shall be specialised for scientific research, diagnostic and consultative activity for:

1. hunting economy, biology, technologies for raising and breeding of game;
2. diseases and monitoring of the sustainable development of the game and zoo-prophylactics.

(3) (amend. – SG 64/07) The structure and the order for implementing the activity of the National scientific research station for hunting economy, biology and game diseases shall be provided with a regulation, issued by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests

Section II. Use of the game

Art. 43. (1) The use of the game shall be implemented by hunting.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) Hinting is killing, catching, chasing and injuring of game, as well as taking, carrying, hiding, transport of found, injured and killed game or identifiable parts of it, collecting and taking of eggs of birds – subject to hunting.

(3) Hunting is also staying or movement of persons out of the settlements with hunting arms out of the case and assembled, regardless whether it is charged or not.

Art. 44. (1) The hunting shall be implemented individually or in groups.

(2) Big game shall be hunted individually according to the methods of the selective hunting. Group hunting of bore shall also be admitted.

(3) Small, local and passage game shall be hunted individually or in groups.

(4) Predators shall be hunted individually, in groups, by organising battue and during the hunting of other kinds of game.

(5) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) Battues shall be organised by the persons,

managing the game, on their initiative, upon request by the municipal administration or the National veterinary – medical service. An order shall be issued by the director of the state forest husbandry or the state game husbandry, co-ordinated with the respective regional forestry directorate.

Art. 45. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) For each hunting economic region every year shall be approved a plan for using of the game.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The general plan for using of the game in the country shall be approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

Art. 46. (1) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The plan for using of the game in the state game husbandries and in the sites of art. 11 shall be approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

(2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The plan for use in the other hunting economic regions shall be approved by the Director of the regional forestry directorate upon a proposal by the director of the state forest husbandry.

(3) The plan for use of the settled game shall be approved by the director of the state forestry.

(4) The draft plans for use of the game shall be prepared by the persons of art. 34.

(5) The conditions and the order for preparing of the plans for use shall be provided with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 47. The organised hunting tourism shall be conducted under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 48. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) The hunting in the state game husbandry, in the game breeding sections and in the bases for intensive management of the game, managed by the state forest husbandries, shall be implemented by the order of the organised hunting tourism.

(2) (amend. – SG 43/08) The selection and the sanitary shooting as well as the shooting of predators in the state game husbandries, in the game breeding sections and in the bases for intensive management of the game, managed by the state forest husbandries, shall be implemented by the employees in them or by persons with acquired qualification by the order of art. 26 and 27 or by the order of the organised hunting tourism.

Art. 49. The hunting in the sites of art. 11 shall be implemented by the order of the law according to their statute.

Art. 50. (amend. – SG 43/08) The hunting in the hunting economic regions, where the management of the game is conceded by the state forest husbandry by the order of art. 36, shall be implemented by the order of the law and under conditions, determined by the persons, who manage the game.

Art. 51. (revoked – SG 79/02).

Art. 52. (amend. SG 26/01, revoked – SG 79/02).

Art. 53. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The persons, managing the game, shall pay annual fee for use.

(2) The terms, the conditions and the order for determining the amount of the annual fee for use of the game and for its spending shall be provided with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 54. (1) The terms, the days, the methods and the standards of hunting shall be determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) Depending on the biological development of the game, the damages, caused by it, and the epizootic situation, the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests or the general director of the National veterinary – medical service and after co-ordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters, shall with an order change the terms for hunting, regulate the number of the game reserves, as well as restrict or prohibit the hunting of some kinds of game.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) For regulation of the number of some kinds of game and at occurred epizootic situation resources shall be ensured from the state budget.

(4) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) Hunting with scientific objectives shall be permitted by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests during all the year under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law.

(5) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) The regulating of the number of protected and other kinds of wild animals shall be permitted by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests after co-ordination with the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 55. (amend. – SG 43/08) A hunter, who has shot down big game, shall mark it with the mark conceded for this purpose by the state forest husbandry or the game husbandries.

Art. 56. (1) The hunting shall be implemented with smooth barrel or grooved barrel hunting fire arms.

(2) Hunting fire arms are the arms, which are adapted for this purpose as construction and meet the technical requirements for safety.

(3) Permission for buying, carrying and preservation of hunting arms and ammunition shall be issued by the bodies of the Ministry of Interior by the order of the Law for control over the explosive substances, the fire arms and the ammunitions.

(4) (suppl. SG 79/02) The selective hunting shall be implemented with grooved hunting arms or with smooth barrel hunting arms with bullet. Right to acquiring, carrying and use of hunting grooved arms shall have only the persons, acquired qualification by the order of art. 26

(5) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) Hunting dogs can be used while hunting. The breed groups and the requirements, which must be met by the hunting dogs, the conditions

for their use and the order for conducting trials with them shall be determined with an ordinance by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

(6) The regulating of some kinds of game, as well as the catching live game, can be implemented also with other appropriate means under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 57. (1) A written permission shall be issued for carrying out a hunting under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law after payment of a fee for issuing it according to a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.

(2) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The permissions for hunting are according to a model, approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, and shall be accounted for at the state forest husbandries and at the game husbandries.

Art. 58. In the permission for hunting shall be entered the names of the hunters, the numbers of the hunting licenses, the way, the date and the place of hunting, the kind and the number of the permitted game for hunting and the name of the chief of the hunting in case of group hunting.

Art. 59. The game shot down, the game furs and hunting trophies shall belong to the hunter, who has acquired them, observing the conditions, determined by the manager of the game.

Art. 60. The conditions and the procedure of registration and recording of the shot and acquired game shall be determined by the regulation for application of the law.

Art. 61. (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) The hunting trophies shall be registered at the state forest husbandries or at the state game husbandries at the place of obtaining them in one month term. The non registered hunting trophies shall be taken in favour of the state.

(2) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) The hunting trophies shall be assessed by assessment commissions, appointed with an order of the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests.

Art. 62. For registration and assessment of the hunting trophies a fee shall be paid according to a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.

Art. 63. (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) The persons, who have found and taken fallen game horns, shall submit them to the state forest husbandries or to the game husbandries.

(2) The persons of para 1 can acquire the fallen game horns after payment of a fee according to a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.

Art. 64. Hunting shall be forbidden in:

1. (suppl. SG 79/02) nurseries and hunting breeding centres and fish farms;
2. trial fields and areas for variety seed production;

3. meadows – till their mowing;
4. newly planted vineyards;
5. vineyards – from pruning till the end of the grape harvest;
6. vegetable gardens and orchards and melon gardens – till harvesting;
7. cereals – from April 1 till harvesting;
8. rice fields – from March 15 till harvesting;
9. (revoked – SG 79/02).

Art. 65. The use of the following means and methods shall be prohibited at hunting:

1. fire arms, not meeting the requirements of art. 56, para 1 and 2, bows and arbalests;
2. traps, loops, nets, glues and pits (ditches), if they are applied for non selective hunting;
3. poisonous or anaesthetic substances, as well as baits with such substances;
4. (amend. SG 79/02) electric sound reproducing devices and artificial sources of light, as well as facilities for lighting the target;
5. mirrors and other blinding subjects;
6. electric appliances, able to kill or stun;
7. live animals, used as bait;
8. explosives, gas or smoke;
9. appliances for night shooting, containing electronic transformer or magnifier of the image;
10. motor vehicles;
11. aviation means;
12. hunting falcons and other pray birds, regardless of species and origin, as well as hunting greyhounds;
13. (new – SG 79/02) motor sailing vessels, which move with speed over 5 km/h and in Black Sea – over 18 km/h.

Section III. Preservation of the game

Art. 66. (1) (amend. – SG 64/07) The control for the preservation of the game in all hunting economic regions shall be implemented by the State Agency of Forests and by the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(2) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall implement control of the preservation of the genetic fund.

Art. 67. (1) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) The preservation and the guarding of the game in all hunting economic regions shall be implemented by the state forest husbandries and the game husbandries. The immediate guarding shall be implemented by hunting guards.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The hunting associations of art. 30 and 31 can organise guarding of the game, conceded for management in the hunting economic regions, determined for them. Immediate guarding of the game shall be implemented by hunting supervisors.

(3) The hunting guards shall have the rights of the forest guards of the Law for the forests.

(4) The hunting guards in the sections assigned to them shall:

1. guard the game and the fish;
2. follow the observing of the regime for management and use of the game;
3. follow the status of the game and the fulfilment of the hunting economic measures in the sections assigned to them;
4. check all documents for hunting, fishing, felling, pasture and use of herbs, established with the Law for the herbs;
5. make checks of the personal luggage of the hunting persons;
6. (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) stop for check vehicles in the guarded sections assigned to them, using stop truncheon and green signal lamp for the motor vehicles with special regime for movement according to a model, approved by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests and the Minister of Interior;
7. (amend. SG 79/02) compile acts about established breaches under this law;
8. keep the chattels – subject of the breach, as well as the chattels, that have served in its implementation;
9. follow the observing of the fire safety rules;
10. preserve the specialised fodder base, the constructed hunting economic facilities, buildings and other sites in the guarded sections assigned to them;
11. follow the preservation of the bird coupling plots;
12. follow about damages, incurred by or caused the game;
13. (new – SG 79/02) capture and take the violators with unknown identity to the nearest department of the Ministry of Interior;
14. (new – SG 79/02) regulate the number of the predators, the wild and stray dogs and cats;
15. (new – SG 79/02) guard the protected animal species and follow the observing of the regime of the protected territories.

(5) The forest guards in the sections assigned to them and the forest employees in the sense of art. 30 of the Law for the forests, as well as the employees for guarding of the protected territories – exclusive state ownership, shall implement the functions and have the rights of the hunting guard.

(6) (new – SG 79/02) The hunting supervisors in the hunting economic regions, assigned to them, shall have the rights of the hunting guards except these of para 4, items 4 and 13, having right to check all documents for hunting and fishing as well as to stop for check vehicles in the guarding sections, assigned to them, using stop truncheon of para 4, item 6.

Art. 68. (1) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) In the state game husbandries the guarding shall be implemented in guarded sections with area 1500 ha.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) In the region of activity of the state forest husbandries out of the forest entirety the guarding shall be implemented in guarded sections with area over 5000 ha.

(3) In the sites of art. 11 the guarding of the game shall be implemented by the persons who manage them.

(4) The hunting associations and the Bulgarian corporate bodies, to which has been conceded the management of the game, can organise also their own guarding of the game under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 69. (1) The setting on fire of stubble fields, hedges, strips along the road, areas with dry vegetation and the vegetation in the high mountain pastures shall be prohibited for protection of the game and its habitats.

(2) The agricultural and forest machinery shall be equipped with facilities for preservation of the game.

Art. 70. (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) The planning of the hunting economic measures shall be co-ordinated with the commission for hunting economy at the state forest husbandry.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The damaging or the destroying of the birds' coupling places shall be prohibited.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) During the mating season of the red deer and the wood-grouse in the permanently places for reproduction shall be terminated forest economic, construction, repair and other works, breaching the calmness of the game.

Chapter five. TRADE WITH GAME AND GAME PRODUCTS

Art. 71. (1) (prev. art. 71 – SG 79/02) Trade with live game shall be implemented for settling in nature, for farm breeding, for the needs of zoo centres, zoo gardens, for import and export.

(2) (new – SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) The settlement of game according to the conditions of the programme of art. 41, para 2 between the state game husbandries, the game breeding sections, managed by the state forest husbandries, and the bases for intensive management of the game shall not be commercial transaction.

Art. 72. (amend. SG 79/02) The trade with game and game products shall be implemented under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 73. (1) (amend. – SG 43/08) Bulgarian hunters, who have hunting trophies and game furs, can grant, exchange or sell them. The new owners of the hunting trophies shall in 14 days term after the transaction register them at the state forest husbandry at the place of living.

(2) The fallen game horns shall be granted, exchanged or sold, accompanied with a document for paid fee.

(3) The owners of hunting trophies shall be obliged to concede them for participation in national and international exhibitions.

(4) Transactions with non registered hunting trophies shall be forbidden.

(5) (new – SG 70/02) The activities for processing of hunting trophies shall be organised under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 74. (1) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) The export and the import of live game and genetic material shall be permitted by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests after coordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(2) The hunting trophies, the fallen game horns and the game products shall be exported from the country under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 75. (revoked – SG 108/06, in force from 01.01.2007)

Art. 76. (1) The organised hunting tourism shall include offering and use of game, acquisition of hunting trophies and game products, photo-hunting, as well as the activities servicing it.

(2) (amend. – SG 79/02; amend. - SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall approve every year minimum prices for the organised hunting tourism.

(3) The activities of para 1 shall be organised by the managers of the game under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 77. (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall categorise the bases for hunting tourism under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Chapter six. DAMAGES AND INDEMNIFICATION

Art. 78. (1) The persons managing the game shall implement the measures provided with the hunting development plan for restriction of damages from the game.

(2) The owners of lands and forests shall implement the measures with objective restriction of damages, which can be caused by game, provided in the Law for preservation of the agricultural property, the Law for the forests and in other normative acts.

Art. 79. (1) (prev. art. 79 – SG 79/02) The indemnification for damages, caused by the game in the hunting economic regions to farm crops, forest vegetation and domestic animals in the region permitted for grazing, shall be paid by the persons managing the game.

(2) (new – SG 79/02) Indemnification for damages, caused by the brown bear and the cormorant shall be paid by the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 80. Indemnification for damages, caused by the game, shall not be paid in the cases, when:

1. there are no visible damages of the forests;
2. the damages, caused to the farm crops and the perennial plantations are up to 5 percent;
3. the measures of art. 78, para 2, have not been implemented;
4. the damages are caused by passage game;
5. the damages are caused to agricultural crops and forest vegetation in regions, where grazing of domestic animals takes place.

Art. 81. (1) The indemnification for damages, caused by the game as result of

incorrect use of chemicals for protection of agricultural and forest crops or such prohibited for use, shall be paid by the persons, who have taken decision for their use or have admitted their use.

(2) The indemnification for damages, caused by the game at exploitation of forest and agricultural machinery, shall be paid by the perpetrator.

(3) The indemnification for damages, caused to the specialised fodder base and to the hunting – economic facilities, shall be paid by the perpetrator.

(4) (amend. SG 26/01) The indemnification for damages, caused to the game, shall be paid to the persons managing the game, in which hunting – economic region the damage has been caused.

Art. 82. (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 43/08) The damages, caused by the game, shall be established by a commission, appointed with an order by the director of the state forest husbandry or of the state game husbandry under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 83. The extent of the indemnification for the damages, caused by the game, shall be determined with an ordinance, approved by the Council of Ministers.

Chapter seven. ADMINISTRATIVE PUNITIVE PROVISIONS

Art. 84. (1) Who hunts without having lawfully certified hunting license or with a hunting license, but without written permission for hunting, or hunts out of the places determined in the permission, without having killed or caught game, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 400 leva.

(2) When the breach of para 1 has been made during time prohibited for hunting, at a place prohibited for hunting or with prohibited means, the person shall be punished with a fine from 100 to 800 levs.

(3) (new – SG 79/02) Who hunts without carrying hunting license, shall be punished with fine of 50 levs unless he is subject to a heavier penalty.

(4) (new – SG 79/02) When the number of the hunters at group hunting is bigger than the permitted, the leader of the hunting shall be punished with fine from 50 to 300 levs.

Art. 85. (amend. SG 79/02) Who takes, carries, transports or hides found live, injured or killed game or identifiable parts of it without a written permission for hunting, shall be punished with fine from 200 to 1000 leva.

Art. 86. (1) Who kills or catches game without having properly certified hunting license, or with a hunting license, but without a permission for hunting, or out of the place determined for it, shall be punished with a fine:

1. for small game – from 300 to 1000 levs, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage;

2. for big game – from 500 to 5000 levs, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage.

(2) Who kills or catches game at a time prohibited for hunting, at a place prohibited for hunting, or with prohibited means, shall be punished with a fine:

1. for small game – from 600 to 2000 levs, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage;

2. for big game – from 1000 to 10 000 levs, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage.

(3) (new – SG 79/02) Who kills at selection hunting or as hunting guide allows to be killed big game, different from the entered in the permission for hunting, shall be punished with fine from 50 to 400 levs.

Art. 87. Who surmounts the standards for shooting down, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 500 levs, and the game shall be taken in favour of the state.

Art. 88. (amend. SG 79/02) Who collects and takes eggs of birds – subject to hunting, without a written permission for hunting, collects and misappropriates game horns in breach of art. 63, shall be punished with a fine from 50 up to 100 levs, unless subject to a more serious punishment.

Art. 89. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) When the breach of art. 84, para 1 and 2, art. 85 and 86, para 1 and 2 has been done for second time within two years after the punitive decision has entered into force, the fine shall be in double extent.

(2) When the breach of art. 86, para 3 has been done for second time within two years after the punitive decision has entered into force, the fine shall be in triple extent.

Art. 90. Who hides, sells or transports unlawfully acquired by other man game or game trophy, or non registered hunting trophies, unless subject to a graver punishment, shall be punished with a fine from 100 to 2000 levs.

Art. 91. (amend. SG 79/02) Who does not fulfil orders of the officials for the guarding of the game, given within their authorities of art. 67, para 4, items 4 – 12 shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 200 levs, unless subject to a more serious punishment.

Art. 92. A driver, who does not stop after a signal by an official for the guarding of the game, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 500 levs, unless subject to a more serious punishment.

Art. 93. (1) Who causes damages to the hunting economic facilities and to the specialised fodder base, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 1000 levs.

(2) Who breaches the prohibition of art. 69, para 1, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 1000 levs.

Art. 94. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) A person, who has committed violation of art. 84,

para 1 and 2, art. 85 and 86, para 1, shall also be deprived from the right to hunt for a term from 1 to 3 years.

(2) A person, who has committed violation of art. 86, para 2, and art. 89, para 2 shall also be deprived from the right to hunt for a term from 3 to 5 years.

Art. 95. (1) (amend. – SG 64/07) At the breaches of art. 84, 85 and 86 the weapons and the other means for hunting shall be taken in favour of the state and the unlawfully acquired game, hunting trophies and game products shall be delivered to the bodies of the State Agency of Forests.

(2) When in the cases of para 1 as means for hunting a vehicle is used, regardless of which ownership it is, it shall be taken in favour of the state.

(3) When the game, the hunting trophies, the game products, the vehicles, the weapons and the other means for hunting of para 1 and 2 cannot be taken, the violators shall pay apart from the indemnification also their equal value.

Art. 95a. (new – SG 79/02) Upon killing or poisoning of game due to use of toxic preparations the violators shall be punished with fine from 500 to 1500 levs, but not less than the value of the caused damage.

Art. 96. (1) (amend. – SG 64/07) The violations of the law shall be established with acts, compiled by the officials of art. 67 or authorised employees of the Ministry of interior, and the punitive decisions shall be issued by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests of the Minister of Interior, or by officials authorised by them.

(2) The establishing of the violations, the issuing, the appealing and the implementation of the punitive decisions shall be implemented by the order of the Law for the administrative breaches and penalties.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) Punitive decisions, with which has been imposed fine up to 100 levs, including taking in favour of the state of chattels with value up to 1000 levs, or when the indemnification for caused damage is at the same value, shall not be subject to appeal.

Additional provisions

§ 1. In the context of the law:

1. "Hunting economy" is a complex of activities, connected with the management, the preservation and the use of the game, with the organisation and the development of the hunting area in the Republic of Bulgaria and with the trade with game and game products.

2. "Population principle" is large scale management of the game, complied with its biological peculiarities and whole year habitats, combining the interests of the species within the framework of the population at certain sexual ratio and age structure.

3. "Population" is a multitude of individual animals of certain kind of game, characterised with density of the resource, ensuring the existence and the normal reproduction of the species on certain territory.

4. "Farm" is a fenced territory for breeding or raising of animal species, subordinating to certain technological and veterinary – medical requirements.

5. "Breeding centre" is a part of a hunting economic region, where are created all the necessary conditions for guarding and reproduction of the game. Hunting shall take place as exception for some kinds of prey animals.

6. "Selective hunting" is a hunting economic measure for maintaining game resources at certain age structure, sexual ratio and trophy qualities.

7. "Biological minimum" is the number of animals under which the existence of certain species is threatened.

8. "Admissible resource" is the number of certain species, which can be maintained in the hunting economic region on the basis of the natural productivity of the habitats, combined with conducting of hunting economic measures, accounting the interaction with the competitive species and non admitting damages over 10 percent.

9. "Bird coupling place" is the place for coupling of wood-grouses and other birds.

10. "Organised hunting tourism" is paid use of game and game products, connected with creating of certain organisation and use of services.

11. "Boundaries of land entreties" are the boundaries between the agricultural and the forest land entreties.

12. "Hunter" is an individual, who has acquired right to hunting.

13. "Introduction" is a successful implemented acclimatisation of foreign animal species.

14. "Photo-hunting" is taking pictures with photo appliances of wild animals and birds in their natural environment.

15. "Base for hunting tourism" are buildings and terrains and infrastructure, adjacent to them, specialised for the needs of the hunting tourism.

16. "Right to hunting" is the right to be killed, cached, chased and injured game, to be taken, transferred, transported found, injured and killed game or identifiable parts of it, to be collected and taken eggs of birds – subject to hunting, as well as the staying or the movement of persons out of the settlements with hunting weapons assembled and out of the case, regardless whether it is charged or not.

17. (new – SG 79/02) "Base for intensive management of the game" is a fenced territory, developed with regard to hunting economy for semi – free breeding of game with number over the admissible resource of the habitat according to the grade.

18. (new – SG 79/02) "Fish farm" is artificial water site, constructed according to the requirements for intensive breeding of different kinds of fish.

19. (new – SG 79/02) "Breed groups" are detached groups of dogs of and the same breed with equal exterior indices.

Transitional and concluding provisions

§ 2. (1) (amend. – SG 64/07) The Chairman of the State Agency of Forests shall in six months term after the law enters into force approve the boundaries of the hunting economic regions.

(2) Till the approval of the boundaries of the hunting economic regions the game shall be managed according to the existing distribution of the hunting area of the country.

§ 3. (1) The persons, managing the game till the law enters into force, shall preserve

their right to use the game for the hunting season 2000 – 2001.

(2) The right to hunting, to selective shooting and to accompanying (hunting guide), acquired by individuals till the law enters into force, shall be preserved.

(3) (revoked – SG 79/02).

(4) The hunting associations of art. 30 cannot refuse membership of persons, who have acquired right to hunting, meet the requirements of their statutes and when these persons do not participate in other hunting associations.

§ 4. The owners of hunting trophies shall, in one year term after the law enters into force, be obliged to register them.

§ 5. The hunting associations shall be registered observing the requirements of this law in months term after the law enters into force.

§ 6. (amend. SG 79/02; amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 43/08) The financing of the activities for management, preservation and guarding of the game of the state game husbandries as well as the state forest husbandries for the game breeding sections, where they manage the game shall be implemented through the budget of the State Agency of Forests.

§ 6a. (new – SG 43/08) (1) The state game breeding stations according to Appendix No. 2 shall be transformed into state game husbandries and shall be legal entities having the status of state enterprises under Art. 62, par. 3 of the Act of Commerce.

(2) The state game husbandries shall be successors of the existing respective state game breeding stations and shall take in their assets and the liabilities as per the balance of accounts as of 1 June 2008.

§ 7. The law shall revoke the Law for the hunting economy (prom. SG 91/82; amend. SG 13/97, SG 11/98).

§ 8. In the Law for value added tax (prom. SG 153/98; amend. SG 1/99; amend. SG 44, 62, 64, 103, 111/99, SG 83/00) in art. 14, para 1 item 7 shall be created:

"7. The sale of game, game trophies, game products and the activities servicing them to foreigners by organised hunting tourism in the context of the Law for the hunting and the preservation of the game".

§ 9. In the Law for the forests (prom. SG 125/97; amend. SG 79/133/98, SG 26/99, SG 29/00) the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

1. In art. 21 item 7 shall be created:

"7. the hunting economy."

2. In art. 23, para 2 item 5 shall be created:

"5. the hunting economy."

3. In art. 57:

a) new para 5 shall be created:

"(5) The timber from forests – ownership of the state, shall be used by the state game breeding stations in the region determined for them against a fee paid per standing trees.";

b) the previous para 5 shall become para 6.

4. In art. 93 the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

a) items 6, 7 and 21 shall be changed to:

"6. fees for right to hunting, for issuing and certification of hunting licenses, for issuing certificates for selective hunting, for hunting guides etc. underart. 28, para 2 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

7. fees for issuing and coordination of certificates, permissions and other written documents, required under the Law for hunting and protection of the game;"

"21. Fees for registration and assessment of hunting trophies under art. 62 and fees for fallen game horns"

22. fines for committed violations under the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

23. resources from selling of chattels, taken in favour of the state under the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

24. fees of art. 52 and payments of art. 53, para 1 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

25. resources from the state budget for maintenance, insurance and indemnification of the forest guide;

26. resources from Bulgarian and foreign individuals and corporate bodies and non government organisations for development of the hunting economy, scientific and research and applied activity;

27. . resources from the state budget under art. 54, para 3 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

26. remainders from the previous year."

5. In art. 95 the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

a) the previous text shall become para 1 and in it:

aa) item 11 shall be changed to:

"11. Maintenance of the state game breeding stations;"

bb) items 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48 shall be created:

"29. The reproduction of the game;

30. construction, maintenance and repairs of hunting economic facilities and buildings;

31. acclimatisation, re-acclimatisation and settlement of the game;

32. creating and maintenance of specialised fodder base;

33. payment of remuneration for regulating the number of the prey animals;

34. protection and guarding of the game in the hunting economic regions;

35. maintenance of hunting museums and organising of hunting exhibitions;

36. publishing of printed materials, promotion and advertising activity, illustration material and training;

37. maintenance, insurance and indemnification of the hunting guard;

38. preparation of hunting development plans;

39. supply of materials, instruments, weapons and facilities for the state game breeding stations and the state forestries;"

40. scientific servicing and introduction activity in the hunting economy;

41. conducting of international activity, connected with the hunting economy;
 42. construction, acquisition, maintenance, repair and other intrinsic expenses for long term material assets – ownership of the state game breeding stations;
 43. assessment of hunting trophies;
 44. additional material stimulation in extent of 30 percent of the sums received in the National fund "Bulgarian forest" from punitive decisions entered into force, determined by the chief of the National Forest Department;
 45. hunting economic region, conceded for management of the game by the state forestries, in extent of 80 percent of the payments received from this under art. 53, para 3 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;
 46. game breeding sections, conceded to scientific institutes, higher schools and sites for particularly important state needs, in extent of 80 percent of the fees received for them under art. 52 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;
 47. the owners of lands and forests, who's property is in the region of state game breeding stations, in extent of 24 percent of the fees received for them under art. 52 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game, and they shall be distributed by the commissions for hunting economy;
 48. buying of lands by individuals or corporate bodies for game fields.";
- b) para 2 shall be created:
- "(2) The resources of para 1, items 45 and 46 shall be distributed by the commissions for hunting economy at the state forestries in the following way: 30 percent for the owners of lands and forests and 70 percent – for hunting economic measures and indemnification for caused damages by the game for the hunting economic region, from which they have been received."

§ 10. In the Law for the protected territories (prom. SG 133/98; amend. SG 98/99, SG 28, 48/00) in art. 14 para 4 shall be created:

"(4) Fencing of the areas in protected areas, without these in reserves and national parks, shall be admitted for construction of bases for breeding game after coordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters."

§ 11. The Council of Ministers shall approve a regulation for implementation of the law in 6 months term after its entering into force.

§ 12. (amend. – SG 64/07) The implementation of the law shall be assigned to the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests. In the protected territories – exclusive state ownership, announced with the Law for the protected territories, the implementation of the law shall be assigned to the Minister of Environment and Waters.

The law was passed by the 38th National Assembly on September 12, 2000 and is affixed with the official seal of the National Assembly.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW FOR AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW FOR THE FORESTS

(PROM. – SG 64/07)

§ 29. The following amendments have been done to the Law for Hunting and protection of the game (prom. SG 78/00; amend. – SG 26/01; SG 77 and 79/02; SG 88/05; SG 82 and 108/06)

.....

11. Everywhere in the law the words:

a) "the chief of the National Department of Forests" and "chief of the National Department of Forests" shall be replaced respectively with "the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests" and "Chairman of the State Agency of Forests";

b) "the National Department of Forests" shall be replaced r with "the State Agency of Forests";

c) "the Minister of Agriculture and Forests" and "Minister of Agriculture and Forests" shall be replaced respectively with "the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests" and "Chairman of the State Agency of Forests";

d) "the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests" shall be replaced with "the State Agency of Forests".

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW FOR AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW FOR THE FORESTS

(PROM. - SG 43/08)

§ 75. In the Law for hunting and protection of the game (prom. – SG 78/00; amend. SG 26/01, SG 77 and 79/02; SG 88/05; SG 82 and 108/06, SG 64/07) the following amendments and supplementations are made:

.....

4. Everywhere in the Law the words:

a) "the chief of the regional forests department", "chief of the regional forests department" and "regional forests department" shall be replaced respectively with "the director of the regional forests directorate", "director of the regional forests directorate" and "regional forests directorate";

b) "forestries" and "forestry" shall be replaced respectively with "forest husbandries" and "forest husbandry";

c) "state game breeding station", "the state game breeding station", "the state game breeding stations" and "the game breeding station" shall be replaced respectively with "state game husbandry", "the state game husbandry", "the state game husbandries" and "the game husbandries".

I. Mammals:

A. BIG GAME

1. Cervus elaphus L.

2. Cervus dama L.

3. Capreolus capreolus L.

4. *Sus scrofa* L.
5. *Rupicapra Rupicapra* L.+
6. (Revoked, SG 79/02)
7. *Ovis musimon* Pall.
8. *Bison Bonasus* L.
9. *Bos mutus* P.
10. *Capra idex* L.
11. *Canis lupus* L.
- B. SMALL GAME
12. *Lepus europaeus* Pall.
13. *Sciurus vulgaris* L.
14. *Ondatra zibethica* L.
15. *Miocastor coypus* Mol.
16. *Canis aureus* L.
17. *Vulpes vulpes* L.
18. *Nictereutes procyonoides* Greg
19. *Felis silvestris* Schreb.+
20. *Martes foina* L.
21. *Mustela putorius* L.
22. *Meles Meles* L.
- II. Birds:
- A. BIG GAME
1. *Tetrao urogallus* L.
2. *Meleagris gallopavo* L.
- B. SMALL GAME
3. *Phasianus colchicus* L.
4. *Phasianus* sp.
5. *Perdix perdix* L.
6. *Alectoris graeca graeca* Meisner
7. *Alectoris graeca cupriotes* Hartert.
8. *Coturnix coturnix* L.
9. *Numida meleagris* L.
10. *Columba palumbus* L.
11. *Streptopelia turtur* L.
12. *Streptopelia decaocto* Friv.
13. *Anas albifrons* Scop.
14. *Anas platyrhynchos* L.
15. *Anas platyrhynchos* L.
16. *Anas guerguedula* L.
17. *Anas crecca* L.
18. *Anas penelope* L.
19. *Anas clypeata* L.
20. *Aythya/ Nycora/fuligula* L.
21. *Anas acuta* L.
22. *Fulica atra* L.
23. (Revoked, SG 79/02)
24. *Scolopax rusticola* L.

25. Callinago gallinago L.
26. Sturnus vulgaris L.
27. Pica pica L.
28. Corvus cornix L.
29. Cornus frugilegus L.
30. Coloeus monedula L.

+ - in cases of exceptions according to the art. 48 and art. 49 of the Law for the biological diversity.

Transitional and concluding provisions of the Law for amendment and supplement of the Law for hunting and preservation of the game – SG 79/02

§ 61. The hunting companies and associations of art. 29 and art. 30, para 1 shall bring their structures in compliance with the requirements of this law in 9 months term after it enters into force.

§ 62. The contracts for management of the game, concluded till this law enters into force, except the contracts of art. 36, para 2 shall have effect till the end of hunting season 2002 – 2003. The contracts for management of the game after hunting season 2002 – 2003 shall be concluded observing the provisions of this law.

§ 65. The state enterprises of art. 9, para 1 shall be legal successors of the respective game breeding stations, existed till this law enters into force and assume their assets and liabilities according to the balance sheet by January 1, 2002.

§ 66. The employment legal relations with the workers and employees of the state game breeding stations shall be provided by the order of art. 123 of the Labour Code.

§ 67. The state enterprises of art. 9, para 1 shall not be subject to privatisation by the order of the Law for privatisation and post-privatisation control.

§ 68. The hunting economic regions of the hunting farms "Voden – Iry Hisar" and "Iskar", established with acts of the Council of Ministers, shall be detached as state game breeding stations under art. 8 and art. 9, para 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8 and shall be managed by the Council of Ministers without right to let to other individuals or corporate bodies.

§ 69. (1) The hunting farms "Studen kladenets" and "Eledzhik" at the National association "Union of the hunters and the fishermen in Bulgaria" shall be detached as game breeding sections by the order of art. 10 and without the conditions of art. 7, para 4 and 6 to exist.

(2) The managing of the game in the sections of para 1 shall be conceded by the National Forest department to the persons, managed the game in the respective areas till September 30, 2000 or to their legal successors by direct contracting against payment under art. 53.

(3) The contracts of para 2 shall be concluded for a term from 5 to 13 years depending on the basic kind of game in the hunting economic region

§ 71. Appendix No 2 of art. 9, para 1 shall be created:

List of the state game breeding stations

1. RUSALKA - Apriltsy
2. ROSITSA – locality Lagat
3. CHEPINO – locality Chehliovo, Velingrad municipality
4. CHERKEZITSA – locality Chekeritsa, village Stryama
5. CHERNY LOM – Popovo
6. ARAMLIETS – village Ognyanovo, Elin Pelin municipality
7. BOROVO – locality Valcha polyana, Batak municipality
8. IZVORA – Devin
9. BEGLIKA – locality Beglika, Batak municipality
10. ZHENDA – Kardzhaly
11. SHERBA – village Goren chiflik
12. ROPOTAMO – locality Arkutino, Burgas region
13. VITOSHKO – STUDENA – village Kladnitsa
14. KORMISOSH – vilage Laky
15. PALAMARA – village Venets, Shumen region
16. OSOGOVO – Kyustendil
17. MIDZUR – Belogradchik
18. MAZALAT – village Gorno Sahrane
19. SESLAV – Kubrat
20. DIKCHAN – village Satovcha, Blagoevgrad region
21. VITINYA – locality Vitinya, Sofia region
22. RAZLOG – Razlog
23. DUNAV – Ruse
24. TERVEL – Tervel
25. KARAKUZ – Dulovo
26. BALCHIK – Balchik
27. RODOPY – locality Snezhana
28. SHIROKA POLYANA – locality Shiroka polyana
29. NESEBAR – Nesebar
30. TOPOLOVGRAD – Topolovgrad
31. PRESLAV – Preslav
32. TUNDZHA – Yambol
33. KOTEL – Kotel
34. BOLYARKA – Veliko Tarnovo
35. RAKITOVO – Rakitovo
36. GRAMATIKOVO – Gramatikovo
37. ALABAK – Valingrad

38. VODEN – IRY HISAR

39. ISKAR.

The law was passed by the 39th National Assembly on August 2, 2002 and is affixed with the official seal of the National Assembly.

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

*Promulgated, State Gazette No. 91/25.09.2002
Corrected, SG No. 96/2002*

Chapter One

GENERAL DISPOSITIONS

Section I

Applicability and Scope

Article 1

This Act shall regulate the social relations with regard to:

1. protection of the environment for the present and future generations and protection of human health;
2. conservation of biological diversity in conformity with the natural biogeographic characteristics of Bulgaria;
3. the conservation and use of environmental media;
4. the control and management of factors damaging the environment;
5. the exercise of control over the state of the environment and over the sources of pollution;
6. the prevention and limitation of pollution;
7. the establishment and management of the National Environmental Monitoring System;
8. environmental strategies, programmes and plans;
9. collection of, and access to, environmental information;
10. the economic organization of environmental protection activities;
11. the rights and the obligations of the State, the municipalities, the juristic and natural persons in respect of environmental protection.

Article 2

The purposes of this Act shall be achieved by means of:

1. regulation of the regimes of conservation and use of environmental media;
2. control over the status and use of environmental media and of the sources of pollution and damage;
3. establishment of permissible emission levels and of environmental quality standards;
4. management of the environmental media and of environmental factors;
5. environmental impact assessment (EIA);
6. issuance of integrated permits for pollution prevention, reduction and control;
7. designation and management of areas placed under a special regime of protection;

8. development of the monitoring system for environmental media;
9. introduction of economic regulators and financial mechanisms for environmental governance;
10. regulation of the rights and obligations of the State, the municipalities, the juristic and natural persons.

Article 3

Environmental protection shall be based on the following principles:

1. sustainable development;
2. prevention and reduction of risk to human health;
3. priority of pollution prevention over subsequent elimination of pollution damage;
4. public participation in and transparency of the decision making process regarding environmental protection;
5. public awareness regarding the state of the environment;
6. polluter pays for damage caused to the environment;
7. conservation, development and protection of ecosystems and the biological diversity inherent therein;
8. restoration and improvement of environmental quality in polluted and disturbed areas;
9. prevention of pollution and damage and of other adverse impacts on clean areas;
10. integration of environmental protection policy into the sectoral and regional economic and social development policies;
11. access to justice in environmental matters.

Article 4

The environmental media shall comprehend: ambient air, atmosphere, water, soil, bowels of the earth, landscape, natural sites, mineral diversity, biological diversity and the components therein.

Article 5

The factors of environmental pollution or environmental damage can be: natural and anthropogenic substances and processes; different types of waste and the locations therein; hazardous energy sources: noise, vibrations, radiation, as well as certain genetically modified organisms.

Article 6

The environmental media and the factors affecting the said media shall be managed, conserved and controlled according to a procedure established by this Act and by the special laws regulating the environmental media and factors.

Article 7

The requirements contained agreements and treaties to which the Republic of Bulgaria is party shall apply to transboundary pollution.

Section II

National Environmental Protection Policy and Environmental Management Authorities

Article 8

The national environmental protection policy shall be implemented by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 9

The national environmental protection policy shall be integrated into sectoral policies: transport, energy, construction, agriculture, tourism, industry, education etc., and shall be implemented by the competent executive authorities.

Article 10

- (1) Within the meaning of this Act, competent authorities shall be:
 1. the Minister of Environment and Water;
 2. the Executive Director of the Executive Environment Agency;
 3. the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water (RIEW) directors;
 4. the Basin Directorate directors;
 5. the National Park Directorate directors;
 6. the municipality mayors and, in the cities subdivided into wards, the ward mayors as well;
 7. the regional governors.
- (2) The following shall be competent to undertake the actions and activities provided for in this Act:
 1. within the territory of any municipality: the RIEW Director or the Municipality Mayor and, in the cities subdivided into wards, the Ward Mayor;
 2. within the territory of any administrative region: the Regional Governor or the RIEW Director;
 3. within the territory of several municipalities covered by a single RIEW: the Director of the competent Inspectorate;
 4. within the territory of several municipalities covered by different RIEWs: the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 11

The Minister of Environment and Water shall perform the following functions:

1. together with the authorities referred to in Article 9 herein, develop the environmental protection policy and strategy in the Republic of Bulgaria;
2. direct the National Environmental Monitoring System through the Executive Environment Agency;
3. control the state of the environment in Bulgaria;

4. coordinate the controlling powers of other executive authorities in respect of the environment;
5. issue orders, permits, instructions and endorse methodologies;
6. jointly with the executive authorities concerned:
 - a) establish emission limit values by type of pollutant and issue standards of maximum permissible concentrations of noxious substances by element of the environment and by area;
 - b) endorse EIA methods;
 - c) issue standards on efficient utilization of renewable and non-renewable natural resources;
 - d) ensure the collection and provision of information on the state of the environment;
7. perform other activities associated with environmental protection and management in conformity with the special laws;
8. prepare an Annual Report on the State of the Environment.

Article 12

- (1) There shall be established with the Minister of Environment and Water:
 1. a Supreme Environmental Expert Council;
 2. advisory councils on the policy of management of environmental media.
- (2) Environmental expert councils shall be established with the regional inspectorates of environment and water.
- (3) The functions, the tasks and the complement of the councils referred in Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be established by Rules issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 13

- (1) The Executive Environment Agency with the Minister of Environment and Water shall direct the National Environmental Monitoring System.
- (2) The Executive Environment Agency shall be a juristic person.
- (3) The Executive Environment Agency shall be managed and represented by an Executive Director.
- (4) The operation, the structure, the organization of work and the staffing of the Executive Environment Agency shall be determined by Rules of Organization adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Article 14

- (1) The Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water, the National Park Directorates and the Basin Directorates shall ensure the conduct of the national environmental protection policy at the regional level.
- (2) The bodies referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be juristic persons with the Minister of Environment and Water and shall be represented by the relevant directors or persons authorized thereby.

- (3) The heads of the bodies referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be secondary grantees of budgetary obligational authority under the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (4) The RIEW directors, the national park directors and the basin directorate directors shall draw up warning statements and memorandums of ascertainment, shall issue orders on application of coercive administrative measures and penalty decrees.
- (5) The number, the territorial scope of activity, the functions and the structure of the RIEWs, the powers of the directors therein, as well as the activity of the National Park Directorates and of the Basin Directorates shall be determined with Rules issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 15

- (1) The Municipality Mayors shall perform the following functions:
 1. inform the community about the state of the environment according to the requirements of this Act;
 2. together with the other authorities, elaborate and control plans for elimination of the effects of accidents and burst pollution within the territory of the municipality;
 3. organize waste management within the territory of the municipality;
 4. oversee the construction, maintenance and proper operation of waste water treatment plants in the urbanized areas;
 5. organize and oversee the cleanness, maintenance, conservation and expansion of the settlement green structures within the nucleated settlements and in the country areas, as well as the conservation of biological diversity, of the landscape and of the natural and cultural heritage therein;
 6. designate and make public the persons responsible for maintenance of the cleanness of streets, sidewalks and other areas for public use within the nucleated settlements, and oversee the performance of the duties of the said persons;
 7. organize the operation of eco-inspectorates, including such functioning on a *pro bono* basis, established by resolution of the competent Municipal Council, which are empowered to draw up written statements ascertaining administrative violations;
 8. designate the officials empowered to draw up written statements ascertaining administrative violations under this Act;
 9. exercise the powers vested therein under the special laws regulating the environment;
 10. designate the persons in the municipal administration possessing the requisite occupational skills to carry out the activities comprehended in environmental management.
- (2) The municipality mayors may delegate the performance of the functions covered under Paragraph (1) to the ward mayors and the mayoralty mayors.

Article 16

The Regional Governors shall perform the following functions:

1. ensure the conduct of the national environmental protection policy within the territory of the administrative region;

2. coordinate the work of the executive authorities and the administrations therein within the territory of the administrative region in respect of the conduct of the national environmental protection policy;
3. coordinate the activities comprehended in the conduct of the environmental protection policy among the different municipalities within the territory of the administrative region;
4. issue penalty decrees acting on written statements drawn up according to the procedure established by Item 8 of Article 15 (1) herein.

Chapter Two

INFORMATION RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Article 17

Anyone shall have the right of access to available information relating to the environment without having to prove a specific interest.

Article 18

The information relating to the environment shall be:

1. available primary information;
2. available pre-processed information;
3. expressly processed information.

Article 19

"Information relating to the environment" shall mean any information in written, visual, aural, electronic or other physical form regarding:

1. the state of the environmental media covered under Article 4 herein and the interaction therebetween;
2. the factors covered under Article 5 herein, as well as the activities and/or measures, including administrative measures, international agreements, policies, legislation, plans and programmes impacting or capable of impacting the environmental media;
3. the state of human health and safety, inasmuch as they are or may be affected by the state of the environmental media or, through the said media, by the factors, activities or measures referred to in Item 2;
4. cultural and historical heritage sites, buildings and installations, inasmuch as they are or may be affected by the state of the environmental media or, through the said media, by the factors, activities or measures referred to in Item 2;
5. costs-benefit analysis and other economic analyses and assumptions used within the framework of the measures and activities referred to in Item 2;
6. emissions, discharges and other harmful impacts on the environment.

Article 20

(1) Access to information relating to the environment may be denied where the request is for:

1. classified information constituting a state secret or an official secret;

2. information constituting an industrial or commercial secret, designated as such by law;
 3. intellectual property;
 4. information constituting personal data, where the natural person concerned has not consented to the disclosure of the said information, and according to the requirements provided for in the Protection of Personal Data Act;
 5. information which would adversely affect the interests of a third party which has supplied the information requested without that party being under or capable of being under a legal obligation to do so, and where that party does not consent to the release of the material;
 6. information that will adversely affect the environmental media.
- (2) Information relating to the environment shall be provided within fourteen days after the date on which the applicant was notified about the decision of the competent authority to provide access to the information requested.
 - (3) The persons who or which report information relating to the environment to the competent authorities shall be obliged to mark the information subject to any of the restrictions on provision covered under Paragraph (1).
 - (4) Upon making a decision to refuse provision of any information covered under Paragraph (1), the competent authority shall take into account the public interest served by disclosure of any such information.
 - (5) In the cases of restricted access, the available information relating to the environment shall be provided in the part therein as can possibly be separated out from the information covered under Paragraph (1).
 - (6) The restriction of the right of access to information shall not apply to any information relating to emissions of noxious substances into the environment expressed as limit values established by legislative acts.

Article 21

- (1) Competent authorities under this Chapter shall be the central and local executive authorities that collect and hold information relating to the environment.
- (2) Competent authorities within the meaning of Paragraph (1) shall furthermore be the other bodies and organizations that dispose of resources of the consolidated national budget and that collect and hold information relating to the environment, with the exception of the legislative and judicial authorities.

Article 22

- (1) Annually, the Council of Ministers shall present to the National Assembly a report on the state of the environment, proposed by the Minister of Environment and Water who, after adoption of the said report, shall publish the said report as an Annual Report on the State of the Environment
- (2) The Report referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be laid before the National Assembly not later than three months after the National Statistical Institute provides the requisite information and data.

Article 23

- (1) In the event of accidental or other pollution, where the limit values for pollutants discharge in the environment as established by a legislative act or an individual administrative act are exceeded, the polluters, as well as the persons responsible for observance of the limit values shall be obliged to notify immediately the competent regional governors, mayors of the municipalities concerned, the relevant RIEWs, the basin directorates, and the authorities of the State Agency for Civil Protection and, in case of change of the radiation level, the Nuclear Regulatory Agency as well.
- (2) The competent authorities covered under Paragraph (1) shall be obliged to notify immediately the Ministry of Health and the affected community about the occurrence of pollution in excess of the emission limit values, suggesting measures for protection of human health and of property.

Article 24

On an annual basis, each head of an administrative structure in the system of the executive branch of government shall publish data for the arrays and resources of processed environmental information referred to in Item 2 of Article 18 herein.

Article 25

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall issue an order determining the description of the information arrays and resources referred to in Item 3 of Article 15 (1) of the Access to Public Information Act, where the said arrays and resources contain any information covered under Article 19 herein.
- (2) The order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be promulgated in the *State Gazette*.
- (3) The description of the information arrays referred to in Paragraph (1) and in Article 24 herein shall be published on the Internet site of the Ministry of Environment and Water.

Article 26

- (1) The procedure established by Chapter Three of the Access to Public Information Act ("Procedure for Granting Access to Public Information") shall apply to the provision of access to information relating to the environment.
- (2) Any decision to grant access to information under Article 34 (1) of the Access to Public Information Act shall specify whether expressly processed information or another type of information is provided.

Article 27

Any refusal to provide information as a party shall need to prepare the case for the defence therein in any proceeding provided for in this Act or in another law shall be appealable according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Act.

Article 28

A charge for supplying any information referred to in Items 1 and 2 of Article 18 herein shall be made under the terms and according to the procedure established by Articles 20 to 22 of the Access to Public Information Act.

Article 29

The charge made for provision of expressly processed information shall be negotiated in each particular case.

Article 30

The competent authorities shall provide available primary and pre-processed information relating to the environment at no charge to each other, as well as to the municipalities where the recipients shall need any such information to make decisions within the competence therein.

Article 31

In the broadcasts therein, the national public-service radio and television operators shall:

1. disseminate information relating to environmental protection and management;
2. ensure protection of the right to information on the state of the environment;
3. popularize knowledge and scientific and technological advances in the field of environmental protection by means of transmission of Bulgarian and foreign educational programmes.

Chapter Three

CONSERVATION AND USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Section I

General Conditions

Article 32

Not-for-profit use of environmental media to meet own requirements shall be gratuitous save in the cases specified in this Act and in the special laws regulating the environment.

Article 33

For-profit use of natural resources as regulated by law shall be onerous.

Article 34

Any persons carrying on activities referred to in Articles 32 and 33 herein shall be obliged to protect and rehabilitate the environment.

Section II

Conservation and Use of Water and Water Bodies

Article 35

- (1) The conservation and use of water and water bodies shall be based on a long-term national policy.
- (2) The long-term policy of conservation and use of water and water bodies shall be based on efficient water management at both national and basin level with the main purpose of achieving a good state of all ground and surface waters, and of ensuring the quantity and quality of water necessary for:

1. the needs of drinking and household water supply of the present and future generations;
2. a favourable conservation status and development of ecosystems and wetlands;
3. economic and social activities.

Article 36

- (1) The use of water and water bodies shall comprehend water use and use of water bodies.
- (2) The use of water and water bodies shall be carried out:
 1. without permit;
 2. by permit;
 3. by the award of a concession.
- (3) Where the right to use water and water bodies is granted under various regimes to the same holder, the stricter regime shall apply.
- (4) Both water use and use of water bodies shall mandatorily require ensuring the necessary minimum ecological runoff in the water streams.

Article 37

The conservation of water and water bodies shall ensure:

1. the balance between abstraction and natural recharge of water;
2. preservation and improvement of the quality of both surface and ground waters.

Article 38

The conservation and use of water and water bodies shall follow the terms and the procedure established by the Water Act.

Section III

Conservation and Use of the Soil

Article 39

- (1) Soil conservation shall guarantee effective protection of human health and of the natural soil functions.
- (2) The soil and ground water shall be protected against contamination with manure, fertilizer and pesticides by implementation of good agricultural practices.

Article 40

Juristic and natural persons using the soil as a productive asset or impacting the soil in any other manner shall be obliged not to cause any harmful soil modification both in the land properties cultivated thereby and in the neighboring land properties.

Article 41

The owners and users of land properties shall be obliged to take measures for the prevention of any harmful modification endangering the soil.

Article 42

- (1) Any person, who or which shall cause any harmful soil modification, shall be obliged to restore, at their own expense, the natural properties and functions of the soil to a degree at which no risk and harm whatsoever to human health and safety arises permanently and continuously.
- (2) The owners and users of underground and overhead physical infrastructure networks and installations shall be obliged to maintain the said networks and facilities in serviceable condition and not to suffer contamination or other harmful modification of the surrounding soil.

Article 43

- (1) The humus layer of the soil shall be placed under special protection.
- (2) Prior to commencement of construction or prospecting, exploration and extraction of subsoil resources, the humus layer of the soil shall be removed, deposited and utilized as intended under terms and according to a procedure established by a regulation issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, the Minister of Environment and Water, and the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.
- (3) The activities covered under Paragraph (2) shall be carried out without contamination of or damage to the soil in the neighboring land properties.
- (4) After finishing the activities covered under Paragraph (2), the project client or the project initiator shall be obliged to reclaim the disturbed ground.

Article 44

The owners and operators of waste landfills, including tailings ponds, slime ponds etc., as well as of installations for storage of waste and/or dangerous chemical substances, preparations and products, shall organize and operate the said installations in a manner precluding contamination of, and damage to, the soil and other environmental media.

Section IV

Conservation and Use of the Bowels of the Earth

Article 45

Conservation of the bowels of the Earth shall be an essential obligation of all who carry out activities comprehending the prospecting and use of the said environmental medium.

Article 46

Conservation of the bowels of the Earth shall be ensured by means of:

1. protection and efficient utilization of subsoil resources and of ground water;
2. environmentally sound waste management and waste recovery;
3. environmentally sound use of past mining and processing facilities;
4. restoration and/or reclamation of grounds disturbed upon exploration and exploitation;
5. effective protection against natural disasters, accidents and other destructive processes caused by human activity.

Article 47

The bowels of the Earth shall be used for:

1. prospecting, exploration and extraction of subsoil resources;
2. exploration and extraction of ground water and geothermal energy;
3. industrial engineering and public works, construction of sites related to national defence; storage of waste; economic, tourist activities, scientific research and other activities.

Article 48

Conservation and use of the bowels of the Earth upon prospecting, exploration and extraction of subsoil resources, including use of past mining and processing work sites, shall follow a procedure established by this Act and by the Subsoil Resources Act.

Article 49

Conservation of the bowels of the Earth upon the exploration and use of ground water shall follow the procedure established by the Water Act.

Article 50

Conservation of the bowels of the Earth upon use therein for other purposes shall follow the procedure established by a special law.

Section V

Conservation and Use of Biological Diversity

Article 51

- (1) The species, the natural habitats of species with the biological diversity inherent therein shall be subject to conservation and protection.
- (2) Conservation of the diversity of natural habitats and of species of wild flora and fauna shall follow the terms and a procedure established by a special law.

Article 52

Wild plant and animal species shall be used in a manner and by means guaranteeing the sustainable development of the populations therein in the natural surroundings therein.

Article 53

- (1) Long-term and annual plans and programmes shall be elaborated for conservation and use of forests, game, fish, herbs, mushrooms and other renewable wildlife resources.
- (2) The plans and programmes referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be prepared under terms and according to a procedure established by the relevant special laws.

Article 54

Fees shall be charged for use of forests, game, fish, herbs, mushrooms and other renewable biological resources from of state-owned and municipal-owned land tracts and aquatic areas according to the relevant special laws.

Section VI
Ambient Air Quality Protection

Article 55

Ambient air quality protection shall ensure:

1. protection of human health, of living organisms, of natural and cultural assets against harmful impacts and prevention of the occurrence of risks and damage to society from modified atmospheric air quality, ozone layer depletion and climate change resulting from various human activities;
2. preservation of ambient air quality in areas where it is not degraded, and improvement of the said quality in the remaining areas.

Article 56

Ambient air quality protection shall be based on the principles of sustainable development and shall be pursued under the terms and according to the procedure established by Chapter Seven herein and by the Clean Ambient Air Act.

Section VII
Waste Management

Article 57

Waste management shall be implemented for the purpose of prevention, mitigation or limitation of the harmful impact of waste on human health and on the environment and shall be ensured by means of:

1. prevention or mitigation of the generation of waste and the degree of the hazard therein and, particularly, by means of:
 - a) development and implementation of technologies ensuring efficient utilization of natural resources;
 - b) technical development and placing on the market of products designed in such a manner so as the manufacture, use and safe disposal therein have no, or have the least possible, contribution to an increase of the quantity or hazard of waste and the risks of pollution therewith;
 - c) development of appropriate techniques for final safe disposal of dangerous substances contained in waste designed for recovery, recycling or treatment;
2. waste recovery by means of recycling, reuse or regeneration or by another processes of retrieval of recyclable resources or of use of waste as an energy source;
3. safe storage of waste irrecoverable at the present stage of development.

Article 58

The persons wherein the activities involve generation and/or treatment of waste shall be obliged to ensure the recycling and safe disposal of the said waste in a manner that does not present a hazard to human health and to employ methods and modern technologies which:

1. do not lead to damage or risk to the environmental media;
2. do not cause additional environmental load associated to noise, vibrations and odour.

Article 59

Waste management shall follow the terms and the procedure established by this Act and by the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act.

Chapter Four

ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

Article 60

(Effective 1.01.2003)

- (1) There shall be established an Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities, hereinafter referred to as "the Enterprise", to enjoy the status of a state-owned enterprise within the meaning of Article 62 (3) of the Commerce Act.
- (2) The Enterprise shall be a juristic person with a registered office in Sofia.
- (3) The Enterprise shall not be a commercial corporation and shall not form and distribute any profit.

Article 61

(Effective 1.01.2003)

- (1) The core activity of the Enterprise shall be the implementation of environmental projects and activities in pursuance of environmental strategies and programmes at national and municipal level.
- (2) The Enterprise shall carry out other activities as well to ensure or complement the core activity.
- (3) For implementation of the activity of the Enterprise, assets constituting public and private state property may be allocated for use and management by a decision of the Council of Ministers.
- (4) The Enterprise shall have no right to conclude loan contracts with commercial banks or other financial institutions, unless the Council of Ministers has made an express decision to this effect.
- (5) The activities of the Enterprise in fulfilment of the tasks associated with the core activity shall be financed through:
 1. charges provided for in the special laws regulating the environment;
 2. action resources allocated from the national budget for environmental programmes, where the competent authorities have made a decision to this effect;
 3. donations by resident and non-resident natural and juristic persons;
 4. income accruing from interest on deposits;
 5. fines or pecuniary penalties for administrative violations imposed under this Act by the Minister of Environment and Water or by officials authorized thereby;
 6. income accruing from portfolio investments of short-term government securities and bonds;
 7. income accruing from environmental protection services and activities;
 8. other proceeds determined by a legislative act.

- (6) The organization and the operation of the Enterprise shall be regulated by Rules adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Article 62

(Effective 1.01.2003)

- (1) Annually, on or before the 30th day of October, the Enterprise shall lay a plan for the activities thereof during the next succeeding calendar year before the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (2) The plan referred to in Paragraph (1) shall include the activities covered under Article 61 herein and, at a minimum, shall contain the following elements:
 1. objectives and expected results;
 2. activities to be conducted for achievement of the results, including an investment plan of the Enterprise;
 3. plan for management of the resources referred to in Article 61 (5) herein, elaborated on the basis of expected operating expenses and income of the Enterprise.
- (3) On or before the 28th day of February 28th in any current year, the Enterprise shall lay an annual report on the activities during last preceding calendar year before the Ministry of Environment and Water.
- (4) The Minister of Environment and Water shall approve the plan for the activities of the Enterprise referred to in Paragraph (1) and the annual report referred to in Paragraph (3).
- (5) The resources for the administrative costs of the Enterprise shall be approved by the Minister of Environment and Water simultaneously with the plan referred to in Paragraph (1).

Article 63

(Effective 1.01.2003)

- (1) The Enterprise shall be managed by a Management Board.
- (2) The Enterprise shall be represented by an Executive Director.
- (3) The Management Board shall consist of seven members, including a Chairperson.
- (4) The following shall be the members of the Management Board:
 1. Chairperson: the Minister of Environment and Water;
 2. a representative of the Ministry of Environment and Water;
 3. the Executive Director of the Executive Environment Agency;
 4. a representative of the Ministry of Finance;
 5. a representative of the National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria;
 6. a representative of the business community, nominated by the not-for-profit legal entities designated for pursuit of public benefit activities whereof the charter or deed of incorporation includes activities associated with environmental protection.
 7. the Executive Director referred to in Paragraph (2).
- (5) The members of the Management Board and the Executive Director shall be appointed by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 64

(Effective 1.01.2003; corrected, SG No. 96/2002)

- (1) The resources accruing from:
 1. twenty per cent of the sanctions referred to in Article 69 herein;
 2. fees charged by the Ministry of Environment and Water under Article 71 herein;
 3. charges for provision of environmental information by the Ministry of Environment and Water, shall be expended in accordance with the Uniform Budget Classification on maintenance and improvement of equipment and facilities, training, continuing education and incentives in the Ministry of Environment and Water under terms and according to a procedure established by a regulation of the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (2) The resources for payment of incentives referred to in Paragraph (1), exclusive of the social insurance contributions due, may not exceed 25 per cent of the annual amount of the total wage bill budgeted by the Ministry of Environment and Water for the respective year.

Article 65

- (1) Eighty per cent of the proceeds from sanctions imposed for environmental pollution or damage exceeding the permissible levels, referred to in Article 69 herein, shall be credited in revenue to the budget of the municipality where the penalized establishment is located.
- (2) The proceeds from any fines and pecuniary penalties imposed under this Act by the municipality mayors shall be credited in revenue to the budget of the respective municipality.
- (3) The proceeds referred to in Paragraphs (1) and (2), as well as the proceeds from fines imposed for violation of the regulations adopted by the Municipal Councils in connection with environmental protection, shall be expended on environmental projects and activities according to priorities specified in the municipal environmental programmes.

Article 66

- (1) The National Trust EcoFund (NTEF) shall be a juristic person with registered office in Sofia for management of financial resources accruing from "debt-for-environment" and "debt-for-nature" swaps and provided by governments, international financial institutions and other donors for environmental protection in the Republic of Bulgaria.
- (2) The National Trust EcoFund shall have the following bodies:
 1. Management Board;
 2. Advisory Council;
 3. Executive Bureau.
- (3) The Management Board shall consist of seven members, including a Chairperson, two Deputy Chairperson and four members.
- (4) The Advisory Council shall consist of representatives of the governments and financial and other institutions which have provided financial resources or which render assistance to the National Trust EcoFund.

- (5) The Management Board and the Advisory Council shall adopt their own Rules of Procedure.
- (6) The Executive Bureau shall organize the operation of the National Trust EcoFund.

Article 67

The manner of management, the organization and the operation of the National Trust EcoFund, as well as the procedure and manner for the raising, expending and controlling of the resources in the National Trust EcoFund shall be determined by a regulation of the Council of Ministers after a consultation procedure with the donors.

Article 68

- (1) The revenue of the National Trust EcoFund shall be sourced in:
 1. action resources allocated by the national budget, including resources in connection with "debt-for-environment" and "debt-for-nature" swap agreements;
 2. grants from international financial institutions, governments, international funds and non-resident juristic persons, provided for environmental programmes and projects;
 3. donations from international foundations and foreign citizens to assist the national environmental policy;
 4. principal repayments and interest payment on loans extended through the Fund;
 5. interest on resources of the National Trust EcoFund deposited with the servicing bank;
 6. income accruing from portfolio investments of short-term government securities and bonds;
 7. other external revenues consistent with the nature of the activities of the National Trust EcoFund.
- (2) The resources accruing to the National Trust EcoFund shall be expended on environmental projects and activities in accordance with the terms set by the donors and with the priorities of the national environmental strategies and programmes.

Article 69

- (1) In the event of environmental damage or pollution in excess of the permissible levels, and in case of non-compliance with the emission limit values as set in the permits, sanctions shall be imposed on the offending sole traders and juristic persons.
- (2) The procedure for determination and imposition of sanctions for environmental damage or pollution shall be established by a regulation of the Council of Ministers.

Article 70

- (1) Should the persons penalized under Article 69 (1) herein take action to comply with the established emission limit values in accordance with investment programmes approved by the Minister of Environment and Water, the said persons shall pay 10 per cent of the sanctions due.
- (2) The terms and a procedure for reduction of the sanctions due under Paragraph (1) shall be established by the regulation referred to in Article 69 (2) herein.

- (3) Should the investment programmes referred to in Paragraph (1) be not implemented in due course, the Minister of Environment and Water shall decree payment of the monthly sanction due in a treble amount for the entire initial period.
- (4) It shall be inadmissible to extend the time limits for implementation of the investment programmes approved by the Minister of Environment and Water under Paragraph (1).

Article 71

The Ministry of Environment and Water shall charge fees for the issuance of environmental impact assessment decisions, permits, opinions, licences, and for registration.

Article 72

The procedure for fixing and collection of the fees referred to in Article 71 herein shall be established in a rate schedule approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 73

On a motion by the Minister of Environment and Water, made in consultation with the Minister of Finance, financial resources in the executive budget shall be allocated annually for implementation of priority environmental projects and activities included in the national environmental strategies and programmes shall be allocated annually by the National Budget Act.

Article 74

On a motion by the competent municipality mayor, financial resources for implementation of priority environmental activities and projects included in the municipal environmental protection programmes shall be allocated annually with the adoption of the municipal budget.

Chapter Five

ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES

Article 75

- (1) The National Environmental Strategy and the municipal environmental programmes shall be tools for achievement of the purposes of this Act and shall be elaborated in accordance with the principles of environmental protection covered under Article 3 herein.
- (2) The Minister of Environment and Water shall, acting in consultation with the Minister of Health, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Transport and Communications, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and other ministers and heads of state agency concerned, elaborate the National Environmental Strategy and lay the said Strategy before the Council of Ministers for approval.
- (3) The process of elaboration and public discussion of the National Environmental Strategy shall furthermore involve representatives of the research community and of non-governmental ecologist and branch organizations.
- (4) The Council of Ministers shall present the National Environmental Strategy to the National Assembly for adoption and, thereafter, shall publish the said Strategy.

Article 76

- (1) The National Environmental Strategy shall be elaborated for a period of ten years and shall contain:
 1. an analysis of the state of the environment by environmental medium, an analysis of the factors impacting the environmental media and of the trends, causes and sources of environmental pollution and damage by sector of the national economy, as well as an analysis of the institutional framework, the administrative and economic policy implementation tools;
 2. assessment of the possibilities and limitations at national and international level;
 3. objectives and priorities;
 4. modalities for attainment of the objectives;
 5. options for implementation of the strategy with assessment of the possible favourable and adverse impacts and consequences on a national and international plane;
 6. a five-year action plan with specific institutional, organizational and investment measures, deadlines, responsible institutions, required resources and possible sources of financing;
 7. a scheme for organization, monitoring and reporting of the implementation of the action plan, for evaluation of results, and for remedial action where necessary;
 8. miscellaneous.
- (2) The following principal criteria shall be applied in identifying the priorities of the National Environmental Strategy:
 1. adherence to the principles of sustainable development;
 2. prevention and reduction of the risk to human health and the environment;
 3. prevention and reduction of the risk to biological diversity;
 4. mitigation of the harmful impact of natural processes and phenomena on the environmental media;
 5. optimum utilization of natural resources and energy.
- (3) Annually, the Minister of Environment and Water shall lay a report on the implementation of the action plan under Item 6 of Paragraph (1) before the Council of Ministers.
- (4) Any revisions amending, supplementing and updating the National Environmental Strategy and of five-year action plans shall have to be adopted by the National Assembly on a motion by the Council of Ministers.

Article 77

The national plans and programmes by environmental medium and by environmental impacting factors that impact them shall be elaborated on the basis of the principles, objectives and priorities of the National Environmental Strategy and in conformity with the requirements of the special laws regulating the environment.

Article 78

The plans and programmes for regional development, for development of the national economy or of individual branches thereof at national and regional level shall provide for

integrated environmental protection in conformity with the principles and purposes of this Act and of the National Environmental Strategy.

Article 79

- (1) The municipality mayors shall elaborate environmental protection programmes for the relevant municipality in compliance with instructions of the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (2) The programmes referred to in Paragraph (1) shall cover a minimum implementation period of three years.
- (3) The local units of the relevant ministries and state agencies, which collect and hold information relating to the environment, shall assist in the elaboration of the said programmes through participation of experts thereof and provision of information. Representatives of non-governmental organizations, of companies and of branch organizations shall also be involved in the elaboration, revision and updating of the said programmes.
- (4) The programmes shall be adopted by the Municipal Councils which shall oversee the implementation therein.
- (5) Annually, the municipality mayors shall lay a report on the implementation of the environmental programme before the Municipal Council and, where necessary, shall move revisions supplementing and updating the said programme.
- (6) The reports referred to in Paragraph (5) shall be submitted to the RIEW for information.

Article 80

Projects proposed by municipalities for financing from the national budget or from national funds may be financed solely where the said projects are justified as priority projects in the respective municipal environmental programme.

Chapter Six

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Section I

General Provisions

Article 81

- (1) Environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment shall be conducted for plans, programmes and development proposals for construction, activities and technologies or modifications thereof, whereof the implementation is likely to have significant effects on the environment as follows:
 1. (*Effective 1.07.2004*) environmental assessment shall be conducted of plans or programmes which are in a process of preparation and/or approval by central or local executive authorities and the National Assembly.
 2. environmental impact assessment (EIA) shall be conducted for development proposals for execution of construction, activities and technologies listed in Annexes 1 and 2 hereto.

- (2) The objective of the environmental assessment and of the EIA is to integrate environmental considerations into the process of development as a whole with a view to introducing the principle of sustainable development in accordance with Articles 3 and 9 herein.
- (3) *(Effective 1.07.2004)* Environmental assessment of plans and programmes shall be conducted simultaneously with the preparation therein, taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plans or programmes and the level of detail thereof, so that the likely effects on the environment of implementation of the development proposals included in the said plans or programmes are appropriately identified, described and evaluated.
- (4) The environmental impact assessment referred to in Item 2 of Paragraph (1) shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each particular case, the direct and indirect effects of a development proposal for execution of construction, activities and technologies on: human beings; biological diversity and the elements thereof, including flora and fauna; soil, water, air, climate and the landscape; the bowels of the Earth, physical structures and the cultural and historical heritage, as well as the interaction among these factors.
- (5) No environmental assessment shall be conducted of plans and programmes and EIA of development proposals related to national defence and security.
- (6) An EIA procedure shall not be conducted for development proposals where, according to a procedure established by a special law, the said proposals are subject to approval in a procedure including a similar assessment and provided that public access to the relevant information is ensured.

Article 82

- (1) *(Effective 1.07.2004)* The assessment referred to in Item 1 of Article 81 (1) herein shall be fully compatible with the existing procedures for adoption of plans and programmes.
- (2) The assessment referred to in Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein may be fully integrated with the predesign (predevelopment) study or with the terms of reference for design, being conducted prior to issuance of a sketch (design permit).
- (3) Where implementation of the development proposal requires pursuit of other subsidiary or supporting activities connected with the principal subject of assessment and also subject to mandatory environmental impact assessment, the assessments of the individual proposals shall be integrated.
- (4) *(Effective 1.07.2004)* The environmental assessment of plans and programmes shall be completed when an opinion of the Minister of Environment and Water or of the competent RIEW Director is issued; the form and contents of the said opinion shall be determined in the regulation referred to in Article 90 herein. The authorities responsible for adoption and implementation of the plan or the programme shall reckon with the said opinion.
- (5) The assessment of development proposals shall be completed when a decision of the competent authority referred to in Article 94 (1) herein is issued; this decision shall be binding on the project client. The said decision shall be an integral part of the design permit issued in accordance with the Spatial Development Act.

Article 83

- (1) The assessments referred to in Article 81 (1) herein shall be commissioned to independent registered experts - Bulgarian or foreign natural persons - who must declare that they have no personal interest in the implementation and application of the plans, programmes or development proposals.
- (2) The assessment shall be commissioned to the experts by the initiator of the plan or the programme or by the project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein.
- (3) The experts shall arrive at a conclusion, guided by the principles of reduction of the risks to human health and of ensuring sustainable development in conformity with the existing national standards of environmental quality.
- (4) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall keep a public register of the persons referred to in Paragraph (1), who must hold an educational qualification degree in specialist qualifications attained at a higher school and who must have performed one or more of the following activities related to environmental protection in the course of not less than five of the last ten years:
 1. design;
 2. practice in manufacturing enterprises;
 3. expert activities, including preparation of expert opinions, written advice, environmental impact assessment reports, environmental audits or environmental analyses;
 4. teaching at higher schools and/or scientific research;
 5. environmental control.
- (5) The register shall exclude any experts in respect of whom evidence exists that in their EIA practice they:
 1. have on three occasions been authors of chapters of environmental impact assessment reports which have been sent back for rewriting according to the content assessment procedures established by Article 96 (6) herein;
 2. have submitted a false declaration under Paragraph (1), and this has been proved according to the established procedure.
- (6) A certificate of entry in the register or a reasoned written refusal shall be issued within fourteen days by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (7) The certificate referred to in Paragraph (6) shall be valid for five years.
- (8) The refusal under Paragraph (6), as well as a tacit refusal, shall be appealable before the Supreme Administrative Court within fourteen days after communication or after expiry of the time limit referred to in Paragraph (6), as the case may be.
- (9) The procedure for establishment and keeping of the register and the procedure for application by persons for entry in the said register shall be established by a regulation of the Minister of Environment and Water.

Section II

Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes

(Effective 1.07.2004)

Article 84

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water or the competent RIEW Director shall be the authority competent to issue an opinion on environmental assessment of plans and programmes according to Article 82 (4) herein.
- (2) The opinion referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be based on an environmental assessment report prepared by registered experts.

Article 85

- (1) An environmental assessment shall be mandatory for any plans and programmes and for significant modifications thereof in the areas of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, transport, energy, waste management, water resources management, and industry, including extraction of subsoil resources, telecommunications, tourism, spatial planning and land use, where these areas set the framework for future development of any development proposals listed in Annexes 1 and 2 hereto.
- (2) Any plans and programmes referred to in Paragraph (1), which affect small areas at local level and involve minor modifications of plans and programmes referred to in Paragraph (1), shall require an environmental assessment solely where they are likely to have significant environmental effects.
- (3) Any plans and programmes related to national defence or civil protection, as well as any free-standing financial or budget plans and programmes, shall not be subject to environmental assessment.
- (4) The Minister of Environment and Water or the competent RIEW Director shall determine the need of environmental assessment of any plan or programme proposed or modification of any such plan or programme according to the procedure established by the regulation referred to in Article 90 herein, in conformity with the following criteria for determining the likely significance of the effects thereof:
 1. the characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard to:
 - a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for development proposals and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;
 - b) the relevance of the plan or programme for the promotion of the sustainable development and for achievement of the national and regional objectives;
 2. characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard to: the essence, scope, reversibility and the cumulative nature of the eventual effects; the potential transboundary effects, the risks to human health or the environment, the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects, the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected; the effects on landscapes or on the components of the National Environmental Network;
 3. the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes.
- (5) The authorities referred to in Paragraph (4) shall determine the need of environmental assessment within three months after a request for determination is made by the initiator of the plan or programme depending on the specificity and complexity of the said plan or

programme. The results of the determination and the reasoning thereof shall be declared to the general public.

Article 86

- (1) The environmental assessment shall be commissioned under the terms and according to the procedure established by Paragraphs (1) to (3) of Article 83 herein after declaration of the determination referred to in Article 85 (5) herein.
- (2) The environmental assessment report shall include information corresponding to the level of detail of the plan or programme and to the methods of assessment employed.
- (3) The environmental assessment report shall mandatorily contain:
 1. an outline of the main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;
 2. the current state of the environmental media and factors, referred to in Articles 4 and 5 herein, and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;
 3. the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;
 4. the existing environmental problems ascertained at different levels which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance;
 5. the environmental protection objectives, established at national and international level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during preparation of the said plan or programme;
 6. the likely significant effects on the environment, including the environmental media and factors referred to in Articles 4 and 5 herein and the interrelationship between them;
 7. the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse effects on the environment resulting from implementation of the plan or programme;
 8. an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken, including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;
 9. a description of the measures envisaged in connection with monitoring during the implementation of the plan or programme;
 10. a non-technical summary of the environmental assessment.

Article 87

- (1) The initiator of the plan or programme shall:
 1. ensure the necessary support to the registered experts for consultations with the bodies concerned and likely to be affected, in particular with those responsible for the preparation and implementation of the plan or programme subject to environmental assessment;

2. organize consultations with the public and with persons concerned who are affected by the implementation of the plan or programme;
 3. send a copy of the plan or programme and of the report referred to in Article 86 (2) herein to each State likely to be affected by the implementation of the said plan or programme;
 4. organize consultations with the State likely to be affected.
- (2) The results of the consultations shall be reflected into the environmental assessment report and shall be taken into account in the opinion of the Minister of Environment and Water or the competent RIEW Director.

Article 88

- (1) The opinion referred to in Article 82 (4) herein and the accompanying reasoning shall mandatorily include justification of the selection of a particular alternative from an environmental point of view, and the measures referred to in Article 89 herein which need to be undertaken.
- (2) The opinion referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be made available to the general public, the parties concerned and likely to be affected, and to any State likely to be affected by the implementation of the plan or programme.

Article 89

The measures related to monitoring and control of the plan or programme implementation shall be agreed in consultation between the Minister of Environment and Water or the competent RIEW Director and the authority responsible for the implementation of the plan or programme.

Article 90

- (1) The terms, procedure and methods for conduct of environmental assessment shall be established by a regulation of the Council of Ministers.
- (2) The regulation referred to in Paragraph (1) shall specify the requirements concerning:
 1. the determination of the need, scope and methods of environmental assessment of the potential effects of the plan or programme;
 2. the obligations of the authorities which initiate or implement the plan or programme subject to environmental assessment;
 3. the scope, content and form of the environmental assessment report;
 4. the deadlines, terms and a procedure for holding consultations with the public and third parties likely to be affected by the plan or the programme;
 5. the form and content of the opinion of the Minister of Environment and water or of the competent RIEW Director;
 6. the conditions for inclusion of the results of the consultations referred to in Item 4 in the opinion of the Minister of Environment of Water or of the competent RIEW Director;
 7. the monitoring and control of compliance with the conditions set in the opinion of the Minister of Environment and Water or of the competent RIEW Director in the process of implementation of the plan or programme;

8. the monitoring and control of the environmental effects upon implementation of the plan or programme with a view to undertaking measures for prevention or mitigation of the environmental damage likely to occur as a result of the said implementation.

Article 91

- (1) The environmental assessment of plans or programmes shall be conducted independently of the EIA under Section III of this Chapter.
- (2) The information collected and the analyses made during preparation of the environmental assessment of plans and programmes, as well as the opinion of the Minister or the RIEW Director, shall be used upon preparation of the EIA statements and making the EIA decisions for development proposals listed in Annexes 1 and 2 hereto.

Section III

Environmental Impact Assessment of Development Proposals

Article 92

Environmental Impact Assessment shall mandatorily be conducted of:

1. any development proposals for execution of construction, activities and technologies listed in Annex 1 hereto;
2. any development proposals for construction, activities and technologies likely to have transboundary impact according to Appendix I to Article 2 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

Article 93

- (1) The need of environmental impact assessment shall be determined for:
 1. any development proposals for construction, activities and technologies listed in Annex 2 hereto;
 2. any development proposals for extension and/or alteration in the manufacturing activity of sites, activities and technologies listed in Annex 2 hereto;
 3. any development proposals for extension and/or alteration in the manufacturing activity of a site according to Annex 1 to this Act and Appendix I to Article 2 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context;
 4. any development proposal for new construction, activities and technologies according to the provisions of Annex 1 hereto, which are elaborated exclusively or mainly for development and testing of new methods or products and whose period of operation does not exceed two years;
 5. any development proposals for new construction, activities and technologies in protected areas according to the provisions of Annex 2 hereto, and any proposals for extension and/or alteration in the manufacturing activity of sites located within protected areas.
- (2) The need of conduct of EIA under Items 3, 4, and 5 of Paragraph (1) shall be determined by the Minister of Environment and Water in each particular case and conforming to the criteria established under Paragraph (4), and the said Minister shall deliver a reasoned decision on such a determination.

- (3) The need of conduct of EIA under Items 1 and 2 of Paragraph (1) shall be determined by the competent RIEW Director in each particular case and conforming to the criteria established under Paragraph (4), and the said Director shall deliver a reasoned decision on such a determination.
- (4) The need of conduct of EIA shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria:
1. characteristics of the proposed construction, activities and technologies, such as: size, productivity, scope, inter-relation and integration with other proposals, use of natural resources, waste generation, environmental pollution and violations, as well as risk of accidents;
 2. locality, including sensitivity of the environment, existing land use, relative availability of appropriate areas, quality and regenerative capacity of the natural resources in the region;
 3. reproductive capacity of the ecosystem in the natural environment, especially in:
 - a) areas and habitats protected by a law;
 - b) mountain areas and woodlands;
 - c) wetlands and coastal areas;
 - d) areas with excessive pollution levels;
 - e) heavily urbanized areas;
 - f) protected areas of stand-alone or cluster cultural assets, designated according to the procedure established by the Cultural Assets and Museums Act;
 - g) areas and/or zones and sites enjoying a special sanitation status or subject to sanitary protection;
 4. characteristics of the potential impacts, such as territorial coverage, affected population, including transboundary impacts, nature, scope, complexity, probability, duration, frequency, and rehabilitation capacity;
 5. public interest in the proposed construction, activities and technologies.
- (5) The authorities referred to in Paragraphs (2) and (3) shall determine the need of conduct of EIA within one month after a request for determination is made by the project client of the proposal referred to in Item 2 of Article 81 herein. The reasoning for the determination shall be declared to the general public.

Article 94

- (1) The following authorities shall be competent to make decisions on EIA under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein:
1. the Minister of Environment and Water - for any development proposals referred to in Item 1 of Article 92 herein in conformity with the criteria of competence established by Annex 1 hereto, for any proposals referred to in Item 2 of Article 92 herein and in the cases of determination of the need of conduct of EIA under Article 93 (2) herein;
 2. the RIEW directors - for any development proposals referred to in Item 1 of Article 92 herein in conformity with the criteria of competence established by Annex 1 hereto, and in the cases of determination of the need of conduct of EIA under Article 93 (3) herein.

- (2) In cases where the development proposal affects a territory covered by two or more RIEWs, the authority competent to determine the need of conduct of EIA and to make an EIA decision shall be the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 95

- (1) At the earliest stage of the development-project initiative, the project client of the development proposal shall inform the competent authority and the public concerned of the proposal, declaring the said proposal in writing and ensuring preparation of terms of reference for the scope of the EIA.
- (2) The project client shall undertake consultations with the competent authorities, other specialized institutions and the public concerned for the purpose of the making of an EIA decision. The consultations shall be undertaken with regard to:
 1. the specific characteristics of the proposed construction, activities or technologies, level of development of the design solution and its inter-relation with existing or other planned construction, activities or technologies;
 2. the characteristics of the existing environment and all environmental media thereof;
 3. the significance of the eventual impacts;
 4. the terms of reference for the scope and content of the EIA;
 5. the scope of study connected to the EIA;
 6. the alternative development proposals;
 7. the affected population's interests and opinions;
 8. the sources of information;
 9. the forecasting methods used to assess the effects on the environment;
 10. measures for mitigation of the eventual adverse impacts on the environment.

Article 96

- (1) The project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein shall submit an EIA statement of the following content to the competent authority:
 1. a summary of the development proposal for construction, activities and technologies;
 2. alternatives of siting (including sketches and bearings of typical points within the established national coordinate system) and/or alternatives to the technologies proposed by the initiator and justification of the choice made, considering the impact on the environment, including a "zero" alternative;
 3. a description and analysis of the environmental media and factors covered under Articles 4 and 5 herein and of the physical structures and the cultural heritage that will be significantly affected by the development proposal, as well as the interaction among these aspects;
 4. description, analysis and assessment of the potential significant effects on the population and the environment resulting from:
 - a) implementation of the development proposal;
 - b) use of natural resources;

- c) emissions of noxious substances in normal circumstances and in an emergency, generation of waste and inconvenience for the population;
 - 5. information on the forecasting methods used to assess the effects on the environment;
 - 6. a description of the measures envisaged to avoid, reduce and, if possible, remedy significant adverse effects on the environment, as well as a plan for implementation of the said measures;
 - 7. observations and opinions expressed by the public concerned, of the authorities competent to make an EIA decision and other specialized institutions and the States affected in a transboundary context, as a result of the consultations held;
 - 8. conclusion of the experts, where given in conformity with the requirements of Article 83 (3) herein;
 - 9. a non-technical summary of the information;
 - 10. information on the difficulties (technical reasons, insufficiency or lack of data) encountered in the collection of information for preparation of the EIA statement;
 - 11. other information at the discretion of the competent authority.
- (2) The costs of EIA shall be borne by the project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein.
 - (3) The project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein shall provide the information necessary for conduct of EIA, as well as any additional information related to the development proposal.
 - (4) Other authorities, which hold information concerning the EIA, shall be obliged to provide this information in accordance with Chapter Two herein.
 - (5) Should there be any state, official or other secret safeguarded by law, the information shall be provided in conformity with the confidentiality requirements of Article 20 herein.
 - (6) In order to make an EIA decision, the competent authority shall evaluate the content of the EIA statement conforming to the consultations under Article 95 (2) herein and the satisfaction of the requirements of the legislative framework regulating the environment within fourteen days after submission of the statement.

Article 97

- (1) After receiving a favorable evaluation under Article 96 (6) herein, the project client shall organize, jointly with the municipalities, wards, mayoralties and regions concerned as specified by the competent authority, public discussions on the EIA statement.
- (2) All natural and juristic persons concerned may participate in the discussions referred to in Paragraph (1), including representatives of the authority competent to make an EIA decision, the local executive administration, public organizations and citizens.
- (3) The project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein shall give the persons under Paragraph (2) notice through the media of mass communication or in another appropriate manner of the venue and date of the discussion not later than thirty calendar days before the public discussion meeting.
- (4) The project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein and the competent authorities referred to in Article 94 (1) herein shall ensure public access to the EIA documentation for a period of thirty calendar days.

- (5) Representatives of the public shall submit their opinions in writing at the public discussion meeting or shall send the said opinions to the authority competent to make an EIA decision not later than seven calendar days after the discussion.

Article 98

- (1) In respect of any development proposals for construction, activities or technologies in the Republic of Bulgaria, which are likely to have a significant impact on the environment of another State or States, the Minister of Environment and Water shall:
 1. notify the affected countries at the earliest possible stage of the development proposal but not later than the date of notification of the Bulgarian population;
 2. upon agreement on participation in the EIA procedure, make available to the State concerned a description of the development proposal, information on the potential transboundary impact on the environment, and the relevant information on the decision expected to be made.
- (2) In cases of notification of a potential impact on the environment in the Republic of Bulgaria resulting from a proposed activity on the territory of another State, the Minister of Environment and Water shall ensure:
 1. public access to the EIA information as provided;
 2. timely dispatch of all statements on the information under Item 1 before any decision is made by the competent authority of the other State.

Article 99

- (1) Within seven days after holding a discussion under Article 97 herein, the project client shall submit to the competent authority the results of the said discussion, including the opinions and a minutes of proceedings.
- (2) The competent authority shall make an EIA decision within three months after the discussion, taking into account the results thereof.
- (3) The EIA decision shall contain:
 1. the name of the issuing authority;
 2. the name, place of residence/registered office of the project client;
 3. the grounds of fact and law on which the decision is delivered;
 4. reasoning;
 5. operative part;
 6. conditions for implementation, including measures to prevent, reduce or offset significant adverse effects on the environment, as well as deadlines for compliance, where necessary;
 7. appellate authority and time limit for appeal;
 8. liability for non-compliance with the conditions set in the decision;
 9. date of issue and signature.
- (4) Within seven days after delivery of the decision, the competent authority shall:
 1. provide the decision to the project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein;

2. announce the decision through the national media of mass communication and/or in another appropriate manner.
- (5) The competent authority under Paragraph (1) shall ensure access to the content of the decision following the delivery thereof, including access to the annexes to the said decision.
- (6) The persons concerned may appeal against the decision according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Act within fourteen days after announcement under Paragraph (4).
- (7) In case of change of the project client under Item 2 of Paragraph (3), the new project client of the proposal under Item 2 of Article 81 (1) herein must notify the competent authority which has issued the decision.
- (8) The EIA decision on construction or activities that have not yet commenced shall be valid for a period of three years reckoned from the date of issue.

Article 100

The competent authorities covered under Article 94 herein shall oversee the implementation of the measures referred to in Item 6 of Article 96 (1) herein and the compliance with the conditions specified in the EIA decision.

Article 101

- (1) The terms and a procedure for conduct of EIA shall be established by a regulation of the Council of Ministers.
- (2) The EIA regulation referred to in Paragraph (1) shall establish the requirements concerning:
 1. the determination of the need of EIA of the development proposals under Annex 2 hereto;
 2. the terms and a procedure for holding consultations with the authorities, the public and the persons likely to be affected by the implementation of the development proposal;
 3. the scope, content and form of the EIA statement;
 4. the criteria for quality evaluation of the EIA statement;
 5. the procedure and manner for arrangement of a public discussion of the EIA statement;
 6. the reasoning for making an EIA decision, including the manner in which the opinion of the general public has been taken into account;
 7. the procedure and manner for exercise of control over compliance with the conditions specified in the EIA decision.

Article 102

The Ministry of Environment and Water shall keep a public register containing data about the conduct of the EIA procedure, including the public discussions, the EIA decision as issued, and the control exercised over implementation of the EIA decisions.

Chapter Seven

PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION

Section I

Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents

Article 103

At enterprises and installations where specific dangerous chemical substances and preparations are present in quantities equal to, or in excess of, the quantities listed in columns 2 and 3 of Tables 1 and 3 of Annex 3 hereto, there shall be introduced a system for prevention of major accidents involving dangerous substances or for limitation of the consequences of such accidents for the environment and for human health.

Article 104

- (1) Building and operation of new and operation of existing enterprises and installations referred to in Article 103 herein shall be admitted after issuance of a permit under the terms and according to the procedure established by this Section and the effective secondary legislative acts on the application thereof.
- (2) The requirements under Paragraph (1) shall furthermore apply to any extensions of existing enterprises and installations, should there be a substantial change in the operating conditions thereof.
- (3) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to:
 1. any military enterprises, installations and storage facilities;
 2. any hazards posed by ionizing radiation;
 3. transport of any dangerous substances or preparations and intermediate temporary storage during carriage by road, rail, inland waterways, sea or air, outside the enterprises, as well as loading, unloading and transport to or from another means of transport at docks, wharfs, or marshalling yards;
 4. transport of any dangerous substances or preparations by pipeline and pumping stations located outside the enterprises;
 5. any activities and sites of the extractive industry, related to exploration and exploitation of subsoil resources, including quarries, deep mines and drilling works;
 6. any waste landfills.
- (4) In the event of change of the operator, the new operator, whether a natural or juristic person, shall assume the rights and obligations according to the permit.

Article 105

The permit referred to in Article 104 herein shall be a mandatory condition for the issuance of a building permit.

Article 106

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall be the authority competent to issue, review and modify any permits referred to in Article 104 herein.
- (2) The authorities competent to apply the system referred to in Article 103 herein shall be the President of the State Agency for Civil Protection, the Minister of Interior, the

Director of the National Fire and Emergency Safety Service, the Minister of Health, the President of the State Agency for Standardization and Metrology, the regional governors, and the bodies of local self-government.

- (3) The Minister of Environment and Water shall coordinate the activities of the authorities covered under Paragraph (2).

Article 107

- (1) Any permit referred to in Article 104 herein shall have an indefinite term of validity.
- (2) The Minister of Environment and Water shall review any permit referred to in Article 104 herein once every five years and, where necessary, shall modify the conditions thereof.
- (3) A review of any permit referred to in Article 104 herein shall furthermore be undertaken in any case of:
 1. substantial change in the operation of the enterprise or installation, planned by the operator;
 2. substantial changes in the quantity of the dangerous substances present;
 3. modification in the operational safety requirements of the enterprise or installation, imposing use of different techniques;
 4. changes in the legislative framework regulating the environment.

Article 108

For the purpose of obtaining a permit referred to in Article 104 herein, the operator of the enterprise or installation shall be obliged to submit an application to the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 109

The operator of the enterprise or installation shall be obliged to:

1. undertake all measures necessary to prevent major accidents involving dangerous substances and to limit the consequences thereof for human life and health and for the environment;
2. comply with the conditions of the permit upon operation of the enterprise or installation;
3. inform the competent authority on each planned modification in the operation of the enterprise or installation;
4. immediately inform the competent authority of all incidents or accidents at the enterprise or installation;
5. render the requisite assistance to the representatives of the competent authorities for the conduct of all on-site inspections, for the taking of samples and for collection of information needed for performance of the duties thereof under this Act.

Article 110

In addition to the application referred to in Article 108 herein, the operator shall be obliged to prepare and submit:

1. a notification on classification of the enterprise or installation;

2. a report on the major-accident prevention policy, designed to guarantee a high level of protection for man and the environment by appropriate means, structures and management systems;
3. a safety report;
4. an emergency plan for the enterprise or installation;
5. information enabling the competent authorities to draw up an external emergency plan;
6. an assessment of the major-accident hazard involving dangerous chemical substances.

Article 111

The Minister of Environment and Water, jointly with the municipalities, shall announce and afford all persons concerned equal access, in the course of one month, to the application for issuance of the permit as submitted by the operator under Article 104 herein.

Article 112

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall issue the permit within three months after completion of the procedure referred to in Article 111 herein.
- (2) The decision to issue a permit shall be announced through the media of mass communication within fourteen days after the date of issue. Within the same time limit, the applicant shall be informed in writing.
- (3) The persons concerned may request reconsideration of the decision within fourteen days after the announcement of the said decision under Paragraph (2). The said reconsideration shall be performed by a working group including representatives of the authorities covered under Article 106 (2) herein and a representative of the person concerned.
- (4) The persons concerned may appeal against any such decision according to the procedure established by the Supreme Administrative Court Act within fourteen days after announcement of the said decision under Paragraph (2).

Article 113

Control over compliance with the conditions specified in any permit referred to in Article 104 herein as issued shall be exercised by the competent authorities covered under Article 106 herein.

Article 114

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall keep a public register of the permits and of all documents submitted by the operator for the purpose of issuance of a permit referred to in Article 104 herein.
- (2) The data of the register referred to in Paragraph (1) may be used for honouring the international obligations assumed by the Republic of Bulgaria.

Article 115

The grant of a permit referred to in Article 104 herein shall not revoke any other obligations imposed on the operators by force of the effective legislation.

Article 116

- (1) The terms and a procedure for the issuance of a permit referred to in Article 104 herein shall be established by a regulation of the Council of Ministers.
- (2) The regulation referred to in Paragraph (1) shall establish specific requirements for:
 1. the content of the application for the issuance of a permit referred to in Article 104 herein, to be submitted by the operator of the enterprise or installation to the Minister of Environment and Water;
 2. the documents, including the content and the form thereof, to be submitted by the operator together with the application referred to in Item 1;
 3. the procedure and manner for modification and review of any permits referred to in Article 104 herein as issued;
 4. the procedure and manner for provision of information relating to the measures for prevention of major accidents at the enterprises or installations referred to in Article 103 herein.

Section II

Integrated Permits

Article 117

- (1) The construction and operation of new installations and facilities of industrial activities of the categories listed in Annex 4 hereto, and the operation of existing installations and facilities of the said categories shall be admitted after issuance of an integrated permit according to the provisions of this Chapter.
- (2) The requirement referred to in Paragraph (1) shall furthermore apply to any extension of existing installations and facilities under Annex 4 hereto in the cases where there is a substantial change in the operating conditions thereof.
- (3) Acting on a written request by the relevant operators, integrated permits referred to in Paragraphs (1) and (2) may furthermore be issued for any installations and facilities outside the scope of Annex 4 hereto.
- (4) In the event of change of the operator, the new operator, whether a natural or juristic person, shall assume the rights and obligations according to the permit.
- (5) The grant of an integrated permit for construction and operation of new installations and facilities and/or for operation of existing installations and facilities shall waive the requirements for issuance and obtaining of the following authorizations, permits, licences, expert opinions and assessments:
 1. under Article 37 in reference to Article 12 of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act;
 2. under Littera (e) of Item 1 of Article 46 (1) of the Water Act.
- (6) No installations or parts of installations used for scientific research, development and testing of new products and processes shall be subject to the provisions of this Chapter.

Article 118

An integrated permit referred to in Article 117 herein shall be a mandatory condition for the issuance of a building permit.

Article 119

- (1) The terms and a procedure for the issuance of an integrated permit referred to in Article 117 herein shall be established by a regulation of the Council of Ministers.
- (2) The regulation referred to in Paragraph (1) shall furthermore establish relevant requirements for:
 1. the content and the form of the applications for issuance of integrated permits;
 2. the procedure and manner for determination of the best available techniques (BAT);
 3. the procedure and manner for modification and review of any integrated permits as issued;
 4. the procedure and manner for reporting noxious substance emissions;
 5. the content of the monitoring referred to in Item 3 of Article 123 (1) herein, including the monitoring procedures and the obligation to provide relevant information to the authorities responsible for enforcement of compliance under Article 128 herein.

Article 120

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water or a person authorized thereby shall be the authority competent to issue, review and modify any permits referred to in Article 117 (1) and (2) herein.
- (2) The competent RIEW Director shall be the authority competent to issue, review and modify any permits referred to in Article 117 (3) herein.
- (3) The competent authority referred to in Paragraph (1) shall coordinate the terms and procedures for the issuance of permits in cases where more than one competent authority is involved therein.
- (4) The competent authority referred to in Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall coordinate the connection between the EIA procedures and the integrated permits issuance procedures, ensuring the use of any information received and conclusion reached in EIA.
- (5) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall follow the development of the best available techniques and shall maintain an information system thereon.

Article 121

During the operation of the installations and facilities, the operator shall oversee:

1. the implementation of all appropriate preventive measures against pollution, in particular through application of the best available techniques;
2. the implementation of environmental management systems;
3. the prevention of environmental pollution according to the emission limit values and the environmental quality standards;
4. the avoidance of waste generation; where waste is produced, it shall be recovered; where such recovery is technically and economically impossible, the waste shall be disposed of while avoiding or reducing any impact thereof on the environment;
5. the efficient use of energy;
6. the implementation of all possible measures to prevent industrial accidents and limit the consequences thereof;

7. the undertaking of necessary measures to avoid any possible pollution risks and to return the site of operation to a satisfactory state upon definitive cessation of activities.

Article 122

- (1) For the purpose of obtaining an integrated permit, the operator of the facility and installation shall submit an application to the relevant competent authority.
- (2) The application referred to in Paragraph (1) shall include a description of:
 1. the facility and the various operating regimes thereof;
 2. the raw and prime materials used (including auxiliary materials);
 3. the utilized and/or generated energy;
 4. characteristics of the site on which the installation is located;
 5. the nature and quantities of foreseeable emissions from the installation into each medium covered under Article 4 herein and by factor covered under Article 5 herein, as well as identification of possible significant effects of the said emissions on the environment;
 6. the proposed technology and other techniques for preventing or, where this is not possible, reducing emissions from the installation;
 7. measures for the prevention, recovery and/or safe disposal of waste generated by the installation;
 8. further measures planned to comply with the general principles of the basic obligations of the operator as provided for in Article 121 herein;
 9. monitoring of noxious substance emissions into the environment.
- (3) Any application for the issuance of an integrated permit shall furthermore include a non-technical summary of the details covered under Paragraph (2).

Article 123

- (1) Any integrated permit referred to in Article 117 herein shall contain:
 1. emission limit values and technical measures based on the best available techniques, including measures relating to conditions other than normal operating conditions;
 2. mandatory protection measures for air, water and soil;
 3. monitoring requirements;
 4. provisions on limitation of transboundary pollution;
 5. additional measures necessary to comply with the effective environmental quality standards.
- (2) The standards and measures referred to in Item 1 of Paragraph (1) for any installations and facilities referred to in Article 117 (3) may not be based on the best available techniques.
- (3) The permit shall also contain the provisions necessary to guarantee the compliance of the installation with the requirements of the law.
- (4) No integrated permit shall be issued in cases where conformity with the provisions of Paragraph (3).

- (5) In cases where the relevant environmental quality standards require stricter conditions than the ones achievable by the use of the best available techniques, the competent authority may require application of the additional measures referred to in Item 5 of Paragraph (1) in the integrated permits referred to in Article 117 (1) and (2) herein, without prejudice to measures which might be undertaken to achieve compliance with other environmental quality standards.

Article 124

- (1) Any integrated permit referred to in Article 117 herein shall have an indefinite term of validity.
- (2) The competent authority shall periodically review the conditions of any permit once every five years and, where necessary, shall modify the said conditions.
- (3) A review of the permit shall be undertaken at any time where:
1. the installation has caused significant environmental pollution;
 2. the operator has introduced substantial changes in the operation of the installation;
 3. substantial changes have occurred in the best available techniques, making it possible to reduce emissions into the environment significantly without imposing excessive costs on the operator;
 4. a change has occurred in the operational safety requirements, requiring other techniques to be used;
 5. changes have occurred in the legislative framework regulating the environment.

Article 125

The operators of installations shall be obliged to:

1. inform the competent authority of any change planned in the operation of the installation;
2. comply with the conditions of the integrated permit upon operation of the installation;
3. regularly inform the competent authority about the monitoring results, and immediately of any incident or accident causing significant adverse impacts on the environment;
4. provide conditions to the representatives of the authority responsible for the enforcement of all necessary on-site inspections, for the taking of samples and for collection of information needed for performance of the duties thereof under this Act;
5. prepare and publish an annual report on implementation of the activities for which an integrated permit has been granted.

Article 126

The competent authority, jointly with the municipalities, shall announce and afford the persons concerned equal access, in the course of one month, to the applications for issuance of an integrated permit and to the draft integrated permits, including the persons concerned in the States affected by the operation of the installation in case of transboundary flux.

Article 127

- (1) After completion of the procedure for public access to the application for the issuance of an integrated permit, the competent authority shall issue the permit:
 1. within five months, applicable to new installations and facilities;
 2. within eight months, applicable to existing installations and facilities.
- (2) The decision to issue a permit shall be announced through the media of mass communication within fourteen days after the date of issue.
- (3) The persons concerned may appeal against any such decision according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Act and the Supreme Administrative Court Act within fourteen days after announcement of the said decision under Paragraph (2).

Article 128

- (1) Control over compliance with the conditions specified in any permit referred to in Article 117 herein shall be exercised by the competent RIEW.
- (2) The Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water shall be responsible for the periodic transmittal to the Executive Environment Agency of information on the monitoring as provided for in the integrated permits.

Article 129

The Minister of Environment and Water shall keep a public register containing data on the issuance, review and modification of integrated permits.

Article 130

- (1) The Executive Environment Agency shall keep a public register of the results of emissions monitoring as provided for in the integrated permits.
- (2) The data of the register referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be transmitted to the European Register of Noxious Substance Emissions.

Article 131

Until obtaining an integrated permit, the requirements for the issuance and obtaining of permits, licences, expert opinions and assessments shall apply according to the effective legislation.

Section III

National Eco-management, Audit and Eco-label Award Schemes

Article 132

- (1) Organizations may assume voluntary commitments with regard to environmental protection in:
 1. implementation of the activities thereof;
 2. development, production, offering and use of products of the activities thereof.
- (2) To encourage organizations to assume voluntary commitments with regard to environmental protection, there shall be established:
 1. a National Eco-management and Audit scheme;

2. a National Eco-label Award Scheme.
- (3) The purpose of the schemes referred to in Paragraph (2) shall be to certify, according to specified criteria, the organizations and/or the products thereof and to register or mark the said organizations and/or products in an appropriate manner.

Article 133

- (1) By applying the National Eco-management and Audit Scheme, a sustained improvement in the performance of the various organizations is achieved in terms of both environmental protection and provision of relevant information to the public and other parties concerned.
- (2) A sustained improvement in the environmental protection performance of the organizations shall be implemented by means of:
 1. implementation and application of environmental management systems;
 2. systematic, objective and periodic evaluation of the efficiency of the systems referred to in Item 1;
 3. discussion with the public of the environmental performance of the organization;
 4. active involvement of the staff in the environmental management systems.

Article 134

The Ministry of Environment and Water shall keep a public register of the organizations which satisfy the requirements of the National Eco-management and Audit Scheme.

Article 135

- (1) The inspection of the organizations for compliance with the registration requirements under the National Eco-management and Audit Scheme shall be carried out by independent verifiers accredited by the Bulgarian Accreditation Service Executive Agency.
- (2) The Executive Agency referred to in Paragraph (1) shall keep a public register of independent accredited verifiers.

Article 136

The management authorities, the competencies thereof, as well as the requirements to organizations and the procedure for registration under the National Eco-management and Audit Scheme, shall be determined by a regulation of the Council of Ministers.

Article 137

- (1) The objective of the National Eco-label Award Scheme shall be to promote development, production, distribution and use of products which have the potential to reduce adverse environmental impacts in comparison to other products of the same product group.
- (2) The National Eco-label Award Scheme shall be implemented by means of:
 1. provision of accurate, non-misleading and scientifically based information to consumers on such products;
 2. identification of the environmental impacts resulting from the interactions of products with the environment, including the use of energy and natural resources, during the life cycle of the product.

Article 138

The introduction of the National Eco-label Award Scheme shall be harmonized with other existing labeling schemes or agreements on quality certification.

Article 139

- (1) The scope of application of the National Eco-label Award Scheme, the terms and a procedure for Eco-label award, the type and manner of using the said label shall be established by a regulation of the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (2) The eligibility requirements of products of a certain group for the award of Eco-label shall be established by orders of the Minister of Environment and Water which shall be promulgated in the *State Gazette*.

Article 140

The National Eco-label Award Scheme shall not apply to any pharmaceutical products and medical goods within the meaning of Item 40 of § 1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Human Medicines and Pharmacies Act, which are solely intended for professional use or for administration by prescription or under the control of medical personnel, nor to any foodstuffs and beverages.

Article 141

The products which are awarded Eco-label must satisfy the requirements of the legislative acts for safety, protection of human health and environment protection.

Article 142

Participation of organizations in the National Eco-management and Audit Scheme and in the National Eco-label Award scheme shall be voluntary.

Chapter Eight

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING SYSTEM

Article 143

The National Environmental Monitoring System shall cover the entire territory of Bulgaria.

Article 144

- (1) The National Environmental Monitoring System shall comprehend:
 1. the national networks for:
 - a) ambient air monitoring;
 - b) precipitation and surface-water monitoring;
 - c) ground-water monitoring;
 - d) sea-water monitoring;
 - e) geological environment monitoring;
 - f) land and soil monitoring;
 - g) forests and protected-areas monitoring;
 - h) biological monitoring;

- i) radiological monitoring;
 - j) environmental noise pollution monitoring;
 - k) monitoring of non-ionizing radiation;
 - l) monitoring of waste landfills and of past pollution with waste;
2. a system for information on, and control of, air emissions and the state of waste waters;
 3. the operation, communication and information support and laboratory services to the networks covered under Item 1.
- (2) The national environmental monitoring networks shall be designed and built in conformity with the national, European and international standards.
 - (3) For the purposes of the information support of the National Environmental Monitoring System, a National Automated System for Environmental Monitoring shall be established.
 - (4) The National Automated System for Environmental Monitoring shall be organized at national, basin, and regional level.
 - (5) The measurements and laboratory tests shall be performed by accredited laboratories.
 - (6) The Minister of Environment and Water shall issue an order endorsing the networks covered under Item 1 of Paragraph (1).

Article 145

The National Environmental Monitoring System shall perform the following tasks:

1. observation of the national networks in order to determine the state of the environmental media;
2. processing, analysis, visualization and storage of the information from the networks covered under Item 1 and from self-monitoring;
3. provision of information required for current control;
4. trends analysis, environmental risk assessment and development of proposals for improvement of the state of the environment;
5. information support of the executive authorities and of the public;
6. creation and maintenance of special inventory cards and registers for the environmental media and the factors impacting the said media;
7. exchange of information on the state of the environment with the European Monitoring System.

Article 146

- (1) For the purpose of conduct of self-monitoring, the persons obliged under the Water Act, the Clean Ambient Air Act, the Subsoil Resources Act, and the Limitation of the Harmful Impact on the Environment Act, shall elaborate a plan in conformity with the conditions imposed by the permit or by the EIA decision.
- (2) The self-monitoring plan shall be approved by the authority which has obligated the person referred to in Paragraph (1).

- (3) Upon approval of the self-monitoring plan, the authority referred to in Paragraph (2) shall determine the information which the persons conducted self-monitoring shall be obliged to submit for inclusion in the National Automated System for Environmental Monitoring, as well as the procedure and manner for submission of the said information.

Article 147

- (1) The National Environmental Monitoring System shall be organized and directed by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (2) The creation, operation, logistical, information and software support of the National Automated System for Environmental Monitoring shall be implemented by the Executive Environmental Agency.
- (3) The observations, measurements and tests and the primary processing of results shall be carried out by the RIEWs unless otherwise provided in the special laws.
- (4) Methodological guidance of the monitoring activity shall be provided by the Executive Environment Agency.
- (5) The state of the environment shall be assessed at regional and national level, respectively, by the RIEWs and the Executive Environment Agency.
- (6) The data on and assessments of the state of the environment shall be published in a quarterly and annual Bulletin on the State of the Environment.
- (7) The observation and assessment data obtained as a result of the activity of the National Environmental Monitoring System, as well as from self-monitoring, shall provide a basis for the exercise of control and for imposition of sanctions upon violation of the regulatory requirements.

Chapter Nine

CONTROL

Section I

General Terms

Article 148

- (1) The Ministry of Environment and Water shall exercise control over the environmental media and the factors impacting the said media.
- (2) The said control shall be preventive, current and follow-up.
- (3) At the national level, the said control shall be implemented by the Minister of Environment and Water or by officials authorized thereby, and at the regional level by the RIEW directors, the Basin Directorate directors, the National Park directors, the municipality mayors or by persons authorized thereby.

Article 149

- (1) The natural and juristic persons shall be obliged to afford unimpeded access to all sites and areas and render assistance to the authorities covered under Article 148 (2) herein for the purpose of conduct of inspection, for measurement or taking of samples from existing or potential sources of environmental pollution and/or environmental damage.

- (2) Access to sites and areas of the Ministry of Interior or to the Ministry of Defence shall be granted by the competent chief of structural unit of the ministry.
- (3) The executive authorities and the administrations thereof, the organizations, the juristic and natural persons shall be obliged to render assistance to the authorities exercising control over performance of the functions thereof.

Article 150

The natural and juristic persons possessing and using treatment facilities and waste treatment facilities shall be obliged to ensure the operation of the said facilities according to the provisions of the legislative acts and conforming to the conditions set in the EIA decisions, the permits and the other relevant individual administrative acts.

Article 151

The controlling authorities shall draw up written statements on any administrative violations ascertained in the course of inspection.

Section II

Preventive Control

Article 152

Preventive environmental protection control shall be implemented through environmental assessment upon approval of plans and programmes, through EIA as a condition for the issuance of a sketch (design permit), and by means of issuance of integrated and other permits provided for in the law.

Article 153

- (1) The purpose of preventive control shall be to prevent pollution and/or damage to the environment in excess of the permissible levels prior to implementation of the proposed and/or planned activity.
- (2) In the course of performance of the functions thereof and for the purpose of attaining the objective of preventive control, the authorities covered under Article 148 (3) shall issue warning statements to the natural persons, the management bodies of juristic persons and to sole traders subject to control.
- (3) The statements drawn in pursuance of Paragraph (2) shall present the facts or circumstances which may lead to environmental damage and/or pollution and shall give mandatory prescriptions for avoidance of the facts and/or circumstances as presented therein.
- (4) The prescriptions in the statement under Paragraph (3) shall be binding on the inspected person.

Section III

Current and Follow-Up Control

Article 154

- (1) Current control shall comprehend:
 1. control of the quality of the environmental media and of the factors impacting the said media;

2. control over compliance with the conditions specified in the permits and environmental impact assessment decisions as issued by the Ministry of Environment and Water, the Basin Directorates and the Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water and of the measures provided for in the programmes.
- (2) Current control shall be implemented by means of inspections, observations and measurements.
- (3) Current control shall include access to:
 1. the data on the self-monitoring of the site, conducted by the operator;
 2. information relating to the production activity on the site;
 3. the corporeal immovables and facilities constituting state, municipal and private property.

Article 155

- (1) In the course of exercise of current control, officials designated by the authorities covered under Article 148 (3) herein shall draw up memorandums of ascertainment.
- (2) The memorandums of ascertainment referred to in Paragraph (1) shall present the facts and circumstances as ascertained and shall give mandatory prescriptions, specifying deadlines and persons responsible for implementation of the said prescriptions.

Article 156

Follow-up control shall be implemented by following:

1. the results of implementation of the measures provided for in the EIA decisions and the permits, as well as the results of execution of development projects;
2. implementation of the prescriptions given to the persons controlled during preventive and current control.

Article 157

The drawing up of written statements on commission of administrative violations and the issuance of penalty decrees shall be part of current and follow-up control.

Chapter Ten

COERCIVE ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES AND ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY LIABILITY

Article 158

The Minister of Environment and Water or officials authorized thereby, the RIEW directors, the National Park directors and the Basin Directorate directors shall apply coercive administrative measures in the cases of:

1. accidents caused by acts of omissions of owners or users of sites and areas;
2. disaster situations;
3. occurrence of an immediate danger of environmental pollution or damage or of damage to human health or property;
4. prevention or termination of administrative violations related to environmental protection, as well as prevention and/or elimination of the harmful consequences of such violations.

Article 159

- (1) Coercive administrative measures shall be preventive, terminative and remedial.
- (2) Upon application of coercive administrative measures, the Minister of Environment and Water or officials authorized thereby, the RIEW directors, the National Park directors and the Basin Directorate directors shall issue reasoned orders to terminate, with the assistance of the regional governors, the production activity of owners or users of areas, as well as to deny owners and users access to area, *inter alia* by means of affixation of lead seals and paper tapes.
- (3) The marking of the lead seal and the manner of affixation of lead seals and paper tapes referred to in Paragraph (2) shall be endorsed by an order of the Minister of Environment and Water.

Article 160

- (1) A coercive administrative measure shall be applied by means of a reasoned order issued by an authority covered under Article 158 herein.
- (2) Any order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall specify the type of coercive administrative measure and the manner of application thereof.
- (3) Any order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be served on the person concerned according to the procedure established by the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (4) Any order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be appealable by the persons concerned according to the procedure established by the Supreme Administrative Court Act or under the Administrative Procedure Act, as the case may be.
- (5) An appeal against any order referred to in Paragraph (1) shall not stay the execution thereof.

Article 161

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall appeal against any acts of the administrative authorities which conflict the legislative acts in the field of environmental protection.
- (2) Any appeal under Paragraph (1) shall stay the execution of the act appealed.

Article 162

- (1) Any violation of this Act, which do not constitute a criminal offence, shall be punishable by a fine of BGN 100 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 6,000, in the case of natural persons, regional governors, municipality mayors, ward mayors, mayoralty mayors and officials, and by a pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000, in the case of juristic persons and sole traders.
- (2) The fine or pecuniary penalty under Paragraph (1) shall be imposed in a double for a repeated violation.
- (3) Manifestly minor cases of violation committed by natural persons shall be punishable by a fine of BGN 100.

Article 163

Any independent expert in environmental impact assessment, who shall violate Article 83 (3) herein, will be liable to a fine of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 10,000, unless subject to a severer penalty.

Article 164

A pecuniary penalty of BGN 10,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 100,000 leva shall be imposed on any juristic-person or sole-trader operator of a site for any failure to comply with the requirements established by Article 125 herein.

Article 165

- (1) Any official, who shall deny access to the site or area to a controlling authority conducting an on-site inspection, measurement or taking a sample, will be liable to a fine of BGN 2,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000.
- (2) A pecuniary penalty of BGN 2,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 20,000 shall be imposed on any juristic person or sole trader in the cases where any factory or office worker employed thereby shall commit a violation under Paragraph (1), irrespective of whether the controlling authority is in a position to establish the identity of any such factory or office worker.

Article 166

The sanctions provided for under Article 165 herein shall furthermore be imposed on any person who:

1. fails to submit the available self-monitoring data to the controlling authorities;
2. fails to comply with the conditions set in the permits and in the EIA decisions;
3. fail to implement the prescriptions given in the individual administrative acts and the memorandums of ascertainment under Article 155 herein as issued by the Minister of Environment and Water or by officials authorized thereby.

Article 167

The written statements whereby administrative violations under this Act are ascertained shall be drawn up by officials designated by the Minister of Environment and Water or by officials authorized by the said Minister.

Article 168

The penalty decrees under this Act shall be drawn up according to the procedure established by the Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act and shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Water or by officials authorized thereby.

Article 169

- (1) The written statements ascertaining administrative violations under this Act may furthermore be drawn up by representatives of any public and of non-governmental ecologist organizations designated by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- (2) The penalty decrees under Paragraph (1) shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Water or by officials authorized thereby.

Chapter Eleven
CIVIL LIABILITY

Article 170

- (1) Any person, who shall culpably inflict environmental pollution or damage on another, will be obliged to indemnify the aggrieved party.
- (2) In cases where assets constituting state property has been damaged, the party empowered to bring an action under Paragraph (1) shall be:
 1. the Minister of Environment and Water, if the detriment extends over the territory of multiple administrative regions;
 2. the competent Regional Governor, if the detriment extends over the territory of multiple municipalities.
- (3) In cases where assets constituting municipal property has been damaged, the municipality mayor shall be empowered to bring the action under Paragraph (1).

Article 171

The aggrieved parties under Article 170 (1) and (2) herein may bring action against the offender for cessation of the violation and for elimination of the consequences of pollution occurred.

Article 172

The consequences caused by transboundary environmental pollution shall be eliminated in pursuance of an international treaty whereto the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

§1. Within the meaning of this Act:

1. "Environment" shall be a complex of natural and anthropogenic factors and media in a state of mutual dependence, which affect the ecological balance and the quality of life, human health, and cultural and historical heritage.
2. "Environmental protection" shall be a complex of activities intended to prevent degradation of the environment, the rehabilitation, conservation and improvement thereof.
3. "Natural resources" shall be the elements of biotic and abiotic nature used or useable by man to satisfy the needs thereof.
4. "Renewable resources" shall be the resources which naturally replenish themselves or which may be replenished in whole or in part by special activities and whose replenishability rates comparable to the rates of the exploitation thereof is regarded as proven. All other resources shall be non-renewable.
5. "Environmental pollution" shall be the change in environmental quality as a result of the occurrence and introduction of physical, chemical or biological factors from a natural or anthropogenic source inside or outside Bulgaria, irrespective of whether the effective national limit values are exceeded.
6. "Environmental damage" shall be any modification of one or several of the media comprising the environment which leads to deterioration of the quality of human life, reduction of biological diversity, or difficult restoration of natural ecosystems;

7. "Available primary information" shall be the information presenting the results of measurements, tests, observations and other such activities not accompanied by analyses, forecasts and explanations, which is collected within the scope of the obligations of the competent administration, without being expressly requested by a person concerned.
8. "Available pre-processed information" shall be the information which is processed, summarized and analyzed within the scope of the obligation of the competent administration, without being expressly requested by a person concerned.
9. "Expressly processed information" shall be the information collected or processed, summarized and analyzed at the request of a person concerned.
10. "Collection of information" shall be the actions of the competent administrations and of the obligated natural and juristic persons, whereby the facts constituting primary information are measured, ascertained and observed and whereby the information is processed.
11. "Reporting of information" shall be the act of delivery of the information by the obligated person to the competent administration or to the competent authority.
12. "Provision of information" shall be the act whereby the parties concerned are granted access to the available information.
13. "Landscape" shall be an area whereof the specific aspect and elements have emerged as a result of actions and interactions between natural and/or human factors.
14. "Soil" shall be the upper layer of the Earth's crust in so far as it is the exponent of soil functions, including liquid components (soil solution) and gaseous components (soil air), excluding ground water, river channels and bottoms of water basins;
15. "Soil functions" shall be:
 - a) basis for life and living space for human beings, animals, plants and soil organisms;
 - b) an element of the natural balance, especially with the hydrological and nutrient cycles thereof.
16. "Harmful soil modifications" shall be the disturbance of the soil functions causing significant harm and damage to the individual and to the community in general:
 - a) chemical pollution in excess of the maximum permissible quantities with heavy metals and metaloids, resistant organic pollutants, pesticides and oils, including salinization and acidification;
 - b) pollution with fresh fertilizer residues and concentrated mineral fertilizers, as well as with various types of waste;
 - c) physical degradation, such as water and wind erosion with the anthropogenic aspects thereof, waterlogging and swamping, consequences of burning of stubble and plant residue.
17. "Development proposal" shall be the predesign (predevelopment) studies or the terms of reference for the design in connection with a request to authorize development-project programming for new construction, activity or technology and a substantial change in an activity requiring an EIA decision under Section III of Chapter Six herein.

18. "Impact" shall be any direct effect on the environment that may be caused by the implementation of a development proposal for construction, activity or technology, including the effect on human health and safety, flora, fauna, soil, air, water, climate, landscape, historical monuments and other physical structures or the interaction among these factors.
19. "Transboundary impact" shall be any impact, not exclusively of a global nature, within an area under the jurisdiction of a country, caused by a proposed activity the physical origin whereof is situated wholly or in part within an area under the jurisdiction of another country.
20. "Project client" shall be the owner of a property, the person enjoying the right to build on another's corporeal immovable, or a public authority initiating a development proposal applying for the issuance of a design permit.
21. "Initiator of a plan or programme" shall be the person or the authority initiating the said plan or programme.
22. "Plans and programmes" shall be plans, programmes, strategies and other similar documents, as well as the alterations thereof, which:
 - a) are required by statutory, regulatory or administrative provisions;
 - b) are subject to preparation and/or adoption by a public authority at national, regional or local level or are prepared by a competent authority for adoption according to a procedure approved by the Council of Ministers or the National Assembly.
23. "States concerned in a transboundary context" shall be the Party of origin of an environmental impact and the other Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context affected by the said impact.
24. "Public" shall be one or more natural or juristic persons and the associations, organizations or groups thereof, established in accordance with national legislation.
25. "Public concerned" shall be the public referred under Item 24, which is affected or is likely to be affected, or which has an interest in the procedures for approval of plans, programmes, development proposals, and in the decision-making process on the issuance or updating of permits according to the procedure established by this Act, or in the conditions set in the permits.
26. "Zero alternative" shall be the possibility not to implement the activity provided for in the development proposal.
27. "Non-technical summary" shall be a brief presentation of the information in the EIA statement in a language comprehensible to the general public of a length not less than 10 per cent of the length of the statement and containing the requisite visuals (maps, photographs, charts).
28. "Extension" shall be the construction of a new sub-site within the area of an existing site and any construction extending or heightening an existing building which constitutes a site and where any activities and technologies listed in Annexes 1 and 2 hereto are envisaged.
29. "Facility" shall be an immobile technical unit within an enterprise or in a treatment plant where waste water, chemical substances and preparations are treated, produced or stored. It shall include all the equipment: pipework, machinery and tools serving the facility and necessary for the operation thereof.

30. "Environmental impact assessment decision" shall be an individual administrative act of the competent authority covered under Article 94 herein whereby the admissibility of design of an development proposal under Item 17 is approved by means of assessment of the location (building site, road-bed) of the sites and of the expected environmental impact on the basis of an EIA statement, taking into account the public opinion and the observations expressed by the public concerned.
31. "Enterprise" shall be the whole area and the sites therein under the control of an operator, where dangerous chemical substances or preparations are present in one or more facilities, including common or related infrastructures or activities.
32. "Substance" shall be any chemical element or compound with the exception of the substances which are sources of ionizing radiation within the meaning of Item 15 of § 1 of the Safe Use of Nuclear Energy Act.
33. "Industrial pollution" shall be any direct or indirect entry, resulting from human activities, into the air, water or soil of substances, vibrations, heat radiation or noise that may have a certain adverse impact on human health or on the environment, cause damage to physical structures, limit or prevent the possibilities for use of the useful qualities of the environment and of its other legitimate uses.
34. "Installation" shall be:
- a) each individual installation according to Annex 4 hereto, including the separate technological facilities in direct technical connection therewith and which may have an effect on the pollution, emissions and waste resulting from the operation of the installation;
 - b) any technological facility incorporating one or more installations according to Annex 4 hereto;
 - c) another installation or facility whereof the operator has submitted an application for the issuance of an integrated permit for operation of the said installation in compliance with the provisions of Chapter Seven herein.
- The installations and facilities intended for research, development or exploration activities shall be excluded from this definition.
35. "Existing installation" shall be any installation that is commissioned or has received a favourable EIA decision in compliance with the effective legislation prior to the effective date of this Act, provided that the said installation is commissioned not later than one calendar year after the date of the said decision.
36. "Emission" shall be the direct or indirect release of substances, vibrations, heat or noise from individual or diffuse sources within a specific installation into the air, water or soil.
37. "Emission limit value" shall be the mass, expressed in terms of certain specific parameters, concentration and/or level of an emission, which may not be exceeded during one or more pre-defined periods of time. Emission limit values may furthermore be established for certain groups, families or categories of substances.
38. "Environmental quality standards" shall be the requirements as established in the legislative acts regulating the environment which must be complied with at a given time by the environment or particular part thereof, such as standards of noxious substance content in the ambient air, standards of water quality in the water bodies,

standards of the quality of the other environmental media, and standards of permissible values of the factors polluting or damaging the environment.

39. "Integrated permit" shall be an individual administrative act granting authorization to operate all or part of a specific installation, subject to certain conditions which guarantee that the installation complies with the requirements of Chapter Seven herein. A permit may cover one or more installations (or parts of different installations) on the same site operated by the same operator.
40. "Change in operation of the installation" shall be any reconstruction involving change of the nature of the operation of the installation, the functioning thereof or extension of the said installation that may have a certain impact on the environment.
41. "Substantial change" shall be a change in operation which, in the opinion of the competent authority, may have significant negative effects on human health or on the environment and which approximate the criteria or the limit values established in Annex 4 hereto.
42. "Best available techniques" shall be the most effective and advanced stage in the development of activities and their methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of particular techniques for providing in principle the basis for emission limit values designed to prevent and, where that is not practicable, generally to reduce emissions and the impact on the environment as a whole:
 - a) "techniques" shall include both the technology used and the way in which the installation is designed, built, maintained, operated and decommissioned;
 - b) "available" shall be techniques developed on a scale which allows implementation in the relevant industrial sector, under economically and technically viable conditions, taking into consideration the costs and advantages, whether or not the techniques are used or produced inside the relevant member state, as long as they are reasonably accessible to the operator;
 - c) "best" shall be most effective in achieving a high general level of protection of the environment as a whole.

The "best available techniques" shall be defined by the BAT Reference Documents or BREF prepared by the European Union through the European Bureau for Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control for any individual category of industrial activities listed in Annex I to Directive 96/61/EEC.

43. "Operator" shall be any natural or juristic person who or which owns an installation or controls the operation thereof.
44. "Organization" shall be a company, association, enterprise, government authority or institution, a part or a combination thereof, incurring limited liability or enjoying another status at public or private law, which has a function and administrative structure in its own right. In respect of organizations with multiple functional units, each unit may be defined as a single organization.
45. "Environmental management system" shall be that part of the overall management system which includes the organizational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for elaboration, implementation, attainment, review and maintenance of environmental policy.
46. "Audit of the environmental management system" shall be systematic and documented process of inspection for objective obtaining and evaluation of evidence

in order to determine whether the environmental management system of an organization complies with the auditing criteria as established by the said organization and to notify the management of the said organization of the results of this process.

47. "Affixation of lead seals" shall be the placing of a lead seal by the controlling authority for the purpose of restricting the access of persons to properties and facilities.
48. "Affixation of paper tapes" shall be the placing of a paper tape bearing the impression of an ink stamp by the controlling authority for the purpose of restricting the access of persons to properties and facilities.
49. "Environmental damage resulting from past act or omission" shall be old pollution of sites or building structures on industrial sites with hazardous substances and waste generated by industrial, agricultural, commercial or transport activity posing a hazard to human health or to the environment.
50. "Sustainable development" shall be development meeting the needs of the present without limiting or compromising the ability and capacity of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development shall combine the two main aspirations of society:
 - a) achievement of economic growth ensuring improving living standards;
 - b) present and future protection and improvement of the environment.
51. "Accident" shall be a sudden technological failure of machines, facilities and units involving stopping or serious disturbance of the technological process, explosions, occurrence of fire, excessive environmental pollution, destruction, casualties or hazard to human life and public health.
52. "Environmental monitoring" shall be the collection, evaluation and summarizing of environmental information by means of continuous or periodic observation of certain qualitative and quantitative indicators characterizing the state of the environmental media and the changes therein resulting from the impact of natural and anthropogenic factors.
53. "National Environmental Monitoring System" shall be a complex of measurement, analytical and information activities intended to provide timely and reliable information on the state of the environmental media and the factors impacting the said media, which is used for analyses, assessments and forecasts to justify activities to conserve and protect the environment and human health against harmful impacts.
54. "Dangerous substance" shall be any substance, preparation or mixture listed by name in Table 1 of Annex 3 hereto or having at least one of the properties listed in Table 3 of Annex 3 hereto and present as a raw material, product, by-product, residue or intermediate, including a substance which may be generated in the event of major accident.
55. "Integration of national environmental policy into sectoral policies" shall mean the reckoning with, and incorporation of, the environmental protection requirements into the process of development, application and enforcement of the sectoral policies as defined in Article 9 herein.
56. "Good agricultural practice" shall be the agricultural practice which is based on the principles of sustainable development.

57. "Areas placed under a special regime of protection" shall be areas where special protective measures are introduced for rare species of flora and fauna and for the habitats thereof.

§2. In cases where this Act requires notification or announcement and where no express rules or the application of expressly established procedure is provided for this, any such notification or announcement, as the case may be, shall follow the procedure established by the Code of Civil Procedure.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

§3. The Environmental Protection Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 86 of 1991, amended in No. 90 of 1991; No. 100 of 1992; Nos. 31 and 63 of 1995; Nos. 13, 85 and 86 of 1997; No. 62 of 1998; Nos. 2 and 67 of 1999; Nos. 26, 27 and 28 of 2000; Nos. 1 and 26 of 2001) is hereby superseded.

§4. The secondary legislative acts for the application of this Act shall be issued within six months after the entry of the said Act into force.

§5. Until the issuance of the respective new secondary legislative acts, the secondary legislative acts issued in pursuance of the Environmental Protection Act as superseded shall apply in so far as they do not conflict this Act.

§6. Until the adoption of legislative acts on the activities covered under Article 144 (1) herein, methodologies and instructions of the Minister of Environment and Water shall apply.

§7. Within six months after the entry of this Act into force, the operators of installations falling within the scope of activities listed in Annex 4 hereto shall be obliged to give notification in writing of this fact to the Ministry of Environment and Water.

§8. Any delinquent fees, fines and sanctions under this Act, the Water Act, the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act, the Medicinal Plants Act, the Protected Areas Act and the Clean Ambient Air Act shall be collected with interest on taxes, fees and other such state receivables according to the procedure established by the Tax Procedure Code.

§9. (1) Upon privatization, with the exception of any privatization contracts concluded on or before the 1st day of February 1999 by non-resident and resident natural and juristic persons, the liability for damage caused to the environment and resulting from past acts or omissions, shall be incurred by the State under terms and according to a procedures established in an act of the Council of Ministers.

(2) The evaluation of the damage referred to in Paragraph (1) until the time of privatization shall be performed in accordance with methods endorsed by the Minister of Environment and Water.

§10. (1) Within one year after the entry of this Act into force, the municipality mayors shall elaborate the programmes referred to in Article 79 (1) herein.

(2) Item 1 of Article 81 (1), Article 81 (3), Article 82 (1) and (4), and Section II of Chapter Six herein shall enter into force on the 1st day of July 2004.

(3) Until the entry into force of the provisions specified in Paragraph (2), EIA of the national, functional-regional and administrative-regional development plans and programmes, the spatial-development plans and the modifications thereof shall be

conducted according to a procedure established by a regulation of the Minister of Environment and Water.

§11.(1) The requirement for issuance of an integrated permit under Chapter Seven herein shall apply to:

1. new and, in the event of change of production activities, existing installations and facilities: as from the 1st day of January 2003;
2. existing installations and facilities: during the period commencing on the 1st day of January 2003 and concluding on the 30th day of October 2007.

(2) The deadline for compliance with the conditions set in the integrated permits as issued for existing installations shall be the 1st day of January 2012.

§12. The Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 89 of 1997) shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

1. (*Effective 1.01.2003*) In Paragraph (3) of Article 9, the words "the National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

2. Paragraph (1) of Article 12 shall be amended to read as follows:

"(1) The following shall be required for performance of activities comprehending the collection, storage and safe disposal of waste:

1. a permit issued under Chapter Five herein, or
2. an integrated permit issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Seven of the Environmental Protection Act."

3. Paragraph (2) of Article 28 shall be amended to read as follows:

"(2) The programmes referred to in Item 1 of Paragraph (1) shall be an integral part of the municipal environmental programmes referred to in Article 79 of the Environmental Protection Act."

4. (*Effective 1.01.2003*) Article 35 shall be amended as follows:

- a) in Paragraph (1), the words "shall be credited to a special action analytical subaccount of the National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "shall be credited to the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities";
- b) in Paragraph (1), the words "shall be credited to a special action analytical subaccount of the Municipal Environmental Protection Funds" shall be replaced by "shall be credited in revenue to the budget of the respective municipality".

5. In Paragraph (2) of Article 39, the following new item shall be added:

"11. a clearance issued by the competent authorities of the Ministry of Transport and Communications - in cases where the permit covers any activities under Article 37 herein involving hazardous and industrial waste from means of water transport."

6. Item 3 of Article 48 shall be amended to read as follows:

"3. non-compliance with the provisions of secondary legislative acts for the application of this Act or with the conditions set in the permit."

7. A new Article 52a shall be inserted to read as follows:

"Article 52a

It shall be prohibited to import waste into Bulgaria:

1. where the chemical composition of the said waste is unascertained, and where no analytical methods applicable in the Republic of Bulgaria are available;
2. for the purpose of storage, deposition or safe disposal in any other form whatsoever;
3. for the purpose of processing, where the operator of the installation where the processing is envisaged to take place does not hold the requisite permit issued according to the procedure established by Chapter Five of this Act and/or Chapter Seven of the Environmental Protection Act."

8. A new Article 57a shall be inserted to read as follows:

"Article 57a

The municipality mayors shall organize and oversee the closure, reclamation and follow-up monitoring of unlicensed waste dumps located within the territory of the respective municipality."

9. Item 7 of Article 66 (1) shall be amended to read as follows:

"7. does not keep waste accounts in accordance with the requirements of this Act and does not provide documents related to the report and information on waste management according to the requirements of this Act and of the secondary legislative acts for the application thereof;"

10. A new Article 67a shall be inserted to read as follows:

"Article 67a

Any violation under Article 9 (1) herein shall be punishable by a fine of BGN 200 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 2,000, in the case of natural persons, or by a pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000, in the case of juristic persons and sole traders."

11. A new Article 67b shall be inserted to read as follows:

"Article 67b

Any violations of this Act which does not constitute a criminal offence shall be punishable by a fine of BGN 200 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 2,000, in the case of natural persons, or by a pecuniary penalty of BGN 1,000 or exceeding this amount but not exceeding BGN 5,000, in the case of juristic persons and sole traders."

12. In Paragraph (2) of Article 68, there shall be added at the end "and persons authorized thereby".

13. In sentence two of Item 2 of § 11 of the Supplementary Provisions, the words "which are not hazardous and at the same time, the quantity or composition thereof shall not prevent their treatment together with household waste" shall be replaced by "which by nature and composition are similar to household waste".

§13. The Protection against the Harmful Impact of Chemical Substances, Preparations and Products Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 10 of 2000) shall be amended as follows:

1. Chapter Four shall be repealed.
2. Article 31 shall be repealed.

§14. (*Effective 1.01.2003*) The Clean Ambient Air Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 45 of 1996, amended in No. 49 of 1996; No. 85 of 1997; No. 27 of 2000; No. 102 of 2001) shall be amended as follows:

1. In Article 27:

a) in Paragraph (1), the words "the municipal authorities shall prepare and adopt" shall be replaced by "the municipality mayors shall elaborate, and the Municipal Councils shall adopt";

b) Paragraph (2) shall be amended to read as follows:

"(2) The programmes referred to in Paragraph (1) shall be an integral part of the municipal environmental programmes referred to in Article 79 of the Environmental Protection Act."

2. In the title of Chapter Six, the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

3. In Paragraphs (1) and (3) of Article 31, the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

4. In Paragraphs (1) and (3) of Article 32, the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

5. In Paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article 33, the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

6. In Article 44, the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

7. Paragraph 4b shall be repealed.

§15. (*Effective 1.01.2003*) The Protected Areas Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 133 of 1998, amended in No. 98 of 1999; Nos. 28, 48 and 78 of 2000; No. 23 of 2002) shall be amended as follows:

1. In Article 74:

a) in Paragraph (1), the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

b) Paragraph (4) shall be amended to read as follows:

"(4) The resources covered under Paragraph (1) shall be expended according to the Rules of Operation of the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities."

2. In Article 86:

a) in Item 1 of Paragraph (2), the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities";

b) in Paragraph (4), the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

§16. (*Effective 1.01.2003*) Paragraph (1) of Article 25 of the Medicinal Plants Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 29 of 2000, amended in No. 23 of 2002) shall be amended as follows:

1. In Item 2, the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

2. In Item 3, the words "the respective Municipal Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "the respective municipal budget".

§17. (Effective 1.01.2003) The Water Act (promulgated in the *State Gazette* No. 67 of 1999, amended in No. 81 of 2000; Nos. 34, 41 and 108 of 2001; No. 47 of 2002) shall be amended as follows:

1. In Article 196:

- a) the words "shall be credited to a special analytical subaccount of the National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "shall be credited to the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities shall be";
- b) Item 6 shall be repealed.

2. In Article 197:

- a) in Paragraph (1), the words "The resources on the analytical subaccount shall be disbursed on" shall be replaced by "The resources covered under Article 196 herein shall be expended on";
- b) Paragraph (2) shall be amended to read as follows:

"(2) The resources covered under Article 196 herein shall be expended in accordance with the Rules of Operation of the Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities."

3. In Paragraph (4) of Article 199, the words "National Environmental Protection Fund" shall be replaced by "Enterprise for Management of Environmental Protection Activities".

§18. (1) The provisions of Articles 60 to 64, Items 1 and 4 of § 12, and § 14 to 17 incl. herein shall enter into force on the 1st day of January 2003.

(2) Until the entry into force of the provisions referred to in Paragraph (1), the activity of the National Environmental Protection Fund shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of § 9 and Annex 7 to § 9 of the 2002 National Budget of the Republic of Bulgaria Act.

This Act was passed by the 39th National Assembly on July 23, 2002 and September 19, 2002, and the Official Seal of the National Assembly has been affixed thereto.

Chairman of the National Assembly: **Ognyan Gerdjikov**

Annex 1
to Item 2 of Article 81 (1)

Development Proposals	Competence Criteria	
	RIEW	MOEW
1	2	3
1. Crude oil refineries (except for the production only of lubricants from crude oil) and plants for powdering and liquefying of coal or bituminous schists of and more than 500 tonnes/day.		all
2. Heat power plants and other combustion plants with capacity 50 MW or higher, and: - nuclear power plants and other nuclear reactors including disassembly or decommissioning of such plants and reactors except for plants for the production and processing of the fissionable or concentrated materials, the maximum power of which does not exceed 1 KW of constant thermal loading.	up to 300 MW	above 300 MW
3. (a) Installations for processing of exposed nuclear fuel.		all
(b) installations designed for: - production or concentration of nuclear fuel; - for processing of exposed nuclear fuel or highly radioactive waste; - for final burying of exposed nuclear fuel. - only for final burying of radioactive waste; - only for storage, planned for not more than 10 years, of exposed nuclear fuel or radioactive waste on a site different from the site on which they are produced; - or radioactive waste on sites different from the production sites.		all
4. Installations for the production of cast iron and steel (primary or secondary melting), including continuous casting, with capacity of more than 2.5 t/hour.		all
5. Ferrous metal foundries with capacity of more than 20 tonnes daily.	all	
6. Ferrous metal processing installations: a) hot-rolling mills with capacity of more than 20 tonnes of crude steel per hour b) forging shops with hammers with energy of less than 50 kilojoules per hammer, where the utilized heat power exceeds 20 MW c) protective coatings of molten metal with consumption of more than 2 tonnes of crude steel per hour		all
7. Installations for: a) production of non-ferrous crude metals from ores, concentrated ore or secondary raw materials obtained from metals through metallurgical, chemical and electrolytic processes; b) production of metal by means of melting, including alloying of non-ferrous metals (refining, melting in casting shops etc.) with melting capacity of more than 4 tonnes daily for lead and cadmium and 20 tonnes daily for all other metals.		all
8. Installations for surface treatment of metals and plastics by electrolytic or chemical processes in which the processing bath volume is more than 30 m ³		all
9. Installations for extraction and processing of asbestos and production of asbestos containing products. a) for asbestos and cement products with annual production of more than 20,000 tonnes of finished goods; b) for friction materials with an annual production or more than 50 tonnes of finished goods or for other production processes using asbestos of more than 200 tonnes annually.		all
10. Integral chemical installations for industrial production of chemical substances using chemical conversion processes where the separate installations are functionally connected and which are: a) for production of basic organic chemical substances; b) for production of basic inorganic chemical substances; c) for production of phosphorous, nitrogen and potassium fertilizers (simple and combined fertilizers) d) for production of basic installation protection substances and biocides e) for production of basic pharmaceutical products utilizing chemical or biological processes; f) for production of explosives;		all
11. Industrial enterprises for: a) production of cellulose from wood or of similar fibrous materials; b) production of paper and cardboard with production capacities over 20 tonnes daily;		all

1	2	3
12. Installations for the production of cement clinker in rotary kilns with production capacities over 500 t. daily and of lime in rotary kilns with capacities over 50 t. daily or in other kilns with production capacities over 50 t. daily;		all
13. Installations for production of glass, including glass fiber, with melting capacities of more than 20. t/day.	all	
14. Installations for melting of mineral substances, including production of mineral fibers, with melting capacities of more than 20 t/daily;	all	
15. Installations for production of ceramic products by means of baking, in particular roof tiles, bricks, refractories, tiles, stoneware or porcelain goods, with production capacities of more than 75 t/daily and/or kiln capacities of more than 4 m ² and with density of arrangement in one kiln higher than 300 kg/m ³ .	all	
16. Installations for pre-processing (activities such as: washing, bleaching, mercerization) or dyeing of fibers and/or textile, with capacities of more than 10 t/daily.	all	
17. Installations for tanning of untreated and raw hides with capacities of more than 12 t/daily of finished goods	all	
18. Installations for surface treatment of substances, objects or products by using organic solvents, particularly for beetling, stamping, ground-coat application, degreasing, water proofing, sizing, painting, cleaning or impregnation, with organic solvent consumption rates of more than 150 kg/hour or more than 200 t/annually.		all
19. a) slaughter houses with production capacities of more than 50 t of carcass meat per day b) treatment and processing of food-stuff production raw materials — animal origin raw materials (except milk) with production capacities of more than 75 t of finished goods daily — vegetable raw materials with production capacities of more than 300 t of finished goods daily (average monthly value) c) treatment and processing of milk with input milk quantities of more than 200 t/daily (average annual value)	all all all	
20. Installations for disposal or utilization of animal carcasses and animal waste with capacities of more than 10 t/daily.	all	
21. Farms for intensive breeding of fowl and pigs with more than: a) 40,000 places for breeding of broilers, 40,000 places for laying hens b) 2,000 places for breeding of pigs for meat (more than 30 kg) c) 750 places for sows	all	
22. a) construction of high-speed railways and airports with main runways of 2,100 m and longer. b) construction of new motorways, high-speed city motorways, I, II and III grade roads, local roads, open for public use and reconstruction of their sections longer than 10 km		all all
23. a) public transport ports capable of receiving vessels of more than 1,350 gross tonnage b) loading and unloading piers connected to dry land, except for iron piers capable of receiving vessels heavier than 1,350 gross tons.		all all
24. Installations for neutralization of hazardous waste by incineration or chemical treatment or hazardous waste disposal sites within the meaning of Item 4 of §1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act		all
25. Installations for neutralization of hazardous waste by incineration or by chemical treatment with capacities of more than 100 tonnes daily.		all
26. Installations for household waste treatment.	all	
27. Extraction of ground waters or artificial circulation of ground waters with an annual volume of extracted or circulated water equivalent to or in excess of 10 million cubic meters.		all
28. Activities for transferring of water resources between river basins for satisfaction of the insufficiency in water use where the volume of transferred water exceeds 100 million cubic meters annually.		all
29. In all other cases the activities of transferring water quantities between river basins where the average annual flow of the basin (averaged over many years) from which water is transferred is more than 2,000 million cubic meters annually. In both cases the transferring of drinking water along pipelines is excluded.		all

1	2	3
30. Waste water treatment plants with capacities of more than 150,000 inhabitants equivalent.		all
31. Extraction of oil or natural gas for commercial purposes at quantities of more than 500 tonnes daily for oil or more than 500,000 m ³ daily for natural gas.		all
32. Water reservoirs or other facilities designed for containment or storage of water where the level or additional quantity of the water contained or restored exceeds 10 million cubic meters.		all
33. Pipelines for transportation of gas, oil or chemical substances, more than 800 mm in diameter and more than 40 km long.	all	
34. Facilities for storage of 200,000 tonnes or more of oil, oil products or chemical products.		all
35. Construction of above-ground pipelines with voltage of 220 kV and higher and more than 15 km long.	all	
36. Quarries and open-cast mines for extraction of raw materials with areas of more than 25 hectares or extraction of peat with areas of more than 150 hectares. Extraction of inert materials from:		all
- rivers of more than 5,000 m ³ /annually	up to 30 thou. m ³ /annually	more than 30 thou. m ³ /annually
- water bodies of more than 10,000 m ³ /annually	up to 100 thou. m ³ /annually	more than 100 thou. m ³ /annually
- seas		
37. Tourism and recreation		
(a) holiday centers, hotel complexes in non-urban areas with total utilized areas of more than 10 ha and with one time	up to 100 ha	over 100 ha
(b) ski runs, ski tows, rope lifts with total lengths of more than 1,000 m and with facilities		all
I sports, recreation or attraction complexes in non-urban locations or total area above 20 ha	up to 100 ha	over 100 ha

Note: To be presumed disassembled or closed, nuclear power plants and other atomic reactors must the radioactive fuel and other radioactive elements one time removed.

Development Proposals

1. Agriculture, forestry, water economy
 - a) agricultural land consolidation
 - b) utilization of uncultivated or semi-fallow lands for intensive agricultural purposes
 - c) soil improvement measures in agriculture, inclusive of drip irrigation and draining of lands
 - d) primary afforestation and de-afforestation for the land-use changing purposes
 - e) intensive animal breeding (projects, not included in Annex 1)
 - f) intensive farming of fish
 - g) taking of land from the sea
 - h) river corrections
2. Mining
 - a. quarries, open mines and extraction of peat (not included in Annex 1)
 - b. mine pits
 - c. extraction of inert materials from rivers or seas (not included in Annex 1)
 - d. deep drilling
 - geothermal
 - for storage of nuclear waste
 - for water supplyexcept of those for geologic base stability studies
 - e. extraction of coal, oil, natural gas, ores and bituminous schist
3. Power
 - a. industrial installations for generation of power, steam and hot water (not included in Annex 1)
 - b. industrial facilities for transferring of gas, steam and hot water, transferring of electricity along above-ground cables (not included in Annex 1)
 - c. above-ground gas storage facilities
 - d. underground combustible gas storage facilities
 - e. above-ground fuel storage facilities
 - f. industrial briquetting of coal
 - g. installations for processing and storage of radioactive waste (not included in Annex 1)
 - h. hydro-power plants
 - h. wind driven electricity generation facilities
4. Production and processing of metals
 - (a) installations for production of cast iron and steel (primary or secondary melting), including continuous casting (not included in Annex 1).
 - (b) ferrous metal processing installations: (not included in Annex 1)
 - hot rolling
 - press-forging
 - molten metal protective coatings
 - I ferrous metal foundries (not included in Annex 1)
 - (d) non-ferrous metal melting installations, including for production of alloys (except for noble metals), drawing, forming and rolling of products from non-ferrous metals and alloys (not included in Annex 1)
 - (e) installations for surface treatment of metals and plastics by electrolytic or chemical processes (not included in Annex 1)
 - (f) production and assembly of motor vehicles and production of automotive engines
 - (g) shipyards
 - (h) production and repair of airplanes
 - (i) production of railroad facilities
 - (k) excavation works involving explosives
 - (l) ore roasting and sintering installations

5. Mineral industry
 - a) coke ovens (dry distilling of coal)
 - b) cement production installations (not included in Annex 1)
 - c) asbestos and asbestos goods production installations (not included in Annex 1)
 - d) installations for production of glass and glass fiber (not included in Annex 1)
 - e) installations for melting of minerals including production of mineral fibers (not included in Annex 1)
 - f) installations for production of ceramic goods through baking, incl. roof tiles, bricks, refractory bricks, tiles, ceramic and porcelain vessels (not included in Annex 1)
6. Chemical industry (not included in Annex 1)
 - a) installations for production of chemicals and intermediary products
 - b) installations for production of pesticides and pharmaceutical products, paints and varnishes, elastomers and peroxides
 - c) facilities for storage of oil, oil products and chemical substances
7. Food industry (not included in Annex 1)
 - a) production of plant and animal oils and fats
 - b) canning of plant and animal products
 - c) production of dairy products
 - d) production of beer and malt
 - e) production of sweets and syrups
 - f) slaughterhouses
 - g) industrial production of starch
 - h) production of fish meal and cod-liver oil
 - h) production of sugar
8. Textile, leather, wood processing and paper industry
 - a) industrial installations for production of paper and cardboard (not included in Annex 1)
 - b) installations for primary processing (operations such as washing, bleaching, mercerization etc.) or dyeing of fibers or textile (not included in Annex 1)
 - c) processing (tanning) of leather (not included in Annex 1)
 - d) installations for production and processing of cellulose
9. Rubber industry Production and processing of products based on elastomers
10. Infrastructure projects
 - a) industrial zone development plans
 - b) development installations for public construction, including construction of malls and parking lots
 - c) construction of railway lines and facilities for combined transportation and mixed terminals (not included in Annex 1)
 - d) construction of airports (not included in Annex 1)
 - e) construction of roads (not included in Annex 1)
 - f) construction of ports and port facilities, including trawler ports (not included in Annex 1)
 - g) construction of inland waterways (not included in Annex 1), sewer facilities and emergency flood control facilities
 - h) water reservoirs and other facilities for containment and storage of water for long periods of time (not included in Annex 1)
 - i) tramway lines, underground and above-ground railways, overhead lines for transportation exclusively or mainly of passengers
 - j) oil pipelines and gas pipelines (not included in Annex 1)
 - k) aqueducts
 - l) coastal erosion control activities and coastal facilities changing the coastline, such as construction of dikes, breakwaters and other protective facilities, except for repairs and reconstruction of such facilities
 - m) extraction of ground water and artificial circulation of ground water (not included in Annex 1)
 - n) projects for transferring of water resources between river basins (not included in Annex 1)
11. Other investment proposals

- a) race tracks and motor vehicles testing tracks
 - b) waste disposal installations (not included in Annex 1)
 - c) waste water treatment plants (not included in Annex 1)
 - d) treatment plant sludge disposal sites
 - e) metal scrap storage, including from motor vehicles
 - f) facilities for testing of engines, turbines or reactors
 - g) production of artificial mineral fibers (not included in Annex 1)
 - h) facilities for neutralization or destruction of explosive substances
 - i) installations for disposal or utilization of animal carcasses and animal waste (not included in Annex 1)
 - j) pesticide packaging facilities
 - k) pesticide storage facilities
12. Tourism and recreation
- a) ski runs, ski tows, lifts and their facilities (not included in Annex 1)
 - b) sea facilities
 - c) holiday centers, hotel complexes in non-urban areas and accompanying facilities (not included in Annex 1)
 - d) permanent camping sites and caravan parking sites
 - e) special purpose parks

Table 1

Dangerous Substances	Permissible Quantity (tonnes)	
Ammonia nitrate	350	2,500
Ammonia nitrate	1,250	5,000
Arsenic (V) oxide, arsenic acid and/or their salts	1	2
Arsenic (V) oxide, arsenous acid and/or their salts		0.1
Bromine	20	100
Chlorine	10	25
Nickel compounds in pulverous, respirable condition (nickel oxide, nickel dioxide, nickel sulfide, trinickel pentasulfide, dinickel trioxide)		1
Ethylene-amine	10	20
Fluoride	10	20
Formaldehyde (concentration $\geq 90\%$)	5	50
Hydrogen	5	50
Hydrogen chloride (liquefied gas)	25	250
Liquefied extremely flammable gasses (including liquefied oil gas) and natural gas	50	200
Acetylene	5	50
Ethylene-oxide	5	50
Propylene oxide	5	50
Methanol	500	5,000
4,4 methylene (2-chloroaniline) and/or salts in pulverous form		0.01
Methyl isocyanide		0.15
Oxygen	200	2,000
Toluene di-isocyanate	10	100
Carbonic acid dichloranhydride	0.3	0.75
Arsine	0.2	1
Phosphine	0.02	1
Sulfur dichloride	1	1
Sulfur trioxide	15	75
Polychlorodibenzofurans and polychlorodibenzodioxins (incl. TCDD) recalculated in TCDD equivalent		0,001
The following carcinogens 4-aminobiphenyl and/or its salts, benzidine and/or its salts, bis(chloromethyl)ether, chloromethylmethyl ether, dimethylcarbamoylchloride, dimethylnitrosamine, hexamethylphosphorous triamide, 2-naphthylamine and/or its salts and 1,3-propanesultone 4-nitrophenyl	0.001	0.001
Motor petrol or other petrol ethers	5,000	50,000

1. ammonia nitrate (350/2500)
this relates to ammonia nitrate and its compounds containing nitrogen in result of ammonia nitrate and in quantities larger than 28% by weight (compounds different from those indicated in item 2) and of solutions of water ammonia nitrate with ammonia concentration exceeding 90% by weight.
2. ammonia nitrate (1250/5000)
this relates to common ammonia nitrate based fertilizers and to combined fertilizers with nitrogen exceeding 28% by weight (the combined fertilizers contain ammonia nitrate with phosphate and/or potash)
3. polychlorodibenzofurans and polychlorodibenzodioxins (CDF, CDD) the quantities of polychlorodibenzofurans and polychlorodibenzodioxins are calculated by multiplying the limit quantity in Table 1 by the rates in Table 2:

Table 2

International Toxic Equivalent Rates for Representatives of One Group

CDD Type	Rate	CDF Type	Rate
2,3,7,8-TCDD	1	2,3,7,8-TCDF	0.1
1,2,3,7,8-PCDD	0.5	2,3,4,7,8-PCDF	0.5
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDD	0.1	1,2,3,7,8-PCDF	0.05
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDD		1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDF	0.1
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDD		1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDF	
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDD	0.01	1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDF	
OCDD	0.001	2,3,4,6,7,8-HxCDF	
		1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDF	0.01
		1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HpCDF	
		OCDF	0.001

(T – tetra, P – penta, Hx – Hexa, Hp – hepta, O – octa)

Table 3

Dangerous Substance Classes	Limit Quantity (tones)	
1. Highly toxic	5	20
2. Toxic	50	200
3. Oxydizing	50	200
4. Explosive (R2)	50	200
5. Explosive (R3)	10	50
6. Flammable	5,000	50,000
7a. Highly flammable	50	200
7b. Highly flammable	5,000	50,000
8. Extremely flammable	10	50
9. Environmentally hazardous substances with the following risk qualities: (I) R50 “highly toxic for aquatic organisms” (II) R51 “toxic for aquatic organisms” and R53 “can cause lasting negative changes in the aquatic environment”	200 500	500 2,000
10. All other substances with the following risk qualities: (I) R14 “violent reaction to water” (incl. R 14/15) (II) R29 “emits toxic gasses in contact with water”	100 50	500 200

Classes of Industrial Activities

The limit values indicated below shall, in principle, relate to the production capacities or volumes of finished produce. Where an operator carries out several activities under the same sub-title in the same installation or on the same site, the capacities of such activities shall be added.

1. Power
 - 1.1. Combustion plants with nominal heat capacity in excess of 50 MW (1)
 - 1.2. Refineries for mineral oils and gasses
 - 1.3. Coke ovens
 - 1.4. Coal gassifying and liquefying plants
2. Production and processing of metals
 - 2.1. Plants for roasting and sintering of ores (including sulfur containing ores)
 - 2.2. Plants for production of iron and steel (primary or secondary melting), including continuous casting, with capacity of more than 2.5 t/hour.
 - 2.3. Ferrous metal processing plants:
 - (a) hot-rolling mills with capacity of more than 20 tonnes of crude steel per hour
 - (b) forging shops with hammers with energy of less than 50 kilojoules per hammer, where the utilized heat power exceeds 20 MW
 - (c) protective coatings of molten metal with consumption of more than 2 tonnes of crude steel per hour
 - 2.4. Ferrous metal foundries with capacity of more than 20 tonnes daily.
 - 2.5. Plants:
 - (a) for production of non-ferrous crude metals from ores, dressed metal products or waste through metallurgical, chemical and electrolytic processes;
 - (b) for production of metal by means of melting, including alloying of non-ferrous metals (refining, melting in casting shops etc.) with melting capacity of more than 4 tonnes daily for lead and cadmium and 20 tonnes daily for all other metals.
 - 2.6. Plants for surface treatment of metals and plastics by electrolytic or chemical processes in which the processing bath volume is more than 30 m³
3. Extraction and Processing of Non-Ore Mineral Raw Materials
 - 3.1. Plants for the production of cement clinker in rotary kilns with production capacities over 500 tonnes daily and of lime in rotary kilns with capacities over 50 tonnes daily or in other kilns with production capacities over 50 tonnes daily;
 - 3.2. Plants for production of asbestos and producing of asbestos-based products;
 - 3.3. Plants for production of glass, including glass fiber, with melting capacities of more than 20 tonnes daily;
 - 3.4. Plants for melting of mineral substances, including production of mineral fibers, with melting capacities of more than 20 tonnes daily;
 - 3.5. Plants for production of ceramic products by means of baking, in particular roof tiles, bricks, refractories, tiles, stoneware or porcelain goods, with production capacities of more than 75 tonnes daily and/or kiln capacities of more than 4 m³ and with density of arrangement in one kiln higher than 300 kg/m³.
4. Chemical Industry

Production within the meaning of the categories of activities contained in this section shall mean industrial production through chemical processing of substances or groups of substances from the list in Sections 4.1 through 4.6.

- 4.1. Chemical plants for the production of organic chemical substances such as:
 - (a) hydrocarbons (acyclic and cyclical; saturated and unsaturated; aliphatic and aromatic);

- (b) oxygen containing hydrocarbons such as: alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, carboxyl acids, esters, acetates, ethers, peroxides, epoxy resins;
 - (c) sulfur containing hydrocarbons;
 - (d) nitrogen containing hydrocarbons such as: amines, amides, compounds of trivalent nitrogen, nitrites, nitrides, nitriles, cyanates, isocyanates;
 - (e) phosphorus containing hydrocarbons;
 - (f) halogen containing hydrocarbons;
 - (g) organometallic compounds;
 - (h) plastics, polymer synthetic fibers and cellulose based fibers;
 - (i) synthetic rubber;
 - (j) dyes and pigments;
 - (k) surfactant materials and surfactant substances;
- 4.2. Chemical plants for the production of basic inorganic chemical substances such as:
- (a) gasses: ammonia, chlorine, hydrogen chloride, fluoride, hydrogen fluoride, carbon oxides, sulfur compounds, nitrogen oxides, hydrogen, carbonylhydride;
 - (b) acids: chromic acid, hydrofluoric acid, phosphoric acid, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, oleum, sulfurous acids;
 - (c) bases: ammonia hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide;
 - (d) salts: ammonium chloride, potassium chlorate, potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, perborates, silver nitrate;
 - (e) non-metals, metal oxides and other inorganic compounds such as: calcium carbide, silicon, silicon carbide;
- 4.3. Chemical plants for production of phosphorous, nitrous and potassium fertilizers (simple or mixed).
- 4.4. Chemical plants for production of biocides and other plant protection products.
- 4.5. Plants using chemical and/or biological processes for production of pharmaceutical products.
- 4.6. Chemical plants for production of explosives.
5. Waste Management
- 5.1. Plants for disposal or treatment of hazardous waste within the meaning of Item 4 of §1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act, inclusive of regeneration, treatment or safe disposal of used oils, with capacities of 10 tonnes of waste daily and carrying out one or more of the following activities:
- 5.1.1. Any hazardous waste safe disposal activity;
 - 5.1.2. One or more of the following hazardous waste treatment activities:
 - (a) refining/recovery of solvents;
 - (b) recovery of bases and acids;
 - (c) utilization of components used for reduction of pollution;
 - (d) repeated refining or other reuse of oils and petroleum products;
 - (e) use as fuel or other methods for power generation;
- 5.2. Plants for incineration of household waste within the meaning of Item 2 of § 1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Limitation of the Harmful Impact of Waste on the Environment Act, with capacities of more than 3 tonnes/hour;
- 5.3. Plants for disposal of non-hazardous waste, inclusive of production and household waste, with capacities of more than 50 tonnes per day, carrying out the activities:
- 5.3.1. Biological treatment resulting in final compounds or mixtures which are subject to neutralization;
 - 5.3.2. Physico-chemical treatment (such as steaming, drying, calcifying etc.) resulting in final compounds or mixtures which are subject to neutralization.
- 5.4. Landfills receiving more than 10 tonnes of waste per day or with total capacities or more than 25,000 tonnes, except for inert waste landfills.

6. Other activities
 - 6.1. Industrial plants producing:
 - (a) cellulose from wood or of similar fibrous materials;
 - (b) paper and cardboard, with production capacities of more than 20 tonnes daily.
 - 6.2. Plants for pre-processing (activities such as: washing, bleaching, mercerization) or dyeing of fibers and/or textile, with capacities of more than 10 tonnes daily.
 - 6.3. Plants for tanning of untreated and raw hides with capacities of more than 12 tonnes daily of finished goods
 - 6.4. (a)slaughter houses with production capacities of more than 50 tonnes of carcass meat per day;
 - 6.4. (b) treatment and processing of food-stuff production raw materials:
 - animal origin raw materials (except milk) with production capacities of more than 75 tonnes of finished goods daily;
 - vegetable raw materials with production capacities of more than 300 tonnes of finished goods per day (average quarterly value);
 - 6.4. (c) treatment and processing of milk, with input milk quantities of more than 200 tonnes daily (average annual value);
 - 6.5. Plants for disposal or utilization of animal carcasses and animal waste with capacities of more than 10 tonnes daily.
 - 6.6. Plants for intensive breeding of fowl or pigs with more than:
 - (a) 40,000 places for fowl;
 - (b) 2,000 places for fattening pigs (more than 30 kg), or
 - (c) 750 places for sows.
 - 6.7. Plants for surface treatment of substances, objects or products by using organic solvents, particularly for beetling, stamping, ground-coat application, degreasing, water proofing, sizing, painting, cleaning or impregnation, with organic solvent consumption rates of more than 150 kg/hour or more than 200 t/annually.
 - 6.8. Plants for production of carbon or electrode graphite by incineration or graphitization.

Ordinance on the terms and procedure for making environmental impact assessment of investment proposals for construction, activities and technologies

Chapter One General Provisions

Article 1

This Ordinance shall set forth the terms and procedure for making environmental impact assessment (EIA) of investment proposals under Article 81, paragraph (1), item 2, of the Environment Protection Act (EPA), and Article 31, paragraph (2), of the Biological Diversity Act.

Article 2

- (1) EIA shall be made in the following order:
 1. Notification to the competent authorities and the public affected;
 2. Assessment of the need for EIA;
 3. Holding of consultations; identification of the scope, the contents and the form of the EIA report;
 4. Assessment of the quality of the EIA report;
 5. Organization of public discussion on the EIA report;
 6. Taking decision on the EIA;
 7. Exercising control over implementation of the conditions set forth in the decision on EIA.
- (2) For investment proposals with transboundary impact the requirements of Chapter Eight shall apply.

Article 3

- (1) The Minister of Environment and Water shall establish, by Order, a public register pursuant to Article 102 of the Environment Protection Act (EPA), and shall set forth the rules for keeping the register.
- (2) The Register shall contain data about conducting EIA procedures and shall be kept as a uniform database where for each EIA procedure a separate file shall be opened, which shall contain at least the information under Annex No. 1.
- (3) Access for review of information entered in the register shall be provided via the MEW page on the Internet.
- (4) A list of documents for the EIA procedure shall be kept with the register.
- (5) Access to the available documents under paragraph (4) shall be provided pursuant to the EPA.
- (6) The Order under paragraph (1) shall set forth:
 1. Persons in charge of keeping the register;
 2. Procedure for update of the data in the register;
 3. Procedure for exchange of information between the MEW and the Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water (RIEW).

Chapter Two

Assessment of the need for making an EIA

Article 4

- (1) In the course of pre-investment inquiries the investor shall be obliged to notify in writing the competent authority MOEW/RIEW about his investment intention.
- (2) Concurrently with the notification to the competent authority under paragraph (1) the investor shall notify in writing the Mayor of the relevant municipality/ies and region/s, local administration and the affected population through the mass media and/or in another way.

Article 5

- (1) On the grounds of the notification under Article 4 the competent authority shall determine whether the investment proposal falls within the scope of Annex No. 1 or Annex No. 2 to Article 81 paragraph 1 item 2 of the EPA, or whether it is beyond their scope, but may have impact on protected areas of the National Environmental Network. The competent authority shall notify within 14 days the investor in writing about the necessary actions that should be undertaken.
- (2) In case the investor submits together with the notification pursuant to Article 4, documents proving that the investment proposal is linked to the National Defense, the Competent authority shall confirm within 14 days in writing that no EIA shall be made on the grounds of Article 81 paragraph 5 of the EPA

Article 6

For the purposes of assessing the need for making EIA for proposals under Article 93, paragraph (1) of the EPA, the investor shall submit a request together with the information under Annex No. 2. The request shall be submitted in writing to the competent authority under Article 93 paragraph 2 or 3 of the EPA.

Article 7

- (1) The competent authority under Article 6 shall assess the need for making EIA by determining the degree of significance of the environmental impact on the grounds of:
 1. the information submitted by the investor pursuant to Article 6;
 2. the criteria under Article 93, paragraph (4) of the EPA.
- (2) Where necessary, the competent authority shall:
 - organize an on-site visit for verification of the information under Article 6;
 - conduct consultations with the specialized competent authorities of the Ministry of Health in order to determine the degree of significance of the impact and the risk to human health.

Article 8

- (1) Within 1 month following the submission of the request under Article 6 the competent authority shall rule by decision on the need for making an EIA, which shall contain:
 1. Title of the issuing body;
 2. Name of investor, place of residence / seat;
 3. Brief description of the investment proposal;
 4. Legal and factual grounds for issue of decision;
 5. Detailed reasons, based on the assessment under Article 7;
 6. Dispositional part;
 7. Date of issue, signature.

- (2) Within 3 days following the issue of the decision under paragraph (1) the competent authority shall:
 1. Deliver the decision to the investor;
 2. Declare the reasons for its judgement with announcement at an accessible location in the building of the MOEW and/or RIEW;
 3. Notify in writing the respective municipal administration on which territory the investment proposal is going to be implemented about the decision with the request for its announcement at an accessible location..

Chapter Three

Terms and procedure for consultations. Determination of the scope, the contents and the form of the EIA report

Article 9

- (1) For the purposes of holding consultations pursuant to Article 95, paragraph (2) of the EPA, the investor shall determine the organization and persons to participate on the basis of the characteristics of the investment proposal.
- (2) In case of an interest in the EIA procedure declared in writing by the persons or organizations falling out of the scope of paragraph 1, the investor shall hold consultations with the interested parties
- (3) The consultations may be organized in one of the following manners:
 1. Announcement in the mass media;
 2. Sending notifications to the local authorities;
 3. Preparation and distribution of prospectus or brochure with brief information about the investment proposal;
 4. Distribution of letters or questionnaires to organizations or persons concerned, living in the immediate vicinity, with request for information and comments on the investment proposal;
 5. Setting up information boards, posters;
 6. Organization of expert or public groups on the scope of assessment;
 7. Organization of meetings with the affected population.
- (4) In the course of consultations the investor shall provide sufficient information and time for elucidation of his intentions and for presentation of opinion by the specialized departments and the affected public.
- (5) The investor shall prepare reference about the consultations held and the reasons for accepted and unaccepted notes and recommendations.

Article 10

- (1) An investor of proposal included in the scope of Annex No. 1 to Article 81 paragraph 1 item 2 of the EPA or an investor who has received decision under Article 8, stating it is necessary to make EIA, should commission the elaboration of a Terms of Reference for the scope of the EIA pursuant to Article 95, paragraph (1) of the EPA.
- (2) The information received in the course of consultations under Article 9 shall be used for the purpose of elaboration of the ToR for the scope pursuant to paragraph 1.
- (3) The Terms of reference under paragraph (1) shall contain:
 1. Characteristics of the investment proposal, including:
 - a) Description of the physical characteristics of the investment proposal and the necessary sites (such as used terrains, agricultural land, forestry land, etc.) during the construction and operation phase;

- b) Description of the basic characteristics of the production process, for example: type and quality of the used raw and other materials;
 - c) Determination of the type and quality of the expected residue and emissions (water pollution, air and soil pollution, noise, vibrations, radiation – light, thermal, nuclear, etc.) as a result of the investment proposal's operation.
2. Alternatives for implementation of the investment proposal;
 3. Characteristics of the environment where the investment proposal is to be implemented and forecast of the impact;
 4. significance of the impacts on the environment, describing direct and indirect, cumulative, short-, medium- and long-term, regular and temporary, positive and negative impact of the investment proposal;
 5. Structure of the EIA report with description of expected contents of the items included therein;
 6. List of required attachments, lists, etc.;
 7. Stages, phases and deadlines for elaboration of the EIA report;
 8. Other terms or requirements.
- (4) For investment proposals that require issue of integrated permit for prevention and control of pollution, the Terms of reference under paragraph (2) shall include requirement for review of an alternative with use of the best available techniques.
- (5) When necessary, the investor holds consultations with the specialized competent authorities of the Ministry of Health pursuant to paragraph 3, item 5 on the scope and contents of the evaluation of the health and hygiene aspects of the environment and on the human health risk.

Article 11

- (1) The investor shall assign the elaboration of EIA report in compliance with the approved Terms of reference under Article 10 paragraph 3 and the requirements of Article 96, paragraph (1) of the EPA and by using the updated data, recent knowledge and methods of assessment..
- (2) The EIA report shall be elaborated by a team of experts with head of the team, who:
1. have certificate of registration in the public register under Article 83, paragraph (4) of the EPA;
 2. have no personal interest in the implementation and application of the investment proposals.
- (3) The experts shall be considered to have no personal interest where:
1. they are not owner, manager or member of managing or control body of the legal entity - investor;
 2. they are not related persons within the meaning of the Commerce Act and have no employment relations with the investor;
 3. they have no employment relations with the Competent authorities under Article 10 of the EPA;
 4. they are not members of the expert environmental boards under Article 12 paragraph 1, item 1 and paragraph 2 of the EPA;
 5. they have not taken part in the elaboration and the approval of the relevant investment proposal.
- (4) The head of the team of experts shall be responsible for:
1. identification of the team of experts required for making of the EIA, taking in consideration the specific nature of the subject of assessment and the environmental conditions;
 2. completeness and authenticity of the information presented in the EIA report;

3. consideration of the standpoints and opinion of the affected public;
 4. objectivity of the conclusion under Article 96, paragraph 1, item 8 of EPA.
- (5) The registered experts shall be responsible for the completeness, authenticity and objectivity of the relevant sections of the EIA report elaborated by them pursuant to Article 12, paragraph (1), item 4 and the conclusion they submit pursuant to Article 83, paragraph 3 of EPA.
- (6) In case of not carrying out of the obligations under paragraphs (4) and (5) damages occur, the registered experts shall be held liable to the full amount thereof.

Article 12

- (1) The report shall be elaborated as a uniform document comprising:
1. body of the report in compliance with Article 11, paragraph (1);
 2. list of sources of information used by the authors in the EIA report;
 3. The reference pursuant to Article 9 paragraph 5;
 4. list of the registered experts and the head of the team that have elaborated the EIA report, where each of them shall put his/her signature opposite to the report sections elaborated by him/her;
 5. declarations in writing of the experts under Article 11, paragraph (3);
 6. copies of the certificates for registration in the register of the MEW.
- (2) The non-technical summary of the EIA report under Article 96, paragraph (1), item 9 of the EPA, shall be a separate Annex to the EIA report.

Chapter Four

Assessment of the quality of the EIA report

Article 13

For the purposes of assessment of the quality of the EIA report the investor shall submit to the competent authority one copy of the report under Article 12, on paper and on electronic media, and one copy of the terms of reference under Article 10 and copy of document for charges paid.

Article 14

- (1) The competent authority shall assess the quality of the EIA report in 14 days following its deposition, on the basis of the following criteria:
1. completeness and accuracy of the information by sections of the report, in compliance with the Terms of reference approved by the competent authority;
 2. consideration of the results of the consultations held;
 3. equalized description, analysis and comparison of the alternatives;
 4. significance of impacts; significance of unavoidable/permanent impacts on the environment;
 5. proposed measures for prevention or reduction of substantial harmful impacts, intended to ensure compliance with the environmental normative acts, and plan elaborated for their implementation;
 6. availability of graphic materials – maps, schemes, sketches, diagrams, etc.;
 7. the non-technical summary should not contain technical terms;
- (2) The competent authority shall apply the following system of grades to assess the quality of the report:
1. grade A – full information has been provided, without omissions and weaknesses;

2. grade B – the information provided has minor omissions, which are not important to decision making;
 3. grade C - the information provided has omissions, which are not of substantial importance to decision making;
 4. grade D – the information provided is not sufficient for decision making, but requires relatively small amount of additional work;
 5. grade E – extremely insufficient information with many omissions and weaknesses, which do not allow to make a decision.
- (3) The assessments under paragraph 2, items 1, 2 and 3 shall be considered positive.

Article 15

- (1) In case of a positive assessment under Article 14, paragraph (3), the competent authority shall notify the investor by letter and shall request in addition not less than 3 copies of the report for the MEW and not less than 2 copies for the RIEW.
- (2) In case of assessment pursuant to Article 14, paragraph (2), item 4, the competent authority shall return the report for supplementation with specific instructions therefore, informing the investor in writing about it.
- (3) In case of assessment pursuant to Article 14, paragraph (2), item 5, the competent authority shall inform the investor and return the report for revision.
- (4) In the cases of paragraphs 2 and 3 the competent authority shall specify a deadline for submission of the supplemented/revised report.

Chapter Five

Organization of public discussion on the EIA report

Article 16

- (1) In the letter to the investor pursuant to Article 15 paragraph 1, the competent authority shall also specify the affected municipalities, mayoralities and/or regions, with which the investor should organize public discussion on the EIA report.

Article 17

- (1) The public discussion on the EIA report shall be conducted in the following order:
 1. The investor shall deliver one copy of the EIA report to each of the bodies specified under Article 16;
 2. The affected municipalities, mayoralities and/or regions under Article 16, shall determine together with the investor the place, date and time for holding of the public discussion, as well as the place and time for public access to the EIA report and the place and time for submission of written statements of opinion. The investor shall announce the above in the mass media and/or in another appropriate manner at least 30 days prior to the meeting for the public discussion. The announcement shall be made as per specimen provided in Annex No. 3 to the Ordinance;
 3. The investor shall notify in writing the competent authority about the place, date and time for holding the public discussion/discussions under paragraph 2;
 4. In his own opinion, the investor may inform in writing also another persons, authorities and organizations about the public discussion/s.
 5. The meeting for the public discussion shall be chaired by the investor or a person authorized thereby;

6. The investor shall ensure the attendance of the head of the team of independent experts and its representatives at the meeting, where they shall introduce the attending persons to a summary of the investment proposal and to the results of the EIA, respectively.
- (2) Minutes shall be kept of the public discussion by a representative of the municipality, on which territory the meeting is held. The minutes shall be signed by the investor and the person drafting it and attached to it shall be the statements of opinion in writing voiced at the discussion, as well as any opinion deposited in writing in advance.
- (3) The municipality representative under paragraph (2) shall submit to the investor a copy of the materials with results of the public discussion not later than 3 days following the date of the public discussion.
- (4) Within 7 days after the discussion the investor shall submit to the competent authority the minutes of the discussion and the deposited statements of opinion in writing.
- (5) Within 14 days following the discussion/last discussion the investor shall submit to the competent authority a statement of opinion on the proposals, recommendations, objections resulting from the public discussion.
- (6) Where as result of the public discussion other possible options for implementation of the investment proposal are proposed in writing, the investor shall assign further supplementation of the report and shall organize new public discussion pursuant to the procedure set forth under paragraph (1).
- (7) In cases of report's supplementation under paragraph (6) the investor shall inform in writing the competent authority specifying the deadline for submission of the supplementation of the EIA report.

Chapter Six

Taking decision on the EIA

Article 18

- (1) The competent authority shall take decision on the grounds of:
 1. the EIA report as a basic document;
 2. the documents presented in the course of the procedure, including supplementation under Article 17 paragraph 6;
 3. the results of the public discussion, inclusive of the statement of opinion of the investor.
 4. the decision of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council (SEEC) with the MOEW or the Regional Environmental Expert Council (REEC) with the relevant RIEW.
- (2) The expert environmental councils under paragraph 1 item 4 take decision in accordance with the Statute pursuant to Article 12 paragraph 3 of EPA.

Article 19

- (1) With the decision under paragraph (1) the competent authority shall approve the implementation of the investment proposal under circumstances where:
 1. the plan for implementation of measures for prevention, reduction or liquidation of substantial negative impacts ensures compliance with the norms for quality of the environment;
 2. there are no justified objections against the implementation of the investment proposal.

- (2) With the decision under Article 18 paragraph (1) the competent authority shall not approve the implementation of the investment proposal under circumstances where:
 1. the plan for implementation of measures for prevention, reduction or liquidation of substantial negative impacts does not guarantee compliance with the norms for quality of the environment;
 2. no other possible options for implementation of the investment proposal which guarantee the compliance with the norms for quality of the environment have not been proposed or accepted by the investor or such do not exist;
 3. justified objections against the implementation of the investment proposal have been deposited.
- (3) The decision shall be elaborated in compliance with the requirements of Article 99, paragraph (3) of the EPA as per specimen provided in Annex No. 4.
- (4) The conditions in the decision shall be based on:
 1. the plan for implementation of the measures in the EIA report;
 2. the feasible proposals under Article 17, paragraph (4), 5 and 6.

Article 20

- (1) The competent authority shall take decision on the EIA within the term under Article 99, paragraph (2) of the EPA, in accordance with the specific nature and the complexity of the investment proposal.
- (2) The term under paragraph (1) shall not include the time for supplementation of the report under Article 17, paragraph (5).

Article 21

The decision on the EIA under Article 19, paragraph (1) shall be an element of the contents of the procedure for issue of visa for design.

Chapter Seven

Exercise of control over implementation of the conditions set forth in the decision on EIA

Article 22

- (1) The Competent authorities shall exercise control over implementation of the conditions set forth in the decision on EIA:
 1. in the process of approval and coordination of investment projects;
 2. in the process of construction;
 3. in the process of issue of permit for use of the construction;
 4. in the process of operation of the facilities.
- (2) The control shall include verification, by documents and by on-site visits, of the results from implementation of the plan for measures for prevention, reduction or liquidation of substantial harmful impacts on the environment, and assessment of their efficiency and shall be done in accordance with Chapter nine of the EPA.
- (3) Where the decision on EIA has been issued by the MEW, the control over implementation of the conditions may be assigned to the respective RIEW, basin directorate or directorate of national park.

Chapter Eight

EIA procedure in a transboundary context

Article 23

The environmental impact assessment for investment proposals with transboundary impact shall be made in compliance with the requirements of the Environment Protection Act, this Ordinance and the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (ratified SG 28/1995, in force from 10.09.97, published SG 86/1999, amended SG 89/1999), unless otherwise provided by international agreement between the republic of Bulgaria and the affected party or parties.

Article 24

Competent authority for EIA procedure in a transboundary context shall be the Ministry of Environment and Water. The other bodies under Article 10 of the EPA shall be obliged to provide in a timely manner the information received about ongoing procedures and to render the necessary assistance to the MEW and the investors.

Article 25

The environmental impact assessment for investment proposals with transboundary impact, for which the Republic of Bulgaria is party of origin, shall be made in the following order:

1. Notification to the Competent authorities and the affected public pursuant to Chapter Two of the Ordinance.
2. In the event of decision for need of EIA for proposal with potential transboundary impact the Minister of Environment and Water shall notify the affected party or parties about his/her decision, and shall specify a period of time for reply whether the respective (affected) party shall take part in the procedure. Attached to the notification shall be a description of the investment proposal and the available (other than the restrictions under the Classified Information Act) information about eventual transboundary impact on the environment, as well as information about the nature of the decision which supposedly shall be taken.
 - a) In the event of negative reply on behalf of the affected party, the procedure further on shall follow completely the order set forth under Article 2, paragraph (1).
 - b) In the event of positive reply on behalf of the affected party and statement of its desire to take part in the procedure, further on the order of the procedure under Article 2 shall be modified and adjusted in consideration of the transboundary aspects.
3. Consultations between the two parties on: whether the decision shall follow the procedure set forth by the national legislation; if the proposal does not fall within the scope of Annex I to the Convention, but within the scope of Annex No. 2 to the EPA; provision of information about the major requirements of the legislation. The time for consultations shall be determined by the parties on a case-by-case basis.
4. Determination of the scope of information which the investor should include in the EIA report, with special attention paid to the aspects with transboundary impact and the measures for their prevention and limitation.
5. Elaboration of EIA report. The investor shall be obliged to submit to the competent authority an additional copy of the report, translation of the whole report or part thereof, where that has been agreed between the competent authorities of the two parties, as well as translation of the non-technical summary.
6. Assessment of the quality of the EIA report. In the assessment of the EIA report, apart from all requirements under Chapter Six, the competent authority shall pay special attention to the transboundary impacts and the measures for their prevention and limitation.

7. Forwarding of the EIA report (the translation thereof, if agreed) and the translation of the non-technical summary to the competent authority of the affected party and providing an opportunity for holding consultations on: potential transboundary impacts and measures for prevention or limitation of the impact; possible proposed alternatives to the investment proposal; other issues of mutual interest.
8. Delivery to the investor of documents received from the consultations.
9. Public discussion on the EIA report with opportunity for direct participation of representative of the competent authority of the affected party and its public.
10. Taking decision on EIA with consideration of the notes and proposals made by the affected party, which takes part in the EIA procedure.
11. Announcement of the EIA decision and notification of the decision to the affected party.
12. Control over implementation of the decision. Where explicit preliminary agreement exists, the competent authority of the party of origin shall notify the competent authority of the affected party about the implemented measures for control and the conclusions made.

Article 26

The environmental impact assessment for investment proposals with transboundary impact that will be implemented on the territory of other states, in respect of which the Republic of Bulgaria is the affected party, shall be made in the following order:

1. Upon receipt of notification for the investment proposal that will be implemented on the territory of another state and which may be expected to have substantial impact on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, within the period of time specified in the notification the Ministry of Environment and Water shall notify the party of origin about its decision to participate or not to participate in the EIA procedure.
 - a) In the event of stated desire for participation, the national procedure of the party of origin shall be followed, unless otherwise provided in an international agreement;
 - b) The Minister of Environment and Water shall ensure access of the public to the information provided about the EIA and shall forward in a timely manner all statements of opinion on the documents to the competent authority of the other party before the decision making by the competent authority of the other state.
2. Where no notification has been received from the party of origin, about investment proposal under Annex I to the Convention, such that may have substantial impact on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Ministry of Environment and Water shall approach as necessary the competent authority of the party of origin for holding consultations for participation in the procedure.

Additional provision

§ 1. For the purposes of this Ordinance:

1. “Party of origin” shall be a contracting party or party to the Convention on EIA in a transboundary context, as well as any other state under whose jurisdiction a proposed investment intention is envisaged to take place, the construction and implementation of which supposedly shall have transboundary impact.
2. “Affected party” shall be a contracting party or party to the Convention on EIA in a transboundary context, as well as any other state likely to be affected by the transboundary impact of the investment proposal.

Transitional and concluding provisions

- § 2. This Ordinance has been issued on the grounds of Article 101, paragraph (1) of the Environment Protection Act and Article 31 of the Biological Diversity Act, and shall repeal Ordinance No. 4 of 1998 on Environmental Impact Assessment (promulgated in the State Gazette, No. 84/1998, as amended, SG No. 68/2000)
- § 3. The Order under Article 3, paragraph (1), shall be issued within 6 months after coming into force of this Ordinance.
- § 4. Article 9 and Article 10 shall not apply to all EIA reports assigned by contracts signed prior to coming into force of this Ordinance.
- § 5. The Minister of Environment and Water shall issue instructions for implementation of the Ordinance.

**Annex No. 1
to Article 3, paragraph (2)**

Information contained in the file of each EIA procedure

1. File Ref. No.	
2. Investor: Name/Company: Address:	
3. Contact person: Tel.	
4. Investment proposal	
4.1. Notification of investment proposal, date	
4.2. Reply of the competent authority, date	
5. Competent authority: MEW/RIEW	
6. Contact person of the competent authority:	
7. Request for assessment of the need for EIA, date	
8. Issued decision on assessment of the need for EIA, date	
9. Consultations held by the Investor	
10. Submission of the EIA report to the competent authority, date, charges paid	
11. List of the registered experts, authors of the EIA report, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full name of the expert • Number and date of issued certificate(s) • Declarations under Article 12, paragraph (1), item 5 of the Ordinance 	
12. Assessment of the quality of the EIA report, date	
13. Public discussion; date, place, time, access to documentation, place for submission of the written statements of opinion, contact person and telephone.	
14. Results of the public discussion; Minutes; received statements of opinion and proposals on the EIA report; other deposited documents	
15. Meeting of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council / Regional Environmental Expert Council, date;	
16. Decision on EIA, Number, date	
17. Announcement of decision, date, place	
18. Appeal of the decision on EIA, date, appealing person; decision/justification of the court	
19. Control over implementation of the decision on EIA; data submitted by the investor; inspections of implementation; sanctions imposed.	

Information about assessment of the need for EIA

I. Information for contacts with the investor:

1. Name, civil ID, place of residence, citizenship of the investor – natural person, seat and uniform ID number of the legal entity;
2. Full mailing address;
3. Telephone, fax and e-mail;
4. Contact person.

II. Characteristics of the investment proposal:

1. Summary of the proposal;
2. Demonstration of the necessity of the investment proposal;
3. Relation to other existing/planned investment proposals;
4. Detailed information about reviewed alternatives;
5. A sketch showing the location of the site, including areas needed for temporary works in the process of construction;
6. Description of major processes (according prospectus data), capacity;
7. Scheme of new roads or modification of existing roads;
8. Schedule of activities, including construction, operation and decommissioning, recovery and further use;
9. Construction methods employed;
10. Natural resources used in the process of construction and operation;
11. Anticipated waste – types, quantities and mode of treatment;
12. Information about considered measures for reduction of negative impacts;
13. Other activities related to the investment proposal (e.g. aggregate extraction, new water pipeline, generation or transmission of electric power, housing construction and waste water treatment);
14. Necessity of other permits related to the investment proposal.

III. Location of the investment proposal:

1. Plan, maps and photos, showing the boundaries of the investment proposal, providing information about the physical, natural and anthropogenic characteristics, as well as about elements of the National Environmental Network located nearby;
2. Existing users of land and their adjustment to the site of the investment proposal and future planned land users;
3. Territorial distribution and land use policies;
4. Sensitive territories, inclusive of sensitive areas, vulnerable zones, protected areas, sanitary-guarded areas, etc.; National Environmental Network;
5. Detailed information about all considered location alternatives.

IV. Characteristics of potential impact (brief description of possible impacts resulting from the implementation of the investment proposal, taking in consideration the following factors):

1. Impact on humans, their health, the flora and the fauna, soils, land use, material assets, hydrology and water quality, air quality, the climate, noise and vibrations, landscape, historical and cultural monuments and their inter-relations;
2. Impact on elements of the National Environmental Network, including on those located nearby;
3. Type of impact (direct, indirect, secondary, cumulative, short term, middle term and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative);
4. Scope of impact - geographic area, affected population; settlements (name, type – town, village, resort; number of inhabitants, etc)
5. Probability of impact occurrence;
6. Duration, frequency and reversibility of impact;
7. Measures included in the investment proposal, for prevention, reduction or compensation of substantial negative impacts;
8. Transboundary nature of impacts.

Specimen of announcement for meeting for public discussion

<p>(name of investor, seat).....,</p> <p>on the grounds of Article 97, paragraph (3), in connection with Article 81, paragraph (1), item 2 of the Environment Protection Act, NOTIFIES all natural and legal persons concerned, that a meeting/s has/have been organized for public discussion on report on environmental impact assessment (EIA) for investment proposal:</p> <p>The meeting/s will take place on (date), at h, in (place, address).</p> <p>The EIA report is available for review by those interested every working day as from to h at the municipality (mayoralty)....., the MEW/RIEW and (in case of location provided by the investor).</p> <p>Written statements of opinion may be submitted to (place, provided for by the investor) or at the meeting/s for the public discussions.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">For contacts with the investor with reference to the public discussion, call: (name, telephone).</p>
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Specimen of decision on EIA

**A. Specimen of decision on EIA for approval of investment proposal pursuant to
Article 19, paragraph (1)**

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER /
REGIONAL INSPECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER – CITY.
address:

DECISION
No.....-...../200...
on environmental impact assessment

On the grounds of Article 99, paragraph (2) of the Environment Protection Act and Article 19, paragraph (1) of the Ordinance on the terms and procedure for making environmental impact assessment of investment proposals

I HEREBY APPROVE

the implementation of investment proposal:

.....
investor:
place of residence/seat:
for the following **reasons:**
.....

and under the following **conditions:**

I. On the design phase:

.....
.....

II. In the process of construction:

.....
.....

III. In the process of operation and decommissioning:

.....
.....

On the grounds of Article 99, paragraph (8) of the Environment Protection Act, the decision for unstarted construction shall be valid for 3 years as from the date of its issue.

Persons concerned may appeal the decision pursuant to the procedure set forth in the Administrative Proceedings Act and the Supreme Administrative Court Act within 14 days following its announcement pursuant to Article 99, paragraph (4) of the Environment Protection Act.

In the event of change of investor, the new investor shall, pursuant to Article 99, paragraph (7) of the Environment Protection Act, notify as mandatory the MEW/RIEW in the city of

In the event of ascertainment of non-compliance with the conditions set forth in the decision on EIA, the persons in default shall be held liable pursuant to Article 166, item 2 of the Environment Protection Act.

Date:.....

Minister / Director:

B. Specimen of decision on EIA for non-approval of investment proposal pursuant to Article 19, paragraph (2)

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER /
REGIONAL INSPECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER – CITY.
address:

DECISION
No.....-...../200...
on environmental impact assessment

On the grounds of Article 99, paragraph (2) of the Environment Protection Act and Article 19, paragraph (2) of the Ordinance on the terms and procedure for making environmental impact assessment of investment proposals

I HEREBY DO NOT APPROVE

the implementation of investment proposal:

.....

investor:

place of residence/seat:,

for the following **reasons:**

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Persons concerned may appeal the decision pursuant to the procedure set forth in the Administrative Proceedings Act and the Supreme Administrative Court Act within 14 days following its announcement pursuant to Article 99, paragraph (4) of the Environment Protection Act.

Date:.....

Minister / Director:

LAW FOR THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Prom. SG. 77/9 Aug 2002, amend. SG. 88/4 Nov 2005, amend. SG. 105/29 Dec 2005, amend. SG. 29/7 Apr 2006, amend. SG. 30/11 Apr 2006, amend. SG. 34/25 Apr 2006, amend. SG. 52/29 Jun 2007, amend. SG. 64/7 Aug 2007, amend. SG. 94/16 Nov 2007, amend. SG. 43/29 Apr 2008

Chapter one. GENERAL

Art. 1. (1) This law settles the relations between the state, the municipalities, the corporate bodies and individuals regarding the protection and sustainable using of the biological diversity in the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) The biological diversity is the variety of all living organisms in all forms of their natural organisation, their cohabitation and habitats, of the ecological systems and processes developing in them.

(3) The biological diversity is an inseparable part of the national wealth and its preservation is a priority and obligation of the state and municipal bodies and of the citizens.

Art. 2. This law aims at:

1. (amend. – SG 94/07) the preservation of specimen for the Republic of Bulgaria and Europe types of natural habitats and habitats of endangered, rare and endemic vegetation, animal and fungus species within the frames of the National Ecological Network;

2. (amend. – SG 94/07) the preservation of the protected vegetation, animal and fungus species of the flora, fauna and mycota of the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as of those which are objects of using and trade;

3. the preservation of the genetic resources and the diversity of vegetation and animal species outside their natural environment;

4. regulation of the introduction of alien and re-introduction of local vegetation and animal species in nature;

5. regulation of the trade with specimens of endangered species of the wild flora and fauna;

6. preservation of venerable and remarkable trees.

Chapter two. NATIONAL ECOLOGICAL NETWORK

Section I. General

Art. 3. (1) The state shall create a National Ecological Network including:

1. (suppl. – SG 94/07) protected zones as a part of the European Ecological Network "NATURA 2000" which may include protected territories;
 2. protected territories which are not included in the protected zones;
 3. (revoked – SG 88/05) protected territories.
- (2) (amend., - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) Included with priority in the National Ecological Network shall be CORINE places, Ramsar places, important places for plants and ornithological important places.

Art. 4. The National Ecological Network aims at:

1. the long-term preservation of the biological, geological and landscape diversity;
2. providing enough space and places for reproduction, feeding and rest, including in migration, pining and hibernation of wild animals;
3. creation of conditions for genetic exchange between divided populations and species;
4. participation of the Republic of Bulgaria in the European and international ecological networks;
5. restriction of the negative anthropogenic impact on protected territories.

Section II. Protected zones

Art. 5. The protected zones under Art. 3, Para 1, Item 1 are designated for preservation or restoration of the favourable state of the natural habitats included in them, as well as of the species in their natural region of habitation.

Art. 6. (1) Protected zones shall be declared for:

1. (suppl. – SG 94/07) preservation of the types of natural habitats under the Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats of wild flora and fauna;
 2. (amend. – SG 94/07) preservation of habitats of the species under the Directive 92/43/EEC of the Council on the conservation of natural habitats of wild flora and fauna – for the animal and plant species, listed in Annex No. 2; ;
 3. (amend. – SG 94/07) preservation of habitats of the species under the Directive 79/409/EEC of the Council on the conservation of wild birds – for the species of birds, listed in Annex No. 2;
 4. preservation of territories where during the time of reproduction, pining, hibernation or migration a considerable number of birds gather, other than those under Appendix No 2.
- (2) (suppl. – SG 94/07) Threatened by extinction types of natural habitats included in Appendix No 1 and marked with the symbol (*) shall be preserved with priority.
- (3) (suppl. – SG 94/07) Threatened by extinction vegetation and animal species included in Appendix No 2 and marked with the symbol (*) shall be preserved with priority.

Art. 7. (1) Territories including types of natural habitats of Appendix No 1 shall be subject to assessment on the grounds of the following indices:

1. degree of representation of the natural type of habitat for the respective territory;
2. area of the territory occupied by the natural type of habitat as compared with the total area occupied by the same type of natural habitat within the boundaries of the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. degree of preservation of the structure and functions of the respective type of natural habitat and possibilities for their restoration;
4. general assessment of the importance of the territory for the preservation of the respective type of natural habitat on the grounds of the quantity of the indices under Item 1, 2 and 3.

(2) The territories including habitats of the species according to Appendix No 2 shall be subject to assessment on the grounds of the following indices:

1. size and density of the population of the species inhabiting the territory as compared with the size and density of the population of the same species in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
2. degree of preservation of the characteristic features of the habitat which are of importance for the respective species and possibilities for their restoration;
3. degree of isolation of the population inhabiting the territory regarding the basic region of habitation of the species;
4. general assessment of the importance of the territory for the preservation of the respective species on the basis of the quantity of the indices under Item 1, 2 and 3.

(3) The territories including habitats of the species of birds according to Appendix No 2 and of the territories under Art. 6, Para 1, Item 4 shall be subject to assessment on the grounds of the following indices:

1. size and/or density of the population of the species during nesting, hibernation or migration as compared with the size and/or density of the population of the same species in Europe and in the Republic of Bulgaria;
2. degree of representation of the habitat of importance for the species on the respective territory;
3. general assessment of the importance of the territory for the preservation of the respective type on the grounds of the quantity of the indices under Item 1 and 2.

Section III. Declaring and changes of the protected zones

Art. 8. (1) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall provide the study, the assessment and the working out of documentation for the territories under Art. 7 containing:

1. name;
2. (amend., - SG 88/05) scope and purposes of preservation of the protected zone;
3. (revoked – SG 88/05)
4. filled in standard forms containing data and assessments;
5. (amend., - SG 88/05) map and coordinate register of the border of the

protected zone.

(2) (amend., - SG 88/05) Proposals for the territories - subject of studies according to Para 1 can also be made by state bodies, scientific and public organisations.

(3) (new – SG 88/05; amend. - SG 29/06; amend. – SG 64/07) The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Supply, the State Agency of Forestry, the Agency of geodesy, cartography and cadastre and the municipalities shall provide to the Ministry of Environment and Waters the data under Para 1, Item 5 against payment only of the expenditures for copies of the respective documentation.

(4) (new – SG 52/07) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall inform the public and the organisations, conducting it, of the start of the study referred to in Para1 by a notice on their web site or at least in one daily paper.

Art. 9. (amend., - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) In the process of preparation of the documentation under Art. 8 and before the announcement of protected zones, the Ministry of Environment and Waters and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Supply shall provide the conduction of national and regional public campaigns for promotion of the purposes and tasks of the protected zones.

Art. 10. (1) (amend. - SG 88/05) On the grounds of submitted documentations under Art. 8, Para 1, the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall work out a draft list of the protected zones which, together with the documentations shall be tabled for consideration at session of the National Council for Biological Diversity.

(2) (suppl. - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 52/07) The National Council for Biological Diversity shall be summoned at a meeting not later than 6 months from the submission of the documents under Para1. As a result of the discussion it shall propose to the Minister of Environment and Waters to present the list referred to in Para1 to the Council of Ministers in order to be considered in whole or in part, also the dropping out of the list of some territories, or delay of consideration thereof for the purpose of carrying out further investigations. In case reasoned special opinion is presented by a member of Council, the Minister of Environment and Waters shall take final decision about the list regarding its submission to the Council of Ministers.

(3) (amend. - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 52/07) Within three months from the pronouncing of the National Council for Biological Diversity the Minister of Environment and Waters shall present a list of the protected zones in order to be considered by the Council of Ministers together with the special opinions according to Para2.

(4) The decision of the Council of Ministers and the list shall be promulgated in the State Gazette.

(5) (new – SG 88/05) The decisions under Para 2 and 4 shall be grounded only on the scientific information in the documentations under Art. 8, Para 1 and the purposes under Art. 4.

(6) (new – SG 52/07) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall send to the European Commission the list of the protected zones as per Art. 6, Para1, Items 1 and 2, adopted by the Council of Ministers, in order to be approved. To the European Commission shall be sent for approval also a financial assessment of the necessary

co-financing by the European Community of the provided measures for protection and/or restoration of the favourable condition of natural habitats and types in the protected zones as per Art. 6, Para1, adopted in the decision referred to in Para4.

Art. 11. (1) Declared as protected zones shall be territories included in the list of Art. 10, Para4.

(2) (amend. – SG 52/07) Declaring the protected zones as per Art. 6, Para1, Items 1 and 2 shall be carried out by the Minister of Environment and Waters within a period of two years from receipt of approval as per Art. 10, Para6 of the list of the protected zones.

(3) (new – SG 52/07) Declaring the protected zones as per Art. 6, Para1, Items 3 and 4 shall be carried out by the Minister of Environment and Waters within a period of one year from promulgation of the decision of the Council of Ministers as per Art. 10, Para4.

Art. 12. (amend., - SG 88/05) (1) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall work out a draft of order for declaring the each protected zone included in the list under Art. 10, Para 4.

(2) The draft of order under Para 1 shall point out:

1. the grounds for its issuance;
2. the name and the location of the protected zone;
3. the designation and purposes of the protected zone;

4. (amend. – SG 52/07) the total area, as well as description of the properties included in the protected zone and/or coordinate register of the boundaries of the protected zone.

5. prohibition or limitation of activities, contradicting the purposes of preservation of the protected zone.

(3) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall announce before the public the draft of order of announcement, published at least in one daily and on the its Internet page. In the announcement shall be pointed the place and conditions of access to the full text of the draft of order.

(4) The full text of the draft of order shall be published on the Internet page of the Ministry of Environment and Waters and shall be left at disposal in the administrative premises of the regional inspections of environment and waters, in which territorial coverage the protected zone is located.

(5) Within one month period from the announcement under Para 3 the interested persons may submit to the Minister of Environment and Waters reasoned written opinions, objections and proposals on the draft of order only concerning the prohibitions or the limitations under Para 2, Item 5.

(5) In one month period after the elapse of the term under Para 5, the Minister of Environment and Waters shall take final decision on the submitted opinions, objections or proposals and shall issue order of announcement of the respective protected zone.

(7) The order under Para 6 shall be final and shall not be a subject of appeal.

Art. 13. The declaring of the protected zone shall not change the ownership of the lands, forests and water areas in it.

Art. 14. The Law for the protected territories shall apply for the protected territories included in the protected zones.

Art. 15. The Law for the cultural monuments shall apply for the cultural monuments included in the protected zones.

Art. 16. (1) The changes in the protected zones shall be:

1. increase of the area;
2. reduction of the area;
3. deletion.

4. (new – SG 88/05) amendment of the prohibitions or limitation of the activities."

(2) (amend., - SG 88/05) Art.s 10 and 12 shall apply for the changes under Para 1. items 1,2 and 3

(3) (new – SG 88/05) Regarding the amendments under Para 1, Item 4 the provision of Art. 12 shall be applied.

(4) (previous 3– SG 88/05) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue an order for the changes under Para 1.

(5) (previous 4, amend.,– SG 88/05) Declaring new protected zones shall be carried out by the order of Art. 8, 10, 11 and 12.

Art. 17. (amend., - SG 88/05) The orders under Art. 12, Para 6 and Art. 16, Para 4 shall be promulgated in the State Gazette.

Art. 18. (suppl. – SG 94/07) Public registers shall be kept for the declared protected zones and the changes in them by the Ministry of Environment and Waters and by the regional inspectorates for the environment and waters.

Art. 19. (1) (amend. - SG 88/05, previous Art. 19, amend. – SG 94/07) When danger exists of damaging territories of the list under Art. 10, Para 2 before being declared protected zones the Minister of Environment and Waters shall prohibit or restrict by an order promulgated in the State Gazette, certain activities in them for a period of up to two years, with exception of the sites submitted to the defence and the armed forces.

(2) (new – SG 94/07) Protesting the order of par. 1 shall not suspend its enforcement.

Section IV. Buffer zones (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 20. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 21. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 22. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 23. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 24. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 25. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 26. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Section V. Management plans and development plans and projects

Art. 27. (amend., - SG 88/05) The protected zones under Art. 3, Para 1, Item 1 may work out management plans.

Art. 28. (amend. – SG 94/07) (1) The management plans of protected zones shall be produced and approved under the conditions and following a procedure, determined by an order, adopted by the Council of Ministers.

(2) The management plans shall be updated every 10 years, and for protected zones, the majority of which are wet zones – every 5 years.

Art. 29. (1) The management plans of Art. 27 shall provide measures aiming at prevention of deterioration of the conditions in the types of natural habitats and in the habitats of the species, as well as of the threatening and disturbance of the species for whose preservation the respective protected zones have been declared.

(2) The measures of Para 1 shall include:

1. prohibition or restriction of activities contradicting the requirements for preservation of the concrete sites - subject of protection;
2. preventive activities for avoiding predictable unfavourable events;
3. maintaining, directing and regulating activities;
4. restoration of natural habitats and habitats of species of populations of the vegetation and animal species;
5. carrying out scientific studies, educational activity and monitoring.

(3) Taken into consideration in determining the measures under Para 2 shall be, where possible:

1. the regional and local particularities, besides those for protection of the biological diversity, as well as the requirements of the public;
2. the sustainable using of the renewable resources.

(4) (new – SG 94/07) In protected zones, for which co-financing under Art. 10, par. 6 is foreseen and measures of par. 1 are set, but their execution is postponed

due to a delay in co-financing, no new measures shall be implemented, which may result in deterioration of the condition of the respective protected zone.

Art. 30. (1) (amend., - SG 88/05) The development plans, development projects for the forests, national and the regional programmes worked out by the order of other laws shall be complied obligatory with the order under Art. 12, Para 6 and with the measures of Art. 29.

(2) Included, for providing the connections between the protected zones, in the plans and projects under Para 1 shall be measures and activities for preservation of the elements of the landscape which, on the basis of their linear and uninterrupted structure or connecting function, are important for the migration, geographic spreading and genetic exchange of the vegetation and animal populations and species.

(3) Basic elements of the landscape under Para 2 are:

1. rivers and their banks and water-supplied old river beds;
2. natural marshes, lakes, over-moist meadows and other humid zones;
3. caves, rock crowns and walls and dunes;
4. saddles and other natural territories connecting individual mountain massifs;
5. field hedges, wind-brake belts, meadows and pastures;
6. overflow river ledges and river-side vegetation;
7. forests at up to 500 m above the sea level.

Art. 31. (amend., - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 52/07) (1) Plans, programmes, projects and investment offers, which are not connected directly or necessary for the management of protected zones and which separately or in interaction with other plans, programmes and projects or investment offers may cause negative impact on the protected zones, shall be assessed with regard to their compatibility with the subject and purposes of preservation of the respective protected zone.

(2) The assessment referred to in Para1 shall be carried out with regard to protected zones, which have been:

1. considered and approved in principle by the National Council for Biological Diversity, regardless whether postponed for further investigations and examination, or they are included in the list as per Art. 10, Para3 for submission at the Council of Ministers in order to be adopted, or
2. included in the list as per Art. 10, Para4, promulgated in State Gazette, or
3. announced in an order as per Art. 12, Para6.

(3) Shall not be subject to assessment under Para 1:

1. plans, programmes, projects and investment offers, which are in compliance with the parameters of projects, plans and programmes of higher degree, which have been assessed according to Para1 by a positive decision and with regard to which an explicit requirement for carrying out new assessment has not been set;
2. plans, programmes, projects and investment offers, which are directly related to the management of the protected zones, regardless whether they are independent or integrated in other plans, programmes, projects and investment offers:
 - a) plans for management of protected zones;
 - b) plans for management of protected zones, in case they do not envisage

plans, programmes, projects or investment offers in the scope of the Law of Preservation of Environment;

c) action plans for plant and animal species;

d) plans, programmes, projects and investment offers, related to supporting, regulating or restoration measures with regard to habitats and species, unless they may exert harmful influence over other protected zone(s);

e) fire prevention plans or activities;

f) plans, projects and investment offers for construction of technical infrastructure, which are not related to change of the estate's function – paths, informational and educational facilities, places for rest and other sites, which are not durably connected to the terrain;

g) projects for buildings and facilities, necessary for the management and achieving the goals of preservation of a protected zone – administrative buildings, visitor's or informational centres;

3. political and financial plans and programmes;

4. projects, plans and activities, related to operative protection during overcoming crises in case the implementation thereof is urgent;

5. plans, programmes, projects and investment offers referred to in Para5, falling within the scope of urbanised territories – settlements and settlement formations.

(4) The assessment of the plans, programmes, projects and investment offers falling within the scope of the Law of Preservation of Environment shall be carried out by way of procedure of ecological assessment, respectively procedure of assessment of the influence on the environment pursuant to Chapter Six of the Law of Preservation of Environment, and in observance of the special provisions of this Law and the ordinance as per Art. 31a.

(5) Apart from the cases referred to in Para4 the assessment under Para1 of plans, programmes, projects and investment offers shall be carried out by way of a procedure, determined in the ordinance as per Art. 31a.

(6) In the cases referred to in Para4, during carrying out ecological assessment or assessment of the impact on the environment, as well as at consideration of the necessity of carrying out ecological assesment and assessment of the impact on the environment pursuant the Law of Preservation of Environment, if the competent body reckons that it is not possiblefor the plan, programme, project or the investment offer to exert substantial harmful impact on the protected zone, it shall take into account the said assessment at pronouncing the respective decision pursuant to chapter six of the Law of Preservation of Environment.

(7) In the cases referred to in Para5, if the competent body reckons that it is not possible for the plan, programme, project or the investment offer to exert substantial harmful impact on the protected zone, it shall approve it by a decision.

(8) In the cases referred to in Para4, at consideration of the necessity of carrying out ecological assesment or assessment of the impact on the environment pursuant the Law of Preservation of Environment, if the competent body reckons that it is not possible for the plan, programme, project or the investment offer to exert substantial harmful impact on the protected zone, it shall issue a decision for carrying out ecological assesment or assessment of the impact on the environment.

(9) In the cases referred to in Para8 and if implementation of ecological assesment or assessment of the impact on the environment with regard to the plan, programme, project or the investment offer is required, and the competent body reckons that it is possible for them to exert substantial harmful impact on the protected zone, in the ecological assesment of the degree of impact of the plan, programme and the investment offer on the natural habitat and the habitat of the species – subject to protection in the protected zone.

(10) In the cases referred to in Para5, if the competent body reckons that it is possible for the the plan, programme and the investment offer to exert substantial harmful impact on the protected zone, it shall issue a decision for carrying out assesment of the degree of impact of the plan, programme and the investment offer on the natural habitat and the habitat of the species – subject to protection in the protected zone.

(11) The assessment under Para10 shall be finalised by a decision of the Minister of Environment and Waters or of the Director of the respective regional inspection of environment and waters. If within 5 years from the date of the issuance of the decision, the assignor does not undertake actions of implementation of the investment offer, the decision under Para12, Item 1 shall terminate its effect automatically.

(12) By the decision under Para11 the respective competent body shall:

1. coordinate the plan, the programme or the investment offer under Para5 by specifying conditions, requirements and measures for preservation of the protected zone upon implementation of the plan, the programme or the investment offer;
2. not coordinate the plan, the programme or the investment offer under Para5 and shall state the reasons for this.

(13) In case of objective impossibility to gather sufficient information about carrying out the assessment referred to in Para10 or in the event of ambiguity regarding the degree of damaging the protected zone, the competent body shall terminate the proceedings, notifying the assignor thereof.

(14) In the cases referred to in Para12, Item 1 the conditions, requirements and the measures in the decision of the competent body shall be obligatory for the assignor of the investment offer, the plan or the programme and for the respective competent bodies with regard to their approval in accordance with other laws.

(15) The provisions of Art. 13 and 14 shall also be applied in the cases referred to in Para4.

(16) In the cases referred to in Para12, Item 2 and Para13 the investment offer, the plan or the programme may not be approved by the respective competent bodies in accordance with other laws. In these cases the initiated procedures on them shall be terminated.

(17) Within 7 days form the taking of decision under Para7, 10, 11 or 13 the competent body shall submit it to the assignor and announce it on its web site in Internet.

(18) The decisions of the competent body shall be subject to appeal pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Code.

(19) For carrying out the assessment as per Para1 the assignor of the plan, the programme or the investment offer shall pay a fee in amount determined in a tariff,

adopted by the Council of Ministers.

(20) In the cases referred to in Para9 and 10 the assessment of the degree of impact of the plan, programme, project or the investment offer on natural habitat and the habitat of the species – subject to protection in the protected zone, shall be assigned by the assignor to experts in the sphere of protection of the habitat and the species, included in Appendices No 1 and 2, who meet the following requirements:

1. have graduated university education with Master's degree in some of the subjects in professional branch "biological sciences";

2. have minimum 5 years length of service in the respective subject during the past ten years;

3. are engaged or have experience in scientific activity and/or expert activity, including working out expert opinions, written consultations or ecological analyses and other such-like in the field of protection of habitat and species, included in Appendices No 1 and 2;

4. are acquainted with the requirements of Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds and Council Directive 92/43/ EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora and the manuals of the European Commission on the implementation thereof;

5. are not personally interested in the implementation of plans, programmes, projects and investment offers;

6. are not connected persons within the meaning of the Commercial Law;

7. are not in that kind of relationship with the assignor or the competent body which may raise reasonable suspicion with regard to their objectiveness;

8. have not been excluded from the register pursuant to Art. 83, Para5 of the Law of Preservation of Environment.

Art. 31a. (new – SG 88/05) (1) The terms and order for carrying out the assessment under Art. 31 shall be determined by an ordinance, adopted by the Council of Ministers.

(2) (amend. – SG 52/07) In the ordinance under Para 1 obligatory shall be determined:

1. the specific characteristics of the procedures of ecological assessment and assessment of the impact over the environment in the cases referred to in Art. 31, Para4;

2. the criteria for determination of the competent body;

3. the plans, programmes, projects and the investment offers as per Art. 31, Para1;

4. the requirements to the scope and the content of the information needed for the carrying out of the assessment, including the alternative solutions;

5. requirements to the scope, content and the form of submission of the assessment, as well as the order of its carrying out;

6. the criteria for determining the assessment of the type and the degree of impact on or damaging the protected zone as a result of the realization of the plan, the programme or the investment offer;

7. the stages of the procedure, including the requirements for consultations with the participation of the public;

8. the requirements to the form and the content of the decision;
9. the procedure for issuance of decision on the assessment and the control over its execution.

Art. 32. (amend., SG 88/05) (1) (amend. – SG 52/07) The competent body shall coordinate under Art. 31, Para 12, Item 1 the plan, the programme, project or the investment offer only if the conclusion on the assessment under Art. 31, Para 10 is that the object of protection in the protected zone will not be considerably damaged.

(2) The degree of damage under Para 1 shall be assessed at least with regard to the square of the habitats – object of protection, which will be damaged, in comparison with their square in the concrete protected zone and in the whole net of protected zones.

(3) (new – SG 52/07) The requirement of Para 1 and 2 shall also apply in the cases where the assessment as per Art. 31, Para 1 is being carried out by way of ecological assessment and/or assessment of the influence on the environment pursuant to the Law of Preservation of Environment.

Art. 33. (1) (amend., - SG 88/05) Exception of the provision of Art. 32, Para 1 shall be admitted only for reasons of primary public interest and when an alternative solution is not present.

(2) (suppl. – SG 52/07) If the respective protected zone includes a priority type of natural habitat and/or a habitat of priority species valid for the exception under Para 1 can only be considerations related to the human health, the public security or favourable impact on the environment, and in case there is not such impact, an exception under Para 1 may be allowed only in the event that a positive statement has been received from the European Commission..

Art. 34. (1) (amend. – SG 52/07) In the cases of Art. 33 the assignor of the plan, programme, project or investment offer shall undertake compensatory measures for providing the entity of the National Ecological Network, prior to the implementation of the plan, programme, project or investment offer

(2) The measures of Para 1 consist in preservation or restoration of the same type of natural habitat or habitat of the same vegetation or animal species:

1. at another place of the damaged protected zone;
2. in an extension of the same or extension of another protected zone;
3. in a new protected zone.

(3) (amend. – SG 52/07) The expenses related to the implementation of the measures of Para 1 shall be taken over by the assignor of the plan, programme, project or investment offer.

Art. 34a. (new – SG 52/07) In the cases referred to in Art. 33 the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall notify the European Commission of the allowed exceptions from the provision of Art. 32, Para 1 and of the undertaken compensatory measures as per Art. 34.

Chapter three. PRESERVATION OF VEGETATION, ANIMAL AND FUNGOUS SPECIES (Title amend. – SG 94/07)

Section I. General

Art. 35. (amend. – SG 94/07) The vegetation, animal and fungous species of the wild flora, fauna and mycota of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be preserved in their natural environment by:

1. preserving their habitats in the National Ecological Network;
2. placing the species under regime of protection or regulated using;
3. maintaining or restoration of the conditions in the habitats according to the ecological requirements of the respective species;
4. working out and implementation of plans for activity for species with different degree of threat;
5. reintroduction in the nature of disappeared species and adding up to the populations of rare and threatened species;
6. control and regulation of alien species which are or could be introduced purposefully or accidentally in the nature and threaten the local species.

Art. 35a. (new – SG 94/07) Conservation of habitats of vegetable, animal and fungous species of Annex No. 2a, as well as of species of Annex 3, shall be carried out through protected territories, announces pursuant to the provisions of the Law of protected territories.

Art. 36. Applied, in addition to the measures of Art. 35, shall also be measures for protection of the vegetation and animal species of the wild flora and fauna outside their natural environment by raising specimens and storing genetic material in conditions controlled by man.

Section II. Protected vegetation and animal species

Art. 37. Declared on the territory of the whole country shall be the wild animal and vegetation species as per Appendix No 3.

Art. 38. (1) Prohibited regarding the animal species of Appendix No 3 shall be:

1. all forms of deliberate catching or killing of specimens by any devices, means and methods;
2. chasing and disturbing, especially in the periods of reproduction, raising the offspring, hibernation and migration;
3. destroying or taking eggs, including in cases when they are abandoned; destruction, damaging or moving nests;

4. destruction or damaging places of reproduction, rest and gathering during migration;
 5. taking found death specimens;
 6. (suppl. – SG 94/07) possessing, keeping, carrying, transporting, taking abroad, trade and offering for sale or exchange specimens taken from nature;
 7. stuffing, possessing, public display, carrying, transporting, taking abroad, trade and offering for sale or exchange of stuffed specimens.
- (2) The prohibitions under Para 1, Item 1, 2, 6 and 7 shall be valid for all life stages of the development of the animals.

Art. 39. (1) (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 64/07) A person who has found a specimen in helpless status or death specimen, who has wounded or killed without deliberation a specimen of animal species according to Appendix No 3 shall be obliged, in compliance with the provision of Art. 38, Para 1, Item 5, to inform about that the nearest regional body of the Ministry of Environment and Waters or of the State Agency of the Forestry within three days term.

(2) (amend., SG 88/05) By a decision of the regional body under Para 1 depending on its state the specimen shall:

1. be let free in an appropriate region;
2. (amend., SG 88/05) be sent for treatment or raising in a rescue centre, veterinary clinic or a zoo park;
3. (amend., SG 88/05) be submitted to a scientific organization or school or a natural science museum for studies or completion of educational collections;
4. be left in the place where it has been found or killed.

(3) (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 64/07) Written records shall be issued for the disposal of the specimen under Para 2 which shall be sent to the Ministry of Environment and Waters, within 10 days term from the date of its making, and in the cases where it has been made out by the regional bodies of the State Agency of Forestry – also a copy which shall be sent to the regional inspections of environment and waters.

Art. 40. (1) Prohibited regarding the vegetation specimens of Appendix No 3 shall be:

1. the picking, gathering, cutting, uprooting or other way of destruction of specimens in their natural regions of growth;
2. (suppl. – SG 94/07) the possession, keeping, carrying, transportation, taking abroad, trading and offering for sale or exchange of specimens taken from nature.

(2) The prohibitions under Para 1 shall be valid for all life stages of the development of the plants.

Section III. Regulated using of vegetation and animal species

Art. 41. (1) Under regime of preservation and regulated using from nature

shall be the species of wild animals and plants included in Appendix No 4.

(2) Depending on the state of the populations and the biological requirements of the individual species of Appendix No 4 the regimes and the requirements for their using shall comprise:

1. prescriptions for access to definite regions;
2. temporary or local prohibition of using the species or certain populations;
3. terms, rules and methods of using;
4. introduction of a permit regime or determining quotas for using specimens;
5. requirements for buying, selling, possessing, offering for sale or transportation for the purpose of selling or taking abroad of specimens or parts of them;
6. conditions of raising, growing and reproduction of animal and vegetation species in conditions controlled by men.

(3) Prohibited regarding the species of birds of Appendix No 4 shall be:

1. the hunting and disturbing in the season of reproduction and raising of the offspring, as well as during the return of migrating birds in the places of raising the offspring;
2. the destruction, damaging or moving of nests;
3. the destruction, as well as the collecting and withholding eggs, including in the cases when they are abandoned.

Art. 41a. (new – SG 94/07) (1) The restrictions under Art. 38, par. 1, item 7, except for the restriction for trading, shall not apply to specimens of species of Annex No. 4a, marked with the symbol "+", legally acquired in the territory of the respective European Union Member State in compliance with its national laws.

(2) A copy of the document of obtaining a specimen under par. 1, issued by the competent body in the state of acquisition shall be presented in the national inspection office of environment and waters within one month following its issuance.

Art. 42. (1) (suppl. - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 64/07) The regimes and the requirements of Art. 41, Para 2 regarding fish, water animals and hunting species of Appendix No 4 shall be introduced by joint orders of the Chairman of the State Agency of forestry and of the Minister of environment and waters to be promulgated in the State Gazette.

(2) For the remaining animal and vegetation species of Appendix No 4 the regimes and the requirements for preservation and using according to Art. 41, Para 2 shall be introduced by orders of the Minister of Environment and Waters to be promulgated in the State Gazette.

Art. 43. The orders of Art. 42 shall be issued after a discussion with the interested central administrative bodies, public organisations and branch organisations of users, and in the cases of regional or local prohibition of using - with the respective regional governors and mayor of municipalities as well.

Section III. "A" Prohibitions for import of specimens of animal species (new – SG 88/05)

Art. 43a. (new – SG 88/05) (1) Shall be prohibited the import with a commercial purpose on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria of leather/fur of cubs of the species of tulates enlisted in Appendix No. 4 and of products derived from them.

(2) The prohibition under Para 1 shall not refer to products which appear as a result of the traditional hunting of the Innuite nations.

(3) (amend. – SG 94/07) The import of products under Para 2 shall be admitted only upon submission of a permit of import, issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters or by an accredited by him/her person.

(4) The person who desires to obtain permit shall submit application to the Minister of Environment and Waters, where he/she shall point:

1. name and address/seta of the person-importer;
2. the addresses of the recipient and the sender;
3. the kind and quantity of the specimens;
4. state of origin;
5. purpose of the import.

(5) To the application under Para 4 shall be attached:

1. a document of origin of the leather/fur, respectively of the product;
2. a copy of the document of identity of the applicant;
3. (amend. - SG 34/06, in force from 01.10.2006) a current certificate of registration in the commercial register.

Art. 43b. (new – SG 88/05) Upon observation of all of the terms under Art. 43a, Para 4 and 5, the permit under Art. 43a, Para 3 shall be issued within 5 business days term from the date of submission of the application under Art. 43a, Para 4.

Section IV. Prohibited methods, devices and means of catching and killing

Art. 44. (1) Prohibited for catching or killing specimens of species of Appendix No 4 shall be the using of non-selective devices, means and methods included in Appendix No 5.

(2) The prohibition of Para 1 shall also be valid for the animal species of Appendix No 3 and the bird species of Art. 45 in cases of permitted exception by the order of Art. 49.

Section V. Preservation of birds met in a native state

Art. 45. All species of birds, other than those of Appendix No 3 and No 4, met in a native state on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be subject to preservation and control for the purpose of maintaining their population in a

favourable state.

Art. 46. Prohibited regarding the birds under Art. 45 shall be:

1. the catching or killing of specimen by any devices, means and methods;
2. retaining of specimen;
3. the destruction, damaging or moving of nests;
4. the destruction, as well as the collection and retaining of eggs, including when they are deserted;
5. the disturbance, especially in the period of reproduction and raising of the offspring.

Art. 47. (1) For all species of wild birds, other than those of Appendix No 3, shall be prohibited the retaining for the purpose of trade, the transport for the purpose of trade, the offering for sale and the sale of live or dead birds or any distinguishable parts or products of such birds.

(2) Para 1 shall not regard the species of birds included in Appendix No 6, as the activities under Para 1 can be carried out only upon proving that the birds have been lawfully killed, caught or obtained in any other lawful way.

Art. 47a. (new – SG 94/07) For the species of birds under Art. 35 the Minister of Environment and Waters shall draft:

1. national list of endangered species, taking into account their geographical range;
2. list and ecological description of the territories of essential importance for the migrating species along their migration routes and as libernation and nesting places;
3. data base of the condition of populations of migrating species along their migration routes and of libernation and nesting places;
4. data base of the condition of populations of migrating species based on ring marking information;
5. assessment of the effect of methods of usage of wild birds on populations condition;
6. environmentally friendly methods of prevention of damages, caused by birds;
7. list of species which are used for indication of pollution;
8. analysis of the adverse effect of the chemical pollution on the condition of bird populations.

Section VI. Exceptions

Art. 48. (1) Exceptions from the prohibitions of Art. 38, 40, Art. 41, Para 3, Art. 44, 46 and art 47, Para 1 shall be admitted only when there is no alternative solution and on condition that the populations of the affected species have not been harmed in their natural habitation and they are in a favourable state.

(2) The exceptions of Para 1 shall be admitted in the following cases:

1. (amend., SG 88/05) to the interest of the protection of the species of the wild flora and fauna and for preservation of natural habitats;

2. (amend., SG 88/05) for the protection against serious damages of the agricultural crops, livestock, forests, waters, fisheries, game-breeding farms and other types of estates;

3. (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) to interest of the public health and safety;

3a. (new – SG 94/07) for other reasons of the primary public interest, including such of social or economic nature or expressed in extremely favourable consequences for the environment;

4. (new – SG 88/05) to the interest of the aviation transport;

5. (previous 4, SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) for the purposes of the scientific research and education in introducing or reintroducing of species and the artificial reproduction of plants.

(3) In the cases of Para 2, when species of Appendix No 3 are affected, the exceptions shall be admitted only for a limited number of specimens.

(4) (new – SG 94/07) The exceptions under par. 2, item 3a shall not apply to wild birds.

Art. 49. (1) The exceptions of Art. 48 shall be admitted by a written permit of:

1. the Minister of Environment and Waters - for the species of Appendix No 3;

2. (amend. – SG 64/07) the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry - for the fish and hunting species of Appendix No 4 upon coordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters;

3. the Minister of Environment and Waters - for the remaining species of Appendix No 4 and for the birds of Art. 45.

(2) The permit of Para 1 shall determine the species, the number of the specimens, the time and the place, the devices, means and methods of disposing of the specimen, as well as other requirements by which the exception is admitted, as well as the body or the person charged with the control over the observance of the requirements.

Art. 50. (revoked – SG 88/05)

Art. 51. The conditions and the order of issuing permits according to Art. 49, Para 1 shall be determined by an ordinance approved by the Minister of Environment and Waters and of the Minister of Agriculture and Forests.

Section VII. Plans of action for vegetation and animal species

Art. 52. Plans of action for vegetation and animal species shall be worked out obligatorily when it is established that:

1. the species is threatened on international scale and its preservation requires measures in the whole area of its natural habitation;
2. the state of the population of the species in the Republic of Bulgaria or in individual regions is unfavourable;
3. introduced in the nature alien species has unfavourable effect on the conditions of the natural habitats or on the state of local species of the wild flora and fauna.

Art. 53. Worked out with priority, under the conditions of Art. 52, shall be plans for:

1. priority species of Appendix No 2;
2. protected vegetation and animal species of Appendix No 3;
3. species - subject to regulated using of Appendix No 4;
4. species - subject to reintroduction in nature.

Art. 54. (amend., - SG 88/05) (1) (previous Art. 54 – SG 88/05) The plans for action comprise:

1. description of the biological particularities and ecological requirements of the species;
2. assessment of the habitation and the state of the populations of the species, as well as of the conditions in its natural habitats;
3. data regarding the threats and the limitation factors;
4. restoration, maintaining and other nature protecting measures for the species, including measures for preservation outside its natural environment if so required;
5. restoration or maintaining measures for the habitats of the species - subject of the plan;
6. measures for observation and control over the fulfilment and the effect of the implemented activities;
7. budget and schedule of the activities.

(2) (new – SG 88/05) The plans for action may include two or more kinds of species under Art. 53, which:

1. have similar requirements to the habitat;
- 2, require one and the same measures for their preservation.

Art. 55. (1) The working out of the plans for action can be assigned by:

1. the Minister of Environment and Waters;
2. (amend. – SG 64/07) the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry or by the heads of other interested state bodies;
3. non-governmental organisations.

(2) The bodies and the organisations of Para 1, Item 2 and 3 shall coordinate with the Ministry of Environment and Waters the terms of reference and the projects of the plans for action.

Art. 56. (1) The plans for action shall be presented for consideration to the

National Council for Biological Diversity.

(2) The plans for action shall be approved by the respective competent body under Art. 49, Para 1 upon a positive decision of the National Council for Biological Diversity.

Art. 57. (amend. – SG 64/07) The conditions and the order of working out plans for action for species shall be determined by an ordinance of the Minister of environment and waters and of the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry.

Section VIII. Preservation of vegetation and animal species outside their natural environment

Art. 58. (1) The preservation of the species outside their natural environment includes:

1. (suppl. – SG 94/07) raising and reproduction of animals and plants in controlled conditions in vivariums, zoo or botanical gardens, dendrariums, live collections and in breeding and keeping centers for protected species;

2. creation of banks for seeds, pollens, gametes, embryos, tissue and cell cultures and other collections for preservation of vegetation and animal genetic resources in special conditions.

(2) The activities of Para 1 shall not include applying of techniques and methods leading to genetic changes.

Art. 59. The preservation according to Art. 58, Para 1 shall apply with priority for species and other taxones which are:

1. directly threatened by extinction in their natural habitats on local, national or international level;

2. of particular economic interest;

3. wild predecessors of cultural sorts of plants or primitive breeds of animals;

4. appropriate for using in reintroduction in nature;

5. of specific interest for the science - endemites, relicts, etc.;

6. appropriate for attracting the public interest in the problems of the preservation of the biological diversity.

Art. 60. (1) The preservation according to Art. 58, Para 1 can be carried out by scientific organisations, corporate bodies and individuals.

(2) The organisations and the persons under Para 1 shall be obliged to:

1. document the specimens/specimens, as well as their origin;

2. label and mark the specimens/specimens when possible;

3. gather and maintain information by definite indices for the state of the collections, as well as for the technologies and techniques for their raising and maintenance;

4. organise or participate in scientific and other studies of importance for the preservation and raising of the species, including such related to reintroduction in

nature of wild species;

5. submit reproduction materials of threatened species for restoration or reintroduction in nature;

6. submit, upon contracting, reproduction materials of threatened species for creation of plans for cultivated growing of plants and animal farms;

7. exchange information with other institutions of similar nature and with similar objectives;

8. provide public access to the collections, information for the public related to the species of the collections, their natural habitats and preservation of the biological diversity;

9. carry out educational and training activity;

10. present the necessary information for completing and maintaining the registers of Art. 63.

(3) (suppl. – SG 94/07) Besides the obligations of Para 2 the zoo gardens and breeding and keeping centers for protected animal species shall be obliged to:

1. accommodate animals in conditions satisfying their biological requirements and the requirements for their preservation and reproduction;

2. provide appropriate ambience for the individual species in the places where they are kept;

3. maintain a high level of preventive and medical veterinary care and feeding in raising and breeding the animals;

4. take the necessary measures for preventing the escape of animals in order to avoid possible ecological threat for the local species.

Art. 61. (1) (suppl. – SG 94/07) The minimal requirements and conditions in which animals are raised in the zoo gardens and in breeding and keeping centers for protected animal species shall be determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(2) In case of applying the compulsory measure of Art. 122, Para 1, Item 3 the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall order the placement of the animals in other zoo gardens or in places providing the conditions of the ordinance under Para 1 and Art. 60, Para 2 and 3.

Art. 62. (1) The activity in the zoo gardens shall be carried out on the grounds of a licence issued by the Ministry of Environment and Waters under conditions and by an order determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(2) The licence under Para 1 shall be issued only in compliance with the requirements of Art. 60, Para 2 and 3 and those of the ordinance under Art. 61, Para 1.

(3) For established activity of a zoo garden without a licence or in violation of the requirements and terms by which the licence has been issued the Minister of Environment and Waters shall:

1. prescribe measures and set a period not longer than 2 years when the zoo garden must remove the offences and/or

2. impose the compulsory measure of Art. 122, Para 1, Item 3.

(4) For failure to fulfil the prescriptions within the period determined according to Para 3, Item 1 the Minister of Environment and Waters shall impose the

compulsory measure of Art. 122, Para 1, Item 3 and/or Item 4.

Art. 62a. (new – SG 88/05; amend. – SG 64/07; suppl. – SG 94/07) The Minister of Environment and Waters and the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry may by an order, promulgated in the State Gazette, to prohibit the import, breeding and keeping outside the zoo parks, centers for keeping and breeding of protected animal species and rescue centers of local and alien animal species, which constitute danger for the people or are inappropriate for breeding as animals –companions and of worldly endangered animal species.

Art. 62b. (new – SG 94/07) Centers for keeping and breeding of protected animal species shall be subject to registration with the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 63. (1) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall keep a register of the organisations and persons who possess and maintain collections of wild species of the local and foreign flora and fauna.

(2) (amend. – SG 94/07) The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Supply shall keep a departmental register of the organisations and persons who possess and maintain collections of species of the cultural flora and fauna, as well as specialised collections of wild tree and bush species or hunting species of the local or foreign flora and fauna.

Art. 64. The specialised organisations creating and maintaining "national collections" shall be determined by an act of the Council of Ministers when:

1. they fulfil and/or coordinate activities on national or international programmes related to genetic resources;
2. the collections are designated for preservation and maintenance of a considerable taxonomic diversity of the world flora and fauna, including wild relatives of cultural plants or primitive breeds and/or represent a strategic resource due to the considerable diversity of species, sorts, breeds, forms, lines, including such of local origin and/or which are standard of international obligations undertaken by the Republic of Bulgaria.

Art. 65. The conditions and the order of completing, maintaining and servicing collections, with exception of those belonging to individuals, shall be determined by acts issued by the heads of the organisations and corporate bodies under Art. 60, Para 1.

Art. 66. (1) The state is owner of the genetic resources of the natural flora and fauna of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) The access to the resources shall be possible in compliance of the provisions of this law, and when they are protected by a patent or other rights of intellectual property - of the special legislation in this sphere as well.

(3) The genetic resources can be submitted for using by other countries on the grounds of preliminary agreement in writing on the conditions and the way of distribution of the benefits from it under mutually profitable conditions including:

1. quoting the natural origin of the material;
2. submitting by the user state scientific results and technologies related to or engendered by them;
3. return of a part of the resources obtained by using the material, as well as of products or tests related to it for commercial purpose;
4. participation in joint scientific studies.

(4) The agreement can stipulate gratuitous submitting of genetic resources when they are designated for non-profit purposes: scientific research, education, preservation of the biological diversity or of the public health.

(5) The submission of the materials for using by third persons shall be carried out upon a written consent of the owner by observing the provisions of Para 2, 3 and 4.

(6) The conditions and the order of providing access to genetic resources shall be determined by an ordinance adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Section IX. Introduction of alien or reintroduction of local animal and vegetation species in nature

Art. 67. (1) (amend, SG 88/05) The introduction in nature, as well as the import, the breeding and raising alien animal and vegetation species, if it does not harm natural habitats in their natural region of habitation or local species of the wild flora and fauna or their populations.

(2) The activities of Para 1 shall be permitted on the grounds of a programme only upon a positive scientific expertise assigned by the respective competent body of Para 3 and after a positive decision of the National Council for Biological Diversity.

(3) The activities of Para 1 shall be carried out by a written permit of:

1. (amend. – SG 64/07) the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry - for tree, bush and hunting species;
2. the Minister of Environment and Waters - for all the other species.

(4) (amend., SG 88/05) The bodies of Para 3 may, by an order promulgated in the State Gazette, prohibit :

1. the introduction in nature of alien species which could endanger natural habitats or local species of the wild flora and fauna;
2. the import, breeding and raising of alien animal or plant species, if their occasional release into the wild nature will endanger the existence of local species of the wild flora and fauna.

Art. 67a. (new – SG 88/05; suppl. – SG 94/07) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall organize and govern the activities on removal of entered in the country alien species, including sub-species and varieties, which could endanger natural habitats or local species of the wild flora and fauna.

Art. 68. (1) Reintroduction in nature of local animal and vegetation species shall be carried out in a way which would contribute to the restoration of the species in favourable state.

(2) The activities of Para 1 shall be carried out upon a written permit of the respective competent body of Art. 67, Para 3 in coordination with the interested central administrative bodies and after taking into consideration the public opinion in the region for repeated introduction of the species.

Art. 69. (amend. – SG 64/07) The conditions and the order of issuing the permits of Art. 67, Para 3 and Art. 68, Para 2 and of considering the public opinion shall be determined by ordinances of, respectively, the Minister of Environment and Waters and of the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry.

Chapter four. TRADE WITH ENDANGERED SPECIES OF THE WILD FLORA AND FAUNA

Section I. General

Art. 70. (amend. – SG 94/07) The provisions of this chapter shall apply to specimens of species included in the appendixes A, B, C, and D to Art. 3 of Regulations (EC) No. 338/97 of the Council on the protection of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein, herein after referred to as "Regulations 338/97".

Art. 71. (1) (amend. – SG 94/07) The Ministry of Environment and Waters is the managing administrative body for implementation of the requirements of the Regulations 338/97.

(2) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall determine by an order the places with functions of rescue centres according to Art. 104, Para 1, Item 1.

(3) The activity of the rescue centres of Para 2 shall be determined by an ordinance approved by the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(4) (new – SG 88/05) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall cancel the order under Para 2, if he/she finds that:

1. in the rescue center the needed care at the stay of the specimens are not provided, in result of which a danger for their general status or survival arises;

2. systematic breaches in the activity of the rescue centre;

3. systematic offence of the regulations of the activity of the rescue centers under Para 3.

(5) (new – SG 88/05) Systematic breaches in the meaning of Para 4, items 2 and 3 shall be three or more breaches of the laws and the secondary legislation of their application, committed for two years.

Art. 72. (1) (amend. – SG 94/07) The Bulgarian Academy of Science, through its specialised institutes, scientific staff and associated experts is the scientific

consultative body for the implementation of the Regulations 338/97.

(2) (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) The body under Para 1 shall propose to the Minister of Environment and Waters a list of the experts, who execute functions under Art. 84 and Art. 87, Para 1. The proposed experts shall declare in written that they are not personally interested in the import or the export of wild species.

(3) The list of Para 2 shall include the names, the addresses and the ways of connection, the sphere of competence and the region of activity of the experts.

(4) (new - SG 88/05) In the list under Para 2 may be included only persons, who have educational-qualification degree of the major, obtained in a high school and have performed for at least three years some of the following activities, related with the preservation of the flora and fauna:

1. teaching activity in high schools or scientific activity;
2. ex situ breeding of wild species in zoo parks or botanic gardens;
3. controlling activity on preservation of the flora and the fauna.

(5) (new - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) The Minister of Environment and Waters or an accredited by him/her person shall register into an official register the experts under Para 2 and shall enter the data under Para 3 or shall reasonably refuse registration and notify in written the body under Para 1 within 15-days period.

(5) (new - SG 88/05) Within 15 days period from the entering under Para 5, the Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue by names a certificate of entering in the register.

(7) (new - SG 88/05) The certificate under Para 6 shall be valid for 5 years.

(8) From the register under Para 5 shall be excluded the experts about who is proved that in their practice of definition of species, they have:

1. submitted incorrect information three times;
2. submitted incorrect declaration under Para 2 and this is evidence following the respective order.

(9) (new - SG 88/05) In the cases under Art. 8 the Minister of Environment and Waters shall deprive the certificate under Para 6.

(10) (new - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) The order of conduction of the measures under Para 84 and of the identifications under Art. 87, Para 1, as well as payment to experts shall be determined by an order of the Minister of Environment and Waters.

Section II. Carrying through the borders of the Republic of Bulgaria

Art. 73. (amend. – SG 94/07) (1) The import and the export of specimens of species of Art. 70 shall be carried out according to the requirements of the Regulations 338/97, of Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 of the Commission laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 on the protection of species of wild flora and fauna by regulating trade therein, herein after referred to as "Regulation 865/2006", of this law, of Regulation (EEC) No. 2913/92 of the Council establishing the Community Customs Code, of the Law for the veterinary medicine activity and of the Law for protection of plants.

(2) The transportation of live animals of species of par. 1 shall be carried out in compliance with the requirements for transportation of live animals published by the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), drawn up in Washington on 3 March 1973, (ratified by a decision of the GNA – SG 103/90) (SG – 6/92), herein after referred to as "The Convention", and for air transportation - with the requirements established by Resolution 620, Appendix "A" of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) as well.

Art. 74. (revoked – SG 94/07).

Art. 75. (revoked – SG 94/07).

Art. 76. (revoked – SG 94/07).

Art. 77. (revoked – SG 94/07).

Art. 78. (revoked – SG 94/07).

Art. 79. (revoked – SG 94/07).

Art. 80. (amend. – SG 94/07) The applicant for permits and certificates of Art. 4, par. 1 and 2, Art. 5, par. 1 and 4, Art. 8, par. 3 and Art. 9, par. 1 of Regulation 338/97 and of Art. 37, par. 1 of Regulation 865/2006 shall file a written application to the Minister of Environment and Waters in compliance with the requirements of Art. 20, 26, 34, 41 and 50 of Regulation 865/2006.

Art. 81. (amend. – SG 94/07) To the application of Art. 20 of Regulation 865/2006 shall be attached:

1. for Bulgarian legal entities – updated certificate of entering into Commercial Register;
2. for foreign legal entities – a document, certifying applicant's legal status, issued in compliance with his/her national legislation within three months prior to filing of the application;
3. address and description of conditions, under which the imported live specimen will be raised.

Art. 82. (amend. – SG 94/07) (1) To the application of Art. 26, 34, 41 and 50 of Regulation 865/2006 shall be attached:

1. a document of origin – in cases, where the specimen shall not be subject to registration under Art. 90;
2. a document of registration under Art. 91 or Art. 96, par. 1;

3. applicant's identity data;
4. for Bulgarian legal entities – updated certificate of entering into Commercial Register;
5. for foreign legal entities – a document, certifying applicant's legal status, issued in compliance with his/her national legislation within three months prior to filing of the application;
6. in cases of import of specimen, propagated and kept in a closed place – a brief description of the genus or the culture, from which the origin of individual specimen, forming the axis of this genus or culture is evidenced, as well as the number of the obtained genetic generation.

(2) The requirements of Para 1, Item 4 shall not apply in the cases of Art. 96, Para 1.

(3) For species of Appendix No. 4 to this Law, falling under Appendixes A, B, and C of Regulation 338/97, to the application under Para 1 shall be attached copies of the following documents:

1. permit for hunting in the name of the hunter;
2. registration under Art. 110, par. 1 of the Regulation for application of the Law of the Hunting and Preservation of Game (prom. – SG 58/01; SG 43/02 – Decision No. 3722 of the Supreme Administrative Court of 2002; amend. – SG 41 and 101/03; SG 10/04 – Decision No. 654 of the Supreme Administrative Court of 2004, amend. – SG 62/07) or payment protocol of Art. 112, par. 1, item 2 of the same Regulation.

Art. 83. (amend. - SG 94/07) (1) Within 5 days from receipt of the application for issuance of permit for import, export or of a certificate for re-export of specimens of species according to Appendixes A and B of Regulation 338/97 the Minister of Environment and Waters, or an accredited by him/her official shall require a statement from the scientific consultative body of Art. 72.

(2) For export of specimens of species under Appendix No. 4 to this Law, which fall under Appendixes A, B and C of Regulation 338/97, the opinion under Para 1 shall be required once and shall be valid for the period of the whole hunting season.

(3) Opinion under Para 1 shall not be required for export of specimens, which are subject to a preliminary defined quote, published by the Secretariat of the Convention.

Art. 84. (1) The scientific consultative body shall present to the Ministry of Environment and Waters statement within 15 days from receipt of the request of Art. 83, Para 1.

(2) If inspection on the sport is necessary it shall be carried out by an expert of the list of Art. 72, Para 2.

Art. 85. (amend. – SG 94/07) The Minister of Environment and waters or an accredited by him/her official shall issue the permits and certificates of Art. 80 within 5 work days from receipt of the opinion of Art. 84, par. 1 in compliance with the requirements of the Regulation 338/97, Regulation 865/2006 and of this law.

Section III. Customs supervision and control

Art. 86. (suppl. – SG 94/07) The customs bodies shall exercise customs supervision and control of import and export of specimens of species of Art. 70 to and out of the customs territory of the Republic of Bulgaria in compliance with the provisions of this law, of the customs legislation and the requirements of Regulation 338/97 and of Regulation 865/2006.

Art. 87. (1) (previous Art. 87 – amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) In case of inspection of a consignment of specimens of Art. 70 the customs bodies shall require from the border veterinary and phyto-sanitary service to establish within 2 hours after the start of the inspection whether the specimens correspond to the data defined in the accompanying documents according to the requirements of Regulation 338/97 and Regulation 865/2006. Provided that this identification cannot be made the customs bodies shall address for identification of the specimens to a respective expert of the list of Art. 72, Para 2 who shall be obliged to appear at the border control checkpoint within 6 hours from the call;

(2) (new – SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) The customs bodies shall provide premises for temporary lodging of the live specimens till the finalization of the expertise under Para 1.

Art. 88. (suppl. – SG 94/07) For established violation of the requirements of this law and Regulation 338/97 or in cases of doubt for violation the customs bodies shall retain the specimens and the objects having served as an instrument of the violation and shall inform immediately the Ministry of Environment and Waters or the respective regional inspectorate for the environment and waters which shall provide the placement of the specimens in appropriate conditions in rescue centres.

Art. 89. The respective regional inspectorates for the environment and waters and rescue centres shall render full assistance to the customs bodies for clarifying the cases of Art. 88 and taking decision on them.

Section IV. Registration

Art. 90. (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) (1) Subject to registration shall be all specimens of species of vertebrates according to Appendixes A and B of Regulation 338/97 with the exception of :

1. the foodstuffs from them;
2. species - subject to the Law for the hunting and preservation of the game;
3. colouristic mutations of the species of birds, which have not the natural colour of the wild forms;
4. small leather articles;
5. fish;

6. specimens of species under Art. 57, Item 5, item "a" of Regulation 865/2006.

(2) Specimens of species according to Appendixes A and B of Regulation 338/97, issued for which are permits for import, and for which is issued original permit for export or a certificate for re-export, issued by a third country shall be registered ex-officio by the regional inspectorates for the environment and waters without an application by the owner by the order of Art. 92.

(3) Within 7 days from the receipt of the documents of par. 2, the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall send copies thereof to the respective regional inspectorate for the environment and waters for registration.

Art. 91. (1) (previous Art. 91 – amend., SG 88/05) The registration shall be made by a registration card issued by the respective regional inspectorate for the environment and waters at the permanent address of the owner of the specimen - individual, or at the headquarters, respectively address of management of the owner of the specimen - corporate body.

(2) (new – SG 88/05) The registration card under Para 1 may be of two types:

1. for registration of single specimens;
2. for registration of group of specimens;

(3) (new – SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) The card under Para 2, Item 2 shall be used only for groups of specimens under Appendixes A and B of Regulation 338/97, for which the individual marking is impossible.

(4) (new – SG 94/07) The registration card shall be issued in cases, where for the specimens a certificate under Art. 8, item 3 and Art. 9, par. 2, item "b" of Regulation 338/97 is issued in the name of the owner.

Art. 92. (1) (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94.07) For the purposes of the registration of Art. 91 the owner shall, within 15 days from obtaining the specimen, or within 40 days from obtaining of offspring of the species under Appendixes A and B of Regulation 338/97 present to the regional inspectorate of the environment and waters an application stating:

1. (suppl. – SG 34/06, in force from 01.10.2006; amend. – SG 94/07) personal data - for natural persons, for Bulgarian corporate bodies - name, headquarters, address and BULSTAT or unified identification code for the traders and for foreign legal entities – a document, certifying the applicant's legal status, issued in compliance with his/her national legislation within three months prior to filing of the application;

2. data for the specimen - species and state (live, dead, part of a specimen or product);

3. address of raising - for obtaining a live specimen;

4. way of obtaining - imported, purchased, exchanged, donated, reproduced in closed premises, found.

(2) (amend. – SG 94/07) Attached to the application under Para 1 depending on the case shall be:

1. documents, indicating the specimen legal origin:

a) original document for registration issued by the respective regional inspectorate for the environment and waters - for purchase of a registered specimen

according to Art. 91, par. 1 or a copy of the registration card in case of registration under Art. 91, par. 2;

b) document of registration in another European Union Member State, where such is required in the respective state;

c) original valid certificate for specimens, issued in the name of the trader according to Art. 8, item 3 of Regulation 338/97 and a document for the sale of the specimen;

d) copy of the permit according to SITES for export or a certificate for re-export, issued by a third country'

e) invoice under Art. 102b, par. 3, item "k";

f) original permit or other document for catching or killing the specimen from the nature, stipulated by a normative act and proving the lawfulness of the obtaining of the same;

2. information on the method of marking of the specimen and the marking number;

3. number of the registered activity under Art. 97, par. 1 and 2.

Art. 93. (amend., - SG 88/05) The regional inspectorates for the environment and water shall issue the document for registration according to Art. 91 within 5 days from receiving the documentation of Art. 90, Para 3 within a period of 5 business days from the submission of the documentation under Art. 90, Para 3 and within a period of 20 business days in case of necessity to check for clarification of the species or the circumstances of obtaining of the specimen in the cases of submission of the application of Art. 92.

Art. 94. (1) (amend., SG 88/05) The owner of a registered specimen shall be obliged to inform in writing the regional inspectorate for the environment and waters for:

1. (amend., SG 88/05) change of circumstances related to the specimen – change of the owner, change of the address of raising a live specimen or dead, theft or losing the specimen;

2. destruction, damaging, loss or theft of the document for registration of the specimen.

(2) The regional inspectorates for the environment and waters shall:

1. (amend., SG 88/05) register the changes of Para 1 in the register of Art. 95 and in the document of registration under Art. 91;

2. (amend., SG 88/05) issue a new document for registration in the cases of Para 1, Item 1 and Item 2;

3. inform the Ministry of Environment and Waters about the cases of theft or loss of a specimen or a document for registration.

Art. 95. The regional inspectorates for the environment and waters shall keep a register of the specimen of Art. 90.

Art. 96. (1) (amend. – SG 94/07) The registration of specimen of Art. 90 shall

not regard collections in zoo gardens, museums, universities, institutes of the Bulgarian Academy of Science and other scientific and academic institutes.

(2) (amend., SG 88/05) The persons of Para 1 shall present to the Ministry of Environment and Waters and the respective regional inspection of environment and waters a list of the available specimens in species, presenting, at the beginning of every current year, information about the changes made in the list during the past year.

(3) (new – SG 88/05) The list under Para 2 shall contain:

1. (amend. – SG 94/07) the animal species, pointed in the Bulgarian and Latin languages;

2. 9amend. – SG 94/07) data about the specimen – species and status (live, dead, stuff, part or product);

3. the way of obtaining – imported, bought, exchanged, donated, reproduced in closed, left at disposal under Art. 39, Para 2;

4. the number and the type of the document by which the specimen has been obtained;

5. the number of registration card in case of registration under Art. 91.

(4) (new – SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) Permits and certificates under Art. 80 of this law and labels under Art. 52, item 2 of Regulation 865/2006 shall not be issued to the persons under Para 1, who failed to fulfill their obligations under Para 2.

Art. 97. (1) (suppl. – SG 34/06, in force from 01.10.2006; amend. – SG 94/07) Individuals and corporate bodies with court or commercial registration in the Republic of Bulgaria shall have the right, through the Ministry of Environment and Waters, to register in the Secretariat of the Convention activities on:

1. (new – SG 94/07) reproduction and raising for commercial purposes of specimens of species according to Appendix I of the Convention;

2. (new – SG 94/07) production, processing, packing, re-packing, export and re-export of sturgeon.

(2) For the purposes of the registration of Para 1 the persons shall file in the Ministry of Environment and Waters application stating:

1. (new – SG 88/05, suppl. – SG 34/06, in force from 01.10.2006) name and unified civil number – for natural persons, and for legal persons – name, seat and BULSTAT or unified identification code for the traders;

2. (previous 1 – SG 88/05) the address where the activity will take place;

3. (previous 2 – SG 88/05) the scientific name of the species and the conditions of their reproduction and raising;

4. (previous 3 – SG 88/05) proof of the lawful obtaining of the initial reproduction material.

5. (new – SG 94/07) registration under the Law for the fishing and aqua-cultures of the persons under par. 1, item 2.

Art. 97a. (new – SG 94/07) (1) Legal entities of Art. 97, par. 1 may register for application of simplified procedures under Art. 18 and 19 of Regulation 865/2006.

(2) For the registration under par. 1 persons shall submit to the Minister of Environment and Waters an application, in which they indicate:

1. name, headquarters and BULSTAT or unified identification code for

traders;

2. scientific designation of species, for which simplified procedure shall be applied;

3. evidences of legal acquisition of the primary material.

(3) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall authorize the persons of par. 1 to enter specific information into the permits according to Art. 18, par. 1, item "c" and Art. 19, par. 1, item "d" of Regulation 865/2006.

Art. 98. (1) Within 15 days from filing the application the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall carry out inspection of the circumstances of Art. 97, Para 2 and shall require a statement from the scientific consultative body by the order of Art. 83.

(2) Depending on the inspection and the statement of Para 1 the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall:

1. send documentation for registration of the activity to the Secretariat according to the requirements of the Convention;

2. (new – SG 94/07) notify in writing the applicant of the reference number of registration of the activity;

3. (previous item 2, suppl. – SG 94/07) in case of refusal for registration under item 1 inform in writing the applicant within 30 days.

Art. 99. (amend., SG 88/05) For termination of a registered activity the persons of Art. 97, Para 1 shall be obliged to inform about that the Ministry of Environment and Waters which shall send to the Secretariat of the Convention information about the deletion of the registration.

Art. 99a. (new – SG 94.07) (1) Research institutions, implementing specimens exchange with other research institutions, may register in the Secretariat of the Convention for application of the exceptions of Art. 7, par. 6 of the Convention.

(2) For registration under par. 1 the research institutions shall submit to the Ministry of Environment and Waters an application, containing the name, headquarters and the address of the institution depending on the case:

1. decision of the General meeting of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for setting up specialized research units in compliance with the Law of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and its Charter;

2. decision of the General Assembly for establishment of a higher school in compliance with the Law for the Higher Education;

3. decision for establishment of a museum in compliance with the Law for the Cultural Monuments and the Museums.

(3) Within 10 days from the acceptance of the application of par. 1 the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall notify the applicant of the registration number and shall register him/her in the Secretariat of the Convention.

(4) For entering and exporting of specimens for research exchange purposes of the persons under par. 1 labels according to Art. 52, item 2 of Regulation 865/2006 shall be applied.

Section V. Home trade

Art. 100. (amend., SG 88/05) Prohibited is the offering for sale, obtaining for profit, public display for profit purposes, donating, exchange or other transactions of disposal, using for trade revenue and sale, storing for the purpose of sale, offering for sale of specimens of species of Art. 70, Item 1.

Art. 101. The prohibition of Art. 100 shall not regard specimens which are:

1. obtained before the enactment of the Convention;
2. raised in closed premises animal specimens or artificially reproduced plants - upon proving these circumstances;
3. necessary for the development of the science, when the respective species are only appropriate for such purposes and there are no specimens of the species raised in closed premises;
4. (suppl., SG 88/05) designated for reproduction programmes or scientific studies for the purpose of preserving the species, as well as for the needs of the museums, zoo parks and the scientific institutes.

Art. 102. (1) Prohibited is the trade with not registered specimens in the cases of Art. 101, as well as the trade with not registered specimens of the species of Art. 70, Item 2.

(2) (amend., SG 88/05) For sale of specimens registered according to Art. 91 the seller shall submit to the buyer:

1. the original of the registration card under Art. 91, Para 2, Item 1;
2. the copy of the registration card under Art. 91, Para 2, Item 2;
3. (new – SG 94/07) certificate under Art. 8, par. 1 of Regulation 338/97, whereas for the imported to the European Community specimens the accompanying original permits as per CITES for export, a certificate for re-export or a certificate of origin, issued by a third country shall be provided.

(3) (new – SG 88/05) The original registration card under Para 2, Item 2 after the finishing of the quantity pointed in it, shall be returned to the regional inspection of environment and waters by which it has been issued.

(4) (new – SG 94/07) In case of sale of a specimen of a species under Art. 70 traders shall be obliged to issue an invoice, in which they obligatorily must enter the number and the type of documents under Art. 102b, par. 2 and 3, as well as the number and the type of marking of the specimen, if relevant.

Art. 102a. (new – SG 88/05) (1) (amend. – SG 94/07) The owners of specimens of species under Appendixes A and B of Regulation 338/97 shall obligatory mark or label them in accordance with the type and the status of the specimen, and the marking of the live specimens shall not injure their health status.

(2) (amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 94/07) The labeling and marking of specimens, of the types under Para 1 shall be determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Environment and Waters and the Minister of Agriculture and Food Supply.

Art. 102b. (new – SG 94/07) (1) The persons, carrying out commercial transactions with specimens of species under Art. 70 shall be obliged to hold and upon request by the control bodies to present a document, evidencing their legal origin.

(2) In cases of registration under Art. 90 the persons of par. 1 shall present a registration card, issued in compliance with Art. 91.

(3) Beyond the cases of par. 2 the persons of par. 1 shall present depending on the case:

a) copy of a permit or certificate for re-export as per CITES, issued by a third country;

b) copy of phyto-sanitary certificate, issued by a third country, where pursuant to the Convention such is used instead of a permit as per CITES;

c) copy of a permit for import under Art. 4, par. 1 and 2 of Regulation 337/97;

d) certificate under Art. 7, item 3 of Regulation 338/97;

e) document, evidencing the specimens legal origin according to Appendix B of Regulation 338/97, provided that they are acquired in the territory of the European Community;

f) permit under Art. 49 for the species according to Appendixes No.3 and No.4;

g) assessment protocol under Art. 110, par. 1, item 3 of the Regulation for application of the Law for hunting and protection of the game or a payment protocol under Art. 112, par. 1, item 2 of the same Regulation;

h) documents under the Law for the fishing and aqua cultures, provided that the specimens are acquired through fishing;

i) copy of a document of registration of the activity under Art. 97, par. 1;

k) purchase invoice for the raised in a closed area or cultivated specimens, provided that the trader is not a producer, and in the remaining cases – producer's declaration, that he sold specimens have been raised in a closed area or are cultivated;

l) document under Art. 108.

(4) In cases of par. 3, item "c" respective documents under par. 3, item "a" or "b" must be presented, too.

(5) In case of non-presenting of documents under par. 2 and 3 the control body shall retain the copies and shall forward them to a rescue center under Art. 71, par. 2, requiring from the seller to submit relevant documents within 10 days after the inspection, whereas:

1. in case of non-submission of documents within 10 days the specimens shall be seized in favour of the state;

2. in case of submission of documents of par. 1 the specimens shall be provided back to the owner, after the latter has covered the expenses, incurred by the rescue center with regard to their accommodation and keeping.

Section VI. Disposing of specimens seized in favour of the state

Art. 103. (1) (prev. Art. 103 – SG 94/07) The disposing of specimens of species of Art. 70, seized in favour of the state according to Art. 129, Para 1 shall be carried out by the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(2) (new – SG 94/07) Paragraph 1 shall apply to cases of seized in favour of the state specimens in compliance with the requirements of the Law for the customs, the Law for the veterinary medical activity and the Law for the protection of plants.

(3) (new – SG 94/07) Paragraph 2 shall not apply in cases of submitted valid document of Art. 80.

Art. 104. (1) (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) until the enactment of the penal provision for seizing the specimens in favour of the state the Minister of Environment and Waters or accredited by him/her person shall order:

1. accommodation of the living specimens in the rescue centres determined for this purpose;

2. storing in appropriate places of dead specimens, foodstuffs or medicines.

(2) The foreign specimens for which customs formalities have not been fulfilled shall be placed under a regime of customs storing.

Art. 105. (1) The specimens shall be returned to the owner upon revoking of the penal provision by court order within 7 days after the enforcement of the court decision.

(2) Within 15 days from the enactment of a court decision rejecting the complaint against the penal provision for seizing the specimens in favour of the state after customs procedures the Minister of Environment and Waters shall dispose of them according to Art. 106.

Art. 106. (1) In case of seizing live specimens in favour of the state the Minister of Environment and Waters shall order:

1. (revoked – SG 94/07);

2. (amend. – SG 94/07) their return to the state of export in the cases of Art. 716, Para 3, item "b" of Regulation 338/97;

3. their submitting to a zoo or botanical garden or to rescue centres;

4. letting them free when the specimens are taken from natural habitats within the country in case that there are no obvious obstacles for their survival;

5. their sale.

(2) In case of seizing dead specimens in favour of the state the Minister of Environment and Waters shall order:

1. their gratuitous submission to higher schools or centres for training specialists for implementation of the Convention - for completion of educational collections;

2. their gratuitous submission to natural science museums and, when there is an artistic value - to art museums;

3. their sale.

(3) In case of seizing foodstuffs or medicines in favour of the state the Minister of Environment and Waters shall order:

1. their return to the country of export;

2. their submission to higher schools or centres of training specialists for implementation of the Convention - for completion of educational collections;

3. their destruction.
4. (new – SG 88/05) their termination.

Art. 107. (1) (amend. and suppl. – SG 94/07) The expenses related to the statements and inspections of Art. 84 and Art. 87, par. 1 and to the disposal of Art. 102b, par. 5, item 1 and Art. 104 in cases of applying Art. 105, Para 1 shall be for the account of the republican budget.

(2) The expenses of Para 1 shall be reimbursed to the budget of the Ministry of Environment and Waters from the resources received in the cases of sale of Art. 106.

(3) (suppl. – SG 94/07) The expenses related to the orders of Art. 102b, par. 5, item 1, Art. 104 and 106 shall be for the account of the offender. For securing their payment the bodies establishing the offence can retain commodities or sums.

Art. 108. For sale of Art. 106 the specimens shall be considered lawfully obtained upon presentation of the documents by which they have been bought.

Chapter five. PRESERVATION OF VENERABLE AND UNIQUE TREES

Art. 109. (1) Individual venerable or unique trees inside or outside the populated areas shall be declared protected in coordination with the individual or corporate body - owner of the real estate where the tree is located.

(2) The director of the respective regional inspectorate of the environment and waters and the person of Para 1 shall sign written records stating the location and the characteristics of the tree - species, age, height and other particularities, its state and the necessary maintaining measures, as well as the obligations of the owner to protect the site.

(3) The written records of Para 2 and a scheme of the location of the tree shall be sent to the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 110. The Minister of Environment and Waters shall issue an order for declaring the tree protected, which shall be promulgated in the State Gazette.

Art. 111. (1) (previous Art. 111 – SG 88/05) The owners of trees declared protected shall be obliged:

1. to protect them against destruction or damaging;
2. to inform the respective regional inspectorate for the environment and waters about occurred changes in the state of the site;
3. to coordinate with the respective regional inspectorate of the environment and waters the activities necessary for maintaining or restoration of the state of the site;
4. to provide access of representatives of the regional inspectorate of the

environment and waters to the real estate for carrying out inspections of the state of the protected trees.

(2) (new – SG 88/05) Shall be prohibited activities leading to termination, harming or deterioration of the physiological status of the trees announces as protected.

Art. 112. (1) The Ministry of Environment and Waters can finance maintaining or restoration activities necessary for the preservation of the protected trees.

(2) The owners shall present to the Ministry of Environment and Waters proposals for financing activities of Para 1 through the respective regional inspectorate for the environment and waters.

Art. 113. (1) The declared protected trees shall be entered in registers of the Ministry of Environment and Waters and of the respective regional inspectorate for the environment and waters.

(2) Destroyed, withered or irrevocably damaged protected trees shall be deleted by the order of Art. 109, Para 2 and Art. 110.

Chapter six. BODIES OF MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

Art. 114. The Ministry of Environment and Waters and other state bodies and their divisions, within the framework of their competence, shall carry out the management and control of preserving the biological diversity in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Art. 115. (1) (previous Art. 115 – amend., SG 88/05) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall:

1. carry out the state policy regarding the preservation and maintaining of the biological diversity;

2. work out, with the participation of the branch administrative bodies and non-governmental organisations and present to the Council of Ministers National Strategy for preservation of the biological diversity;

3. work out, with the participation of the branch administrative bodies and non-governmental organisations and present to the Council of Ministers National Strategy for preservation of the biological diversity, organise and report on the fulfilment of the plan;

4. create and maintain the National Ecological Network;

5. assign the working out and approve the plans for management of the protected zones and plans for actions for the species;

6. coordinate the activities of the other ministries, administrative bodies, municipalities, public organisations, scientific and academic institutes for preservation of the biological diversity;

7. organise control over the activities of the owners or users of lands, forests

and water areas included in the National Ecological Network;

8. finance activities related to the implementation of this law;

9. work out and apply mechanisms for stimulation of the activities of the owners or users, non-governmental organisations, associations and others aiming at the preservation, maintaining and restoration of the biological diversity;

10. (amend., SG 88/05) organise a National system of monitoring of the state of the biological diversity and create database and geographic informational systems for registration of the state and establishing the changes of the biological diversity, provide access and exchange of data related to the preservation of the biological diversity;

11. work out annual report on the state of the biological diversity and on the activities related to its preservation;

12. represent the Republic of Bulgaria on the issues of preservation of the biological diversity;

13. (suppl. – SG 94/07) organise and maintain state public registers stipulated by this law;

14. issue orders, lists, permits and licences stipulated by this law;

15. (amend. – SG 94/07) publish lists and their changes for the species of Art. 47a, item 1 and 2.

(2) (new – SG 88/05) The conditions and order of establishment and functioning of the National system of monitoring of the state of the biological diversity shall be determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Environment and Waters.

Art. 116. (1) Created in National Council for Biological Diversity as a consultative body of the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(2) The members of the National Council for Biological Diversity shall be appointed by an order of the Minister of Environment and Waters, and it shall include representatives of the interested ministries and administrative bodies, scientific and academic institutes, non-governmental and nature protecting organisations.

(3) the activity of the National Council for Biological Diversity shall be settled by regulations approved by the Minister of Environment and Waters.

Art. 117. The directors of the regional inspectorates for the environment and waters and the directors of the national parks shall:

1. control the observance of the requirements for preservation of the biological diversity in carrying out the activities of the owners or users of lands, forests and water areas included in the National Ecological Network;

2. coordinate and control the implementation of the plans for management and plans and projects stipulated by this law, including their integration in the municipal plans and programmes;

3. control the preservation of the vegetation and animal species subject of this law;

4. maintain the regional registers stipulated by this law;

5. sanction offenders in the cases stipulated by this law.

Art. 118. (amend. – SG 94/07) The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Supply, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works and other state bodies and their divisions, as well as the municipalities, in the sphere of their competence, shall:

1. carry out activities related to the preservation of the biological diversity;
2. integrate the preservation of the biological diversity and the sustainable management of the biological resources in all plans, projects, programmes, policies and strategies in the respective sector, including in them, most of all, activities related to the preservation of the biological diversity, in compliance with the priorities of this law, of the National Strategy and of the National Plan for preservation of the biological diversity;
3. work out and implement plans for management of the protected zones and plans for action for priority vegetation and animal species;
4. collaborate with other competent bodies when the activities have inter-related or accumulated effect on the biological diversity or when their competence regards one and the same object or territory;
5. organise branch systems of monitoring of the state of the biological diversity and of the protected zones and create database and geographic informational systems for their characteristics, submitting to the Ministry of Environment and Waters information coordinated in type and period of presentation;
6. finance with priority scientific studies and activities related to the preservation of the biological diversity and the sustainable management of the biological resources;
7. use the results from the study of the biological diversity in working out plans, projects, programmes and policies in the sector or among the sectors;
8. control the activity of the owners or users of lands, forests and water areas included in the National Ecological Network;
9. sanction offenders in the cases stipulated by this law;
10. carry out international cooperation on issues of common concern, related to the preservation of the biological diversity and protected zones.

Art. 119. (1) (amend. – SG 94/07) The Ministry of Environment and Waters, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Supply, the municipalities, as well as the individuals and corporate bodies - owners and users of forests, lands and water areas in the National Ecological Network shall carry out their using and guarding according to the provisions of this law and of the other special laws.

(2) (suppl., SG 88/05) The owners of collections of species under Art. 37 and 70, as well as the owners and the users of forests, lands and water areas shall be obliged to provide free access to their real estates for the purposes of the activities and the control according to this law, in compliance with the requirements of the other special laws.

(3) (new – SG 88/05) The Ministry of Environment and Waters may provide to the non-governmental and other organizations and entities the right to organize marinating, directing, regulating, recreating or other activities of environmental protection in the protected zones also concerning the protected species following an order as defined by an ordinance of the Minister of Environment and Waters.

Art. 120. Agency "Customs" shall exercise customs control over the import and export of specimens of the species of Art. 70 according to the requirements of this law, of the Law for the customs and of the other normative acts related to the customs control.

Chapter seven. COMPULSORY ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES AND ADMINISTRATIVE PENAL PROVISIONS (title amended – SG 88/05)

Section I. Compulsory administrative measures

Art. 121. (1) (previous Art 121 – amend., SG 88/05; amend. - SG 94/07) For prevention and stopping administrative offences according to this law and of the harmful consequences from them the competent bodies or persons accredited by them shall impose compulsory administrative sanctions by the order of this section.

(2) (new – SG 88/05) The bodies of Art. 122 shall impose compulsory administrative measures under this law in the cases of arising of direct danger of damaging or termination of protected zones or parts of them.

Art. 122. (1) The Minister of Environment and Waters shall:

1. suspend orders of bodies of the executive authorities violating this law;
2. stop the fulfilment of plans and projects started or approved in violation of this law;
3. close down zoo gardens or parts of them which do not function in compliance with the requirements of this law;
4. revoke licences of zoo gardens in the cases of Art. 62, Para 4.

(2) The directors of the regional bodies of the Ministry of Environment and Waters shall:

1. (amend., SG 88/05) stop the activities of using the forests, the lands and the water areas and of other resources, as well as the construction in protected zones in violation of the orders for their declaring or of the approved, by the respective order, plans of management, development and technical plans and projects;
2. (amend., SG 88/05) stop activities or sites which harm or pollute the environment above the admissible norms in protected;
3. (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 43/08) stop orders of the regional directorates of the forests, the state forest management, the state game husbandry and of the directors of the nature parks and of the municipal bodies in violation of this law;
4. issue instructions for measures for prevention and/or removal of offences.

(3) (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 43/08) The heads of the regional directorates of the forests, directors of the state forest management, of the state game husbandry and the directors of the nature parks and as well as the mayors of the municipalities shall stop activities and construction in forests, lands and water areas - state, municipal and private property, carried out in violation of the approved plans for management and development and technical plans and projects.

Art. 123. (amend., SG 88/05) (1) The application of the compulsory administrative measures shall be executed by a reasoned order of Art. 122, where shall be pointed the grounds for imposing, the type and the manner of imposing of the respective compulsory administrative measure.

(2) (amend. - SG 30/06, in force from 12.07.2006) The order under Para 1 and Art. 122, Para 1 may be appealed under the order of the Administrative procedure code.

(3) The appeal of the order under Para 1 shall not stop its execution.

Section II. Administrative Offences and Penalties

Art. 124. (amend., SG 88/05) For violations of the prohibitions and the limitations defined under the order of Art. 12, Para 6, Art. 19 and Art. 29, as well as in event of offending the regimes and conditions determined in the orders under Art. 42, the natural persons shall be punished by a fee of 100 to 1000 BGN, and the legal persons and the sole entrepreneurs by a property sanction of 200 to 5000 BGN.

(2) For violation the conditions of the permit issued under the order of this law, as far as the deed does not construct other administrative offence, the natural persons shall be punished by a fee of 100 to 2000 BGN, and the legal persons and the sole entrepreneurs by a property sanction of 300 to 6000 BGN.

(3) For violation of the compulsory administrative measures under Art. 122, the natural persons shall be punished by a fee of 100 to 1000 BGN, and the legal persons and the sole entrepreneurs by a property sanction of 200 to 5000 BGN.

Art. 125. (amend., SG 88/05) (1) For violation of Art. 38, Art. 39, Para 1, Art. 40, Art. 41, Para 3, Art. 44, 46, Art. 47, Para 1, Art. 60, Para 2 and 3, Art. 100, Art. 102, Para 1 and Art. 111, Item 1 the natural persons shall be punished by a fee of 100 to 5000 BGN, and the legal persons and the sole entrepreneurs by a property sanction of 500 to 10 000 BGN.

(2) A certified hunter who has committed violation under Art. 38, Art. 41 Para 3 and Art. 44 shall be punished by a fee under Para 1 and shall be deprived form right to hunt for a period form one to two years.

(2) In the cases of Para 2, where the violation is committed against world-wide or European endangered species, the deprivation of the right to hunt shall be for a period of three years.

(4) For violations under Art. 38, Art. 41, Para 3, Art. 44 and 46, committed in protected territories or concerning world-wide protected animal species, the fees under Para 1 shall be imposed in doubled amount.

Art. 126. (amend., SG 88/05) For carrying out activity without a licence of Art. 62, Para 1, breaking Art. 62a and Art 67, Para 4 or without permit of Art. 67, Para 3 and Art. 38, Para 2 the individuals shall be punished by a fine of 1000 to 10 000 levs and the corporate bodies and sole entrepreneurs - by a proprietary sanction of 2000 to 25 000 levs.

Art. 127. (amend. – SG 94/07) (1) For violations under Art. 16, items "b", "c", "d" and "e" of Regulation 338/97 the natural bodies shall be punished by a fine of 700 to 4 000 levs and the corporate bodies and sole entrepreneurs - by a proprietary sanction of 1500 to 10 000 levs.

(2) For violations under Art. 16, items "k", "l" and "m" of Regulation 338/97 the natural bodies shall be punished by a fine of 1000 to 6 000 levs and the corporate bodies and sole entrepreneurs - by a proprietary sanction of 2500 to 12 000 levs.

(3) For carrying out activity in cases of Art. 16, items "a", "f", "g", "h", "I" and "j" of Regulation 338/97 the natural bodies shall be punished by a fine of 2000 to 10 000 levs and the corporate bodies and sole entrepreneurs - by a proprietary sanction of 5000 to 30 000 levs.

Art. 128. (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) For violation of Art. 41a, Para 2, Art. 92, Para 1, Art. 94, Para 1, Art. 102, par. 4 and Art. 102b, par. 5 the individuals shall be punished by a fine of 50 to 2000 levs, and the corporate bodies and sole entrepreneurs - by a proprietary sanction of 100 to 5000 levs.

Art. 128a. (new – SG 88/05; suppl. – SG 94/07) For violation of Art. 43à, Para 1 and 3, Art. 73, Para. 2, Art. 90, Para 1, Art. 102, Para 2, Art. 102à, Para 1 and 2 and Art. 119, Para 2 the natural persons shall be punished by a fee of 500 to 10000 BGN, and the legal persons and the sole entrepreneurs by a property sanction of 1000 to 20 000 BGN.

Art. 128b. (new – SG 88/05) (1) (amend. – SG 52/07) For violation of Art. 31, Para 14, the natural persons shall be punished by a fee of 500 to 10000 BGN, and the legal persons and the sole entrepreneurs by a property sanction of 1000 to 20 000 BGN.

(2) (amend. – SG 52/07) For breach of Art. 31, Para 14 and Para 16 the official shall be punished by a fee form 1000 to 5000 BGN.

Art. 128c. (new – SG 88/05; suppl. – SG 94/07) For other violations of this law, of regulation 338/97 and Regulation 865/2006, if the committed does not construct a crime, the natural persons shall be punished by a fee of 50 to 2000 BGN, and the legal persons and the sole entrepreneurs by a property sanction of 100 to 5000 BGN.

Art. 129. (1) (amend., SG 88/05; suppl. – SG 94/07) The objects subject of violation and the objects, including the live animals and plants, having served as an instrument for it shall be seized in favour of the state, not depending on which ownership they are.

(2) (amend. - SG 105/05, in force from 01.01.2006) The sale of objects of Art. 1 shall be carried out by the order of the Tax-insurance Procedure Code.

(3) (new – SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) Para 2 shall not be applied in case of seizing in favour of the state of specimens of the species under Art. 37 of this Law

and under Appendix A of Regulation 338/97 - objects of the violation. In these cases the disposition shall be preformed respectively under the order of Art. 39, Para 2 and 3 or of chapter four, section VI.

Art. 129a. (1) For damages, caused to definite species plants and animals, included in the Appendix No. 3, the guilty persons shall pay compensation.

(2) The amount of the compensation shall be determined by a tariff, adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Art. 130. (1) (amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 94/07) The violations according to Art. 124, Para 1 and 3, Art. 125 and 128c shall be established by an act of an official appointed by the Minister of Environment and Waters or by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, by the regional governor or by the mayor of the municipality. The penal provisions shall be issued respectively by the Minister of Environment and Waters or by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, by the regional governor or by the mayor of the municipality or by persons accredited by them.

(2) (new – SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) The violations under Art. 124, Para 2 shall be found by and act of an official appointed by the body, which has issued the permit, and the punitive decrees shall be issued by the respective body, issued the permit or by an accredited by him/her person.

(3) (previous Para 2 - SG 88/05; amend. – SG 64/07; amend. – SG 94/07) The violations of Art. 126 shall be established by an act of an official appointed by the Minister of Environment and Waters or by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, and the penal provisions shall be issued respectively by the Minister of Environment and Waters or by the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests or by persons accredited by them.

(4) (previous Para 3 - amend., SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07) The violations of Art. 127, 128, 128a and 12b shall be established by an act of an official appointed by the Minister of Environment and Waters and the penal provisions shall be issued by the Minister of Environment and Waters or by persons accredited by him.

(5) (previous Para 4 - SG 88/05) The establishment of the violations, the issuance, the appeal and the fulfilment of the pnal provisions shall be carried out by the order of the Law for the administrative offences and penalties.

(6) (new – SG 88/05; amend. – SG 64/07) The body which has issued the punitive decree by which punishment under Art. 125, Para 2 and 3 is imposed, shall, within three days period from its entering into force, notify the State Agency of Forestry.

(7) The punitive decrees by which a fee up to 100 BGN, inclusive is imposed, shall not be subject to appeal.

Additional provisions

§ 1. In the context of this law:

1. "Favourable state of the species" exists when:

a) the data for the dynamics of the populations of the species show that this species will remain a vital element of the natural habitat;

b) the natural region of habitation of these species is not decreasing and there is no tendency toward decreasing;

c) present is sufficient habitat providing the living of the populations of these species.

2. "Favourable state of a natural habitat" exists when:

a) the area of its natural size is permanent or expanding;

b) its structure and specific functions provide its long-term existence;

c) the state of the species characteristic of it is favourable.

3. "Botanical garden" is an institution keeping collections of live plants for the needs of the experimental botanical studies, the natural scientific and nature protecting education and training and which is open for visits in a period longer than five months during the year.

3a. (new – SG 88/05; prev. item 41, amend. – SG 94/07) "Floristically important place" is a territory of international significance for preservation of plant species, described as per the standard method of the Plant Life International.

4. "Vivarium" is an artificial place of raising wild animals.

5. "Species" is a group of morphologically similar organisms of common origin, which are potentially capable of exchanging genetic material in natural conditions.

5a. (new – SG 94/07) "Species of Community interest" means species which, within the European territory of the Member States, are endangered, except those whose natural range is marginal on that territory and which are not endangered or vulnerable in the western palearctic region or vulnerable (i.e. believed likely to move into the endangered category in the near future if the casual factors continue operating), or rare (i.e. with small populations that are not at present endangered or vulnerable, but are at risk - they are located within restricted geographical areas or are thinly scattered over a more extensive range) or endemic and requiring particular attention by reason of the specific nature of their habitat and/or the potential impact of their exploitation on their habitat and/or the potential impact of their exploitation on their conservation status.

6. "Humid area" is a region including lakes, marshes, bogs, peat-bogs or other water areas, regardless of whether they are natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water which is static or flowing, fresh, semi-salted or salted, including sea water whose depth or ebb-tide does not exceed 6 m.

7. "Import" is the introduction to the customs territory of the Republic of Bulgaria of a specimen, including specimen caught in the sea, which is not under the jurisdiction of either country.

8. "Water areas" are the territories of the forest fund, the land fund and the continental shelf and of the exclusive economic zone flooded with water.

9. "Restoration" is the recreation in natural conditions of cohabitations of organisms, ecological systems and complexes of them according to a model of the naturally existing or creation of conditions for repeated generation or increase of the number of the natural populations.

10. (amend. – SG 94/07) "Genetic material" are materials of vegetation,

animal or fungous origin containing functional units of heredity.

11. "Genetic resources" are a genetic material of real or potential value.

12. "Forests" are the forests and the lands of the forest fund in the context of the Law for the forests.

13. "Date of obtaining" is the date on which the specimen taken from the wild nature, born in a closed premises or artificially reproduced, obtained by trade relations or exchange.

14. "Dendrarium" is a live collection of trees and bushes on a definite territory, organised in schematic, geographic or other scientific principle.

14a. (new – SG 88/05) "Small leather articles" are small industrial articles of leather such as belts, straps, seats for velocipedes, cases for documents, ear-rings, pockets for keys, notebooks, cases for tobacco, cigarette cases, wallets and strings for watches and other of similar type.

15. "Specimen" is every animal or plant, dead or living, every easily distinguishable part of the body or every product obtained from the animal or plant, as well as any other commodity which, on the grounds of an accompanying document, packing, marking, label or other circumstance, can be identified as a part or derivative of an animal or a plant.

16. "Specimen raised in closed premises" is a specimen of an animal species born, hatched and raised in closed premises, or a specimen of a vegetation species artificially reproduced. Artificially reproduced specimen is the one obtained by reproduction in an environment created or modified by people and under their control which, regarding the animals, is at least second generation raised by people without adding a genetic material of the wild nature.

16a. (new – SG 88/05) "Specimen in helpless status" is alive specimen of animal species, physically weak or immobilized as a consequence of long starvation or parasites presence.

17. "Ecological system" is a dynamic complex of vegetation, animal and micro-organism cohabitations and their environment, which interact as a functional unit of specific interrelated processes and specific general aspect.

18. "Endemic species" is the one met only in a definite geographic region.

19. "Endangered species" are those which are threatened of extinction in their entire aril or to its great extent.

20. "Lands" are the agricultural lands in the context of the Law for the ownership and tenure of agricultural lands.

20a. (new – SG 94/07) "Site of Community importance" means a territory, in the biogeographical region or regions to which it belongs, contributes significantly to the maintenance or restoration at a favourable conservation status of a natural habitat type in Annex I or of a species of Annex II and contributes significantly to the coherence of the network of protected zones referred to in Art. 3, and/or contributes significantly to the maintenance of biological diversity within the biogeographic region or regions concerned. For animal species ranging over wide areas, sites of Community importance shall correspond to the places within the natural range of such species which present the physical or biological factors essential to their existence.

21. "Zoo garden" is a permanent establishment where animals of wild species are kept for the purpose of showing them to the public during more than 7 days

throughout the year, with exception of circuses, pet shops and other establishments which do not show to the public a considerable number of animals or species.

22. "Export" is taking out of the customs territory of the Republic of Bulgaria of a specimen.

23. (amend. – SG 94/07) "Collection" is a collection of specimens of vegetation, animal and fungus species (including seeds or other reproductive materials), raised or stored in conditions controlled by man, and designated for scientific and educational purposes or for the purposes of preservation and restoration of the species.

24. "CORINE place" is a territory described by the standard international methodology of the Council of Europe "CORINE biological types".

25. "Landscape" is a territory whose specific appearance and elements have occurred as a result of actions and interactions between natural and/or human factors.

25a. (new – SG 88/05) "Innuite nations" shall be ethnic groups populating the border north territories of Canada, Alaska, Scandinavia and Siberia, known also as Eskimos, part of main living of which is the tulle hunting .

26. "Habitat of species" is the region determined by specific abiotic and biotic factors where these species are to be found permanently or temporarily in some of the stages of their life cycle.

26a. (new – SG 88/05) "Non-selective traps" shall be the step-, bait-, the pressing traps and the loops.

26b. (new – SG 88/05) "Museum" shall be a scientific and cultural-educational institution, established in accordance with the Law of the monuments of culture and the museums.

26c. (new – SG 88/05) "Mutation" shall be a natural or obtained through selection change of the characteristics of the individuals of a definite biological kind, upon which the colour of the form of body is changed.

26d. (new – SG 94/07) "Mycota" are all fungous species within a particular region.

27. "Organism" is every live body consisting of coordinated active organs and existing independently. The organism is an individual of a population of individual species.

28. "Ornithological important place" is a territory of international importance for preservation of the birds, described by the standard international methodology of Bird Life International.

28a. (new – SG 52/07) "Plans, programmes and investment offers" are the plans, programmes and investment offers and their extensions and amendments within the meaning of the Law of Preservation of Environment.

29. "Population" is a territorially separated combination of individuals of the same species which can freely exchange genetic material.

30. "Potentially endangered species" are those for which the latest transition to the category of the endangered species is possible, if the factors causing the danger continue to exist.

31. "Natural habitat" are the natural or close to the natural land or aquatic regions characterised by a characteristic geographic, abiotic and biotic particularities giving them specific appearance.

31a. (new – SG 88/05) "Object of protected zones" shall be the natural habitats and the habitats of the species which shall be protected in the concrete protected zone.

31b. (new – SG 52/07) "Projects" are the forest development projects and other projects, with which are envisaged activities out of the scope of Appendix No 1 and 2 of the Law of Preservation of Environment.

31c. (new – SG 94.07) "Natural habitat types of Community interest" means those habitats of the European territory of the Member States, which, are in danger of disappearance in their natural range or have a small natural range following their regression or by reason of their intrinsically restricted are or present outstanding examples of typical characteristics of one or more of the nine following biogeographical regions: Alpine, Atlantic, Black-Sea, Boreal, Continental, Macronesian, Mediterranean, Panonian and Steppe.

32. "Primary public interest" is the one related to the public health, the national security, exceptionally favourable effect on the environment, as well as to specific publicly important obligations regarding transport, energy and communication systems.

33. "Ramsar place" is a humid area which meets the criteria of the Convention for the humid areas of international importance, especially as habitats of water abiding birds (Ramsar Convention) (SG 56/1992).

34. "Rare species" are those whose populations are small in number, scattered or dependant on specific factors and, if not directly, than indirectly is endangered or potentially endangered in the context of Item 19 and 30.

35. "Rescue centre" is a corporate body or individual appointed by the Minister of Environment and Waters caring for confiscated live specimens.

36. (amend. – SG 94/07) "Preservation" is all measures necessary for preservation or restoration of the natural habitats and populations of wild vegetation, animal and fungous species in favourable state.

36a. (new – SG 88/05) "World – wide endangered species" shall be species, included in the categories "disappeared in the nature", "critically endangered", "endangered" or "vulnerable" of the updated Red List of the International Union for Protection of the Nature.

37. "Tacson" is the general name of the classification units related to which are the sub-species, species and the higher units of the species level.

37a. (new – SG 94/07) "Third country" means a country, which is not a European Union Member State.

38. "Sustainable management" is a management of the using, development and preservation of the natural resources in a way and in degree enabling the present generations and habitations to provide social, economic and structural and cultural wealth without:

a) reducing the possibility for the future generations and cohabitations to satisfy social, economic and cultural needs;

b) violating the ability of the ecological systems to fulfil their soil protecting and climate regulating functions;

c) reducing considerably the biological diversity.

38a. (new – SG 88/05) "Tutorial collection" is a collection of compounds,

herbariums and stuff animals in schools, which shall serve education of pupils, students and PhD students.

39. "Fauna" are all species of animals in a definite region.

40. "Flora" are all species of plants in a definite region.

41. (new – SG 94/07) "Breeding and keeping centers for protected animal species" means a legal entity, holding a permit granted by the Minister of Environment and Waters for keeping and breeding protected animal species for the purposes of preservation and/or re-introduction into the nature.

Transitional and concluding provisions

§ 2. Within 4 years from the enactment of this law the Minister of Environment and Waters shall present to the Council of Ministers the list of Art. 10, Para 3.

§ 3. Within 6 months from the enactment of this law the Minister of Environment and Waters shall present to the Council of Ministers a draft ordinance of Art. 66, Para 6.

§ 4. Within one year from the enactment of this law all individuals and corporate bodies possessing specimens of species of Art. 70, Item 1 and 2, shall register them by the order of chapter four, section IV.

§ 5. Within one year from the enactment of this law all individuals and corporate bodies of Art. 60, Para 1 shall submit the necessary information for entry in the registers of Art. 63.

§ 6. Within one year from the enactment of this law the persons of Art. 96, Para 1 shall present the lists of Art. 96, Para 2.

§ 7. Within 4 years from the promulgation in the State Gazette of the ordinance of Art. 61, Para 1 the owners of zoo gardens shall be obliged to bring them in compliance with the requirements of the ordinance and to file applications for issuance of licence.

§ 8. (1) The buffer zones around reservations and maintained reservations, without those included in national parks declared by the order of the revoked Law for protection of the nature, shall retain their boundaries and regimes, unless they have been changed by the order of chapter two, section IV of this law.

(2) The buffer zones around reservations included in national parks shall be deleted by this law.

(3) The venerable trees declared protected by the order of the revoked Law for protection of the nature shall retain their regimes unless they are deleted by the

order of chapter five of this law.

§ 9. This law revokes the Law for protection of the nature.

§ 10. The following amendments are introduced to the Law for the hunting and preservation of the game in the Appendix to Art. 5, Para 2, Item 1 and Para 5:

1. Item 6. bear (*Ursus arctos* L.) is revoked.
2. Item 23. *Phalacrocorax carbo* L. is revoked.

§ 11. The following amendments and supplements are introduced to the Law for the protected territories:

1. The following amendments and supplements are introduced to Art. 17:
 - a) in Para 1, Item 5 the words "over 25 percent" are deleted;
 - b) added in Para 4 at the end is "and a positive decision of the National Council for Biological Diversity.

2. The following supplements are introduced to Art. 38:

- a) in Para 3, after the work "taken" is added "by a common majority";
- b) created are Para 4 and 5:

"(4) Members of the commission who do not agree with the taken decision for accepting the proposal and have signed the records with reserves shall motivate it in writing within 3 days. The reserves shall be attached to the records.

(5) In the cases of Para 4 the Minister of Environment and Waters shall take the final decision for declaring the protected territory or for rejection of the proposal."

3. In Art. 39, Para 1 the words "according to the proposal of the commission of Art. 38" are replaced by "upon positive decisions of Art. 38, Para 3 and 5".

4. Para 6 is created in Art. 42:

"(6) By an order according to Para 5 and without observing the procedures of Para 1 can be updated the area of the protected territory when the correction ensues from a more precise measuring and it is not related to a change of the determined boundaries of the protected territory."

5. Para 3 is created in Art. 67:

"(3) The guarding of individual reservations and maintained reservations outside the boundaries of the national parks can be conceded by the Minister of Environment and Waters to other bodies of the executive authority or to municipalities."

6. The following amendments are introduced to Art. 74:

- a) in Para 1, Item 1 and 4 are revoked;
- b) in Para 3 the words "approved by the Council of Ministers" are replaced by "determined by the Minister of Environment and Waters".

7. Art. 75 is revoked.

8. In Art. 79, Para 3, after the word "forestry" is added "and the directorates of natural parks".

9. Art. 86 is revoked.

10. In Appendix No 1 the fourth column of the table and the text after the table are deleted.

22. In Appendix No 2 the fourth column of the table is deleted.

§ 12. In the Law for the forests, in Art. 3, Para 2 at the end is added "except in the cases of Art. 67, Para 3 of the Law for the protected territories".

§ 13. (amend. – SG 64/07) The fulfilment of the law is assigned to the Minister of Environment and Waters, the Chairman of the State Agency of Forests, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Minister of Finance and the mayors of the municipalities.

The law was adopted by the 39th National Assembly on July 10, 2002 and on August 2, 2002 and was affixed with the official seal of the National Assembly.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW ON AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW ON THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

(PROM. - SG 88/05; AMEND. – SG 52/07)

§ 70. The prohibition for hunting with nets shall enter one year after this law enters in force.

§ 71. Paragraph 12 regarding Art. 31 shall enter in force from the date of the Agreement on accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union enters in force.

§ 72. (1) Till entering into force of §12 regarding Art. 31, at conduction of procedures of AIE of investment offers and of AE of plans and programmes as per the Law of Preservation of the Environment, concerning potential protected zones, about which at the Ministry of Environment and Waters documentation under Art. 8, Para 1 is submitted, the competent body may set also other specific requirements to the assigner regarding the range of information related with the subject and purposes of the respective protected zone.

(2) In the cases of Para 1, where the information regarding the degree of damaging of the potential protected zone is not sufficient or contradictive, the competent body under the Law of Preservation of the Environment shall terminate the procedure of AIE or EA, about which shall notify the assignor.

§ 73. (1) (prev. text of § 73 – SG 52/07) In the cases where the plan, the programme or the investment offer concern a territory, which has at the same time status of a protected territory under the Law of the protected territories and of protected zone under the Law of the Biological Diversity, Art. 31 shall be applied.

(2) (new – SG 52/07) In the cases referred to in Para1 coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Waters as per Art. 13, Para2 and Art. 66, Para2, Item 2 of the Law for the Protected Territories shall not be carried out.

§ 74. (revoked – SG 52/07)

§ 75. The prohibitions under Art. 38 regarding the species "Wild goat" and "European wild cat" shall enter in force from the date on which the Agreement on accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union enters in force.

§ 76. The prohibition to possess, transport, carry, exhibit at public places and exchange specimens under Art. 38, Para 1, Item 7 shall not be applied to the specimens obtained before this law enters in force, which are part of museum or tutorial collections.

(2) Exchange of specimens under Para 1 may be performed only between museums and scientific organizations or schools.

(3) The specimens under Para 1, as well as the newly obtained specimens shall be marked and kept under report in the respective museum, scientific organization or school.

§ 77. The ordinance under Art. 31, Para 1 shall be issued within one year from this law enters in force.

§ 78. (1) Within one year from this law enters in force, all the buffer zones, announced under the Law of the Biological Diversity and under the Law of Protection of the Nature shall be re-categorized as protected areas under the Law of the Protected Territories and shall save their range, borders and regimes. The re-categorization shall be executed by an order of the Minister of Environment and Waters without coordination under Art. 42, Para 2 of the Law of the Protected Territories.

(2) Till the re-categorization under Para 1, for breaches of the regimes of the buffer zones, the offenders shall be punished under the Law of the Protected Territories.

(3) The procedures of announcement of new buffer zones, which are not finished to the date this law enters in force, shall be finished under the order of Chapter Three of the Law of the Protected Territories and the objects shall be announced as protected areas.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE TAX-INSURANCE PROCEDURE CODE

(PROM. – SG 105/05, IN FORCE FROM 01.01.2006)

§ 88. The code shall enter in force from the 1st of January 2006, except Art. 179, Para 3, Art. 183, Para 9, § 10, Item 1, letter "e" and Item 4, letter "c", § 11, Item 1, letter "b" and § 14, Item 12 of the transitional and concluding provisions which shall enter in force from the day of promulgation of the code in the State Gazette.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE CODE

(PROM. – SG 30/06, IN FORCE FROM 12.07.2006)

§ 142. The code shall enter into force three months after its promulgation in State Gazette, with the exception of:

1. division three, § 2, Item 1 and § 2, Item 2 – with regards to the repeal of chapter third, section II "Appeal by court order", § 9, Item 1 and 2, § 15 and § 44, Item 1 and 2, § 51, Item 1, § 53, Item 1, § 61, Item 1, § 66, Item 3, § 76, items 1 – 3, § 78, § 79, § 83, Item 1, § 84, Item 1 and 2, § 89, items 1 - 4 § 101, Item 1, § 102, Item 1, § 107, § 117, items 1 and 2, § 125, § 128, items 1 and 2, § 132, Item 2 and § 136, Item 1, as well as § 34, § 35, Item 2, § 43, Item 2, § 62, Item 1, § 66, items 2 and 4, § 97, Item 2 and § 125, Item 1 – with regard to the replacement of the word "the regional" with the "administrative" and the replacement of the word "the Sofia City Court" with "the Administrative court - Sofia", which shall enter into force from the 1st of May 2007;
2. paragraph 120, which shall enter into force from the 1st of January 2007;
3. paragraph 3, which shall enter into force from the day of the promulgation of the code in State Gazette.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW OF THE COMMERCIAL REGISTER

(PROM. – SG 34/06, IN FORCE FROM 01.10.2006)

§ 56. This law shall enter into force from the 1st of October, with the exception of § 2 and § 3, which shall enter into force from the day of the promulgation of the law in State Gazette.

Transitional provisions

TO THE LAW ON AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENT OF THE LAW ON THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

(PROM. – SG 52/07)

§ 14. (1) The assessment as per Art. 31 shall also apply to plans, programmes, projects and investment offers, which by the moment of entry into force of this Law have not been approved according to the procedures laid down in a special law or by-law, on the basis of which they are being developed, or they have been approved, but have not entered into force, regardless whether they fall within the scope of the Law of Preservation of Environment and whether procedure of assessment of the influence on the environment or of ecological assessment pursuant to Chapter Six of the Law of Preservation of Environment has been completed or has started with

regard to them.

(2) The assessment as per Art. 31 shall not be implemented in case § 72 of the Law on Amendment and Supplementation of the Law on the Biological Diversity (SG 88/05) has not been applied with regard to the plans, programmes, projects and investment offers.

(3) In the cases referred to in Para1 where a procedure of assessment of the influence on the environment has been carried out and there is a decision entered into force or a procedure for ecological assessment with a decision which has entered into force pursuant to Chapter Six of the Law of Preservation of Environment, the assessment as per Art. 31 shall be carried out according to Art. 31, Para5.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW FOR AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW FOR THE FORESTS

(PROM. – SG 64/07)

§ 30. In the Law for the biological diversity (prom. – SG 77/02; amend. – SG 88 and 105/05; SG 29, 30 and 34/06; SG 52/07) the following amendments and supplements shall be introduced:

.....

6. Everywhere in the law the words:

a) "the head of the National Forests Department" shall be replaced with "the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry"

b) "the National Forests Department" shall be replaced with "the State Agency of Forestry";

c) "the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry" and "the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry" shall be replaced respectively with "the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry" and "the Chairman of the State Agency of Forestry".

Additional provisions TO THE LAW ON AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW ON THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

(PROM. - SG 94/07)

§ 68. This Law shall introduce the provisions of Directive 92/43/EEC of the Council on the conservation of natural habitats of wild flora and fauna, Directive 79/409/EEC of the Council on the conservation of wild birds and Directive 2006/105/EC of the Council, adapting Directives 73/239/EEC, 74/557/EEC and 2002/83/EC in the field of environment by reason of the accession of Bulgaria and Romania.

§ 69. Everywhere in this Law the words "authorized" shall be replaced with

"accredited", and the words "Ministry of Agriculture and Forests" and the "Minister of Agriculture and Forests" shall be replaced respectively with "Ministry of Agriculture and Food Supply" and "Minister of Agriculture and Food Supply".

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW ON AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW ON THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

(PROM. - SG 94/07)

§ 70. Within one year after the enforcement of this Law the owners of hunter's trophies of a wild goat and a wild cat, acquired prior to entering into force of restrictions under Art. 38, shall announce them in the respective regional inspection office of environment and waters. Trophies of a wild cat shall be registered following the procedure of Art. 91.

§ 71. Within one year after the enforcement of this Law the owners of Vipera ammodytes farms shall announce the available quantities in the respective regional inspection office of environment and waters. The available quantities shall be deemed legally acquired.

§ 72. The prohibition of usage of lead shots in wet zones shall enter into force from 1 June 2008.

Transitional and concluding provisions TO THE LAW ON AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW FOR THE FORESTS

(PROM. - SG 43/08)

§ 78. Everywhere in the Law for the biological diversity (prom. – SG 77/02; amend. – SG 88 and 105/05, SG 29, 30, 34 and 80/06, SG 52, 53, 64 and 94/07) the words "departments of", "floristries" and "state game-breeding stations" shall be replaced respectively with "directorates of", "forests management" and "state game husbandry".

The code in column 1 corresponds to the symbol of the type habitat in Appendix 1 of Directive 92/43/EEC.

(amend. – SG 94/07)

The sign "*" in column 2 denotes priority types of natural habitats to be preserved.

The name in column 3 corresponds to the name of the type of habitat in Appendix 1 of Directive 92/43/EEC.

Code of Directive 92/43/EEC(1)	Pri-ori-ty	Name
1	2	3
1110		Permanently covered by sea water sand and mud flats
1130		Estuaries
1140		Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide
1150	*	Coastal lagoons
1160		Vast shallow bays
1170		Communities with brown, red and green algae on rock sea bottoms (Reefs)
1210		Annual vegetation on sea coastal alluvium
1240		Steep sea cliffs overgrown with endemic species <i>Limonium</i>
1310		<i>Salicornia</i> and other annual plants colonizing mud and sand terrains
1340	*	Inland salt meadows
1410		Mediterranean salt meadows
1530	*	Panonian salt steppes and salt marshes
2110		Emerging moving dunes
2120		Moving dunes with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> on the coastal strip (white dunes)
2130	*	Immovable coastal dunes with grass vegetation (grey dunes)
2180		Afforested dunes
2190		Humid dune-slacks
2340	*	Pannonic inland dunes
3130		Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i>
3140		Hard oligitrophic to mesotrophic waters with benthos formations of <i>Chara</i>
3150		Natural eutrophic lakes with vegetation of type <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i>
3160		Natural dystrophic lakes
3260		Flatland or mountain rivers with vegetation of <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i>
3270		Rivers with mud banks with <i>Chenopodium rubri</i> and <i>Bidention p.p.</i>
4030		European dry ericoid communities
4060		Alpine and boreal ericoid communities
4070	*	Bush communities with <i>Pinus mugo</i>
4080		Sub-arctic bushes of <i>Salix spp.</i>
4090		Endemic oro-mediterranean communities of spinescent low

bushes

40A0	*	Sub-continental peri-Pannonic bush communities
40B0		Rhodope communities of <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>
40C0	*	Pontic-sarmat deciduous bushes
5130		Communities of <i>Juniperus communis</i> on limestone
5210		Bushes with <i>Juniperus</i> spp.
6110	*	Open calcifilic or basifilic grass communities of <i>Alyso-Sedion albi</i>
6150		Silicate Alpine and boreal grass communities
6170		Alpine and sub-Alpine limestone grass communities
6210		Semi-natural dry grass and bush communities on limestone (<i>Festuco Brometalia</i>) (*important habitats of orchids)
6220	*	Pseudo-steppes with grain and annual plants of class Thero Brachypodietea
6230	*	Sub-Pannonic steppe grass communities
6240	*	Pannonic loess steppe grass communities
6250	*	Pannonic sand steppes
6260	*	Pannonic sand steppes
62C0	*	Ponto-Sarmatic steppes
62A0		East sub-Mediterranean grass communities
62D0		Oro-moesic acidophilic grass communities
6410		Meadows with <i>Molinia</i> on carbonate, turf or clay soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)
6420		Mediterranean humid communities of high grasses <i>Molinio-Holoschoenion</i>
6430		Hydrophilic communities of high grasses in planes and in the mountain to Alpine belt
6440		Alluvial meadows of community <i>Cnidion dubii</i> in river valleys
6510		Lowland haymaking meadows
6520		Mountain haymaking meadows
7140		Transitional marshes and sailing movable peat bogs
7210	*	Carbonate marshes with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of community <i>Caricion davallianae</i>
7220	*	Springs with hard water with tuff formations (<i>Cratoneurion</i>)
7230		Alkaline swamps
8110		Silicate talus from mountain to snow belt
8120		Talus on lime terrains and calcium schists in high mountains
8210		Hasmophitic vegetation on limestone rock slopes
8220		Hasmophitic vegetation on silicate rock slopes
8230		Silicate rocks with pioneer vegetation of communities <i>Sedo-Scleranthion</i> or <i>Sedo albi-Veronicion dillenii</i>
8310		Undeveloped caves
8330		Subaquatic or partially subaquatic sea caves
9110		Beech forests of type <i>Luzulo-Fagetum</i>

9130		Beech forests of type Asperulo-Fagetum
9150		Thermophilic beech forests (Cephalanthero-Fagion)
9170		Oak-hornbeam forests of type Galio-Carpinetum
9180	*	Mixed forests of community Tilio-Acerion on talus and steep slopes
91D0	*	Marsh forests
91E0	*	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Pandion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)
91F0		Riverside mixed forests of <i>Quercus robur</i> , <i>Ulmus laevis</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> or <i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i> by big rivers (Ulmenion minoris)
91G0	*	Pannonic forests with <i>Quercus petraea</i> and <i>Carpinus betulus</i>
91H0	*	Pannonic forests with <i>Quercus pubescens</i>
91I0	*	Euro-Siberian steppe forests with <i>Quercus</i> spp.
91J0		Balkan – Pannonic hornbeam – durmast forests
91S0	*	West – Pontic beech forests
91W0		Moesian beech forests
91Z0		Moesian silver lime forests
91AA	*	East <i>Quercus pubescens</i> forests
91BA		Moesian fir forests
91CA		Rila-Rhodope and Balkanic wild pine forests
9260		Forests of <i>Castanea sativa</i>
9270		Hellenic beech forests with <i>Abies borisii-regis</i>
92A0		Riverside galleries of <i>Salix alba</i> and <i>Populus alba</i>
92C0		Forests of <i>Platanus orientalis</i>
92D0		Southern riparian galleries and thickets (Nerio-Tamaricetea and Securinegion tinctoriae)
9410		Acidophilic forests of <i>Picea</i> in mountain to Alpine belt (Vaccinio-Piceetea)
9530	*	Sub-Mediterranean pine forests with endemic subspecies of Austrian Pine
9560	*	Endemic forests of <i>Juniperus</i> spp.
95A0		Forests of white and lack fir

(*1) Corresponding to the code of Nature 2000

(amend. – SG 94/07)

The sign "!" before the name of species denotes that the species are included in the Appendix to Resolution No 6 (1998) of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention. The sign "*" before the name of species denotes that the species require priority preservation of its habitat.

The abbreviation "spp." designates all the species belonging to that taxon available in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

!	Äèàà êîçà	Rupicapra rupicapra balcanica
	ÊËÑ ÌÒÈÖÈ	AVES
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÌÓÐÈÀ×ÌÌÄÌÁÌÈ	GAVIIFORMES
	Ñài. Äìóðèà÷ìè	Gaviidae
	×äðääíäóø äìóðèà÷	Gavia stellata
	×äðíäóø äìóðèà÷	Gavia arctica
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÌÓÐÄÖÌÌÄÌÁÌÈ	PODICIPEDIFORMES
	Ñài. Äìóðöìè	Podicipedidae
	Óøàð äìóðäö	Podiceps auritus
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÌÄËËÄÌÌÌÄÌÁÌÈ	PELECANIFORMES
	Ñài. Êîðìðäííè	Phalacrocoracidae
!	Ìæéúê êîðìðäí	Phalacrocorax pygmeus
!	Ñðääáí êîðìðäí	Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii
	Ñài. Ìæèèèäííè	Pelecanidae
!	Éúäðìæèä ìæèèèäí	Pelecanus crispus
!	Ðìçîä ìæèèèäí	Pelecanus onocrotalus
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÙÚÐÈÄËÌÌÄÌÁÌÈ	CICONIIFORMES
	Ñài. ×àìèèèè	Ardeidae
!	Äðèääñòà ÷àìèè	Ardeola ralloides
!	Ðúæèèèè ÷àìèè	Ardea purpurea
!	Äìèÿì äìääí àèè	Botaurus stellaris
!	Äìèÿìä áÿèà ÷àìèè	Egretta alba
!	Ìæèèè áÿèà ÷àìèè	Egretta garzetta
!	Ìæéúê äìääí àèè	Ixobrychus minutus
!	Ìñúìà ÷àìèè	Nycticorax nycticorax
	Ñài. Ùúðèèèèèè	Ciconiidae
!	Áÿè ùúðèèèè	Ciconia ciconia
!	×äðäí ùúðèèèè	Ciconia nigra
	Ñài. Èæèñíèè	Threskiornithidae
!	Áÿèè èñíàðäðèè	Platalea leucorodia
!	Áèääñòÿù èæèñ	Plegadis falcinellus
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÙÑÈÌÌÄÌÁÌÈ	ANSERIFORMES
	Ñài. Ìàðèèèèèè	Anatidae
!	Ìæèèè äáèí÷èèè äúñèè	Anser erythropus
!	Äáèñíèè ñðàííèèèè	Aythya nyroca
!	×äðääíäóøà äúñèè	Branta ruficollis
!	Òóíäðíà èääää	Cygnus bewickii (Cygnus columbianus bewickii)
!	Ìíáí èääää	Cygnus cygnus
!	Ìæéúê íèðäö	Mergus albellus
!	Òðúííííäøàðà ìàðèèèè	Oxyura leucocephala
!	Ðúæèèè äíáú÷	Òadorna ferruginea
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÑÌÈÌÈÌÌÄÌÁÌÈ	FALCONIFORMES
	Ñài. Ìðèèè ðèääàðè	Pandionidae
!	Ìðæèè ðèääàð	Pandion haliaetus
	Ñài. ßñòðäáííèè	Accipitridae

	Ñài. Íòðíáíèèè Íñòðííóóóíáñòà òñíéíèèà	Viperidae Vipera ursinii
	Ñài. Ñííéíáà	Colubridae
!	Ëàíñàðáíà ñííé	Elaphe situla (Zamenis situla)
!	Èàè÷àño ñííé	Elaphe quatuorlineata
!	Íúñòúð ñííé	Elaphe sauromates
	ÊËÑ ÇÁÍÍÁÍÁË	AMPHIBIA
	ÐÀÇÐÁÄ ÌÀØÀÒÈ	CAUDATA
	Ñài. Ñàèàíáíáðíàè	Salamandridae
!	Ãðááíáñò òðèòíí	Triturus cristatus (T. cristatus cristatus)
	Äíáðóæáíñèè òðèòíí	Triturus dobrogicus (T. cristatus dobrogicus)
	Ãíëÿì ãðááíáñò òðèòíí	Triturus karelinii (T. cristatus karelinii)
	ÐÀÇÐÁÄ ÁÀÇÏÁØÀÒÈ	ANURA
	Ñài. Áóíèè	Discoglossidae
!	×áðáííéíðáíá áóíèà	Bombina bombina
!	Æúèòíéíðáíá áóíèà	Bombina variegata
	ÊËÑ ÐÈÁÈ	PISCES
	ÐÀÇÐÁÄ ÌÈÍÁÈ	PETROMYZONIFORMES
	Ñài. Ìéíáíàè	Petromyzonidae
	Ìéíàè	Eudontomyzon spp.
	ÐÀÇÐÁÄ ÙÓÈÍÍÁÍÁË	ESOCIFORMES
	Ñài. Óíáðíàè	Umbridae
	Óíáðà	Umbra krameri
	ÐÀÇÐÁÄ ØÀÐÁÍÍÁÍÁË	CYPRINIFORMES
	Ñài. Øàðáíàè	Cyprinidae
!	Ðàñíáð	Aspius aspius
	×áðíá (Áàèèáíñèà) ìðÿíá	Barbus meridionalis petenyi
	Ðàçíáñèà (Ìðèíðñèà) ìðÿíá	Barbus tauricus (Barbus plebejus tauricus)
	Ìàðèèèà ìðÿíá	Barbus cyclolepis (Barbus cyclolepis tauricus)
	Óèèáé (Áðèÿíá, Íáèç)	Chalcalburnus chalcoides
!	Áàèíáðà èðíòóèèà	Romanogobio albipinatus (Gobio albipinatus)
!	Áàèèáíñèà èðíòóèèà	Romanogobio uranoscopus (Gobio uranoscopus)
!	Áàðíáéñèà ãíð÷èèèà	Rhodeus amarus (Rhodeus sericeus amarus)
	Ìèáíéíñèè èáðàè	Leuciscus souffia
	Ñááèòà	Pelecus cultratus
	Ñài. Áèíáíàè	Cobitidae
	Ãíëÿì ùèñé	Cobitis elongata
	Ùèñé (Íáèèíááí ùèñé, Çìèð÷á, Ìèñèàè)	Cobitis elongatoides (Cobitis taenia elongatoides)
	Ñòðóíñèè ùèñé	Cobitis strumicae (Cobitis taenia)

		strumicae)
!	Άερί	Misgurnus fossilis
!	Άαεαίηεε ùεήε (Ēēēóóð, Ēēíáóð)	Sabanejewia balcanica (Sabanejewia aurata balcanica)
	Άοίαηεε (Áúēāðñēē) ùεήε	Sabanejewia bulgarica (Sabanejewia aurata bulgarica)
	ÐÀÇÐÃÄÄ ÊÎÑÓÓÐÎÎÎÃÎÃÎÊ	PERCIFORMES
	Ñâì. Êîñóóðîãē	Percidae
	Âēñîēîòãē áéááí	Gymnocephalus baloni
!	Êâē÷ãñò áéááí	Gymnocephalus schraetzer
!	Ãðãóáíàðēà	Zingel spp.
	ÐÀÇÐÃÄÄ ÑÃĒÃÎÎÎÃÎÃÎÊ	CLUPEIFORMES
	Ñâì. Ñãēãíãē	Clupeidae
	Ñéóíðēē	Alosa spp.
	ÐÀÇÐÃÄÄ ÑĒÎÐÎĒÃÎÎÎÃÎÃÎÊ	SCORPAENIFORMES
	Ñâì. Ãēãâî÷ē	Cottidae
!	Ãēãâî÷ē	Cottus gobio
	2. ÁÃÇÃÐÚÃÍÃ×ÎÊ	2. INVERTEBRATES
	ÒĒÎ ×ĒÃÍÃÑÓÎÎÎÃĒ	ARTHRODOPA
	ĒĒÃÑ ÐÃĒÎÃÐÃÇÎÊ	CRUSTACEA
	ÐÀÇÐÃÄÄ ÃÃÑÃÓÎÎÎÃĒ	DECAPODA
	ÐÃĒÎÃÐÃÇÎÊ	
	Ñâì. Ñēããēíãíãíē ðããē ðãõē	Astacidae
*	Ðó÷ãáí ðãē	Austropotamobius torrentium
	ĒĒÃÑ ÎÃÑÃĒÎĒ	INSECTA
	ÐÀÇÐÃÄÄ ÃÎÃÎÊ ÊÎÎ×ÃÓÀ	ODONATA
	Ñâì. Óãíããðēíēãē	Coenagrionidae
	Óãíããðēí	Coenagrion mercuriale
	Óãíããðēí	Coenagrion ornatum
	Ñâì. Ãîîðēãē	Gomphidae
	Îóēîîóóñ	Ophiogomphus cecilia
	Ñâì. Êîðãóēãããñòðēãē	Cordulegastridae
	Êîðãóēãããñòðãð	Cordulegaster heros
	Ñâì. Êíãēē÷ēē, ēēããóóēēãē	Libellulidae
	Ēãóēîðēíēÿ	Leucorrhinia pectoralis
	ÐÀÇÐÃÄÄ ÎÐÃÃÎÊÐĒĒĒ	ORTHOPTERA
	Ñâì. Êãòãíóñēãē	Catantopidae
	Îãíóññãēçíã	Odontopodisma rubripes
	Îãēñíãáí ðãðãēãēñòãíóñ	Paracaloptenus caloptenoides
	ÐÀÇÐÃÄÄ ÓÃÚÐÃÎĒĒĒĒ	COLEOPTERA
	Ñâì. Óðóñÿãē	Geotrupidae
		Bolbelasmus uniconis
	Ñâì. Ðēñíãēãē	Rhysodidae
	Ðēñíããñ	Rhysodes sulcatus
	Ñâì. Áðúíããðē áããã÷ē	Carabidae
	Ēãðãáóñ	Carabus hungaricus

	Êàðàáóñ	Carabus variolosus
	Áðúíáúð ðíãà÷	Lucanus cervus
*	Àẽĩeéñèà ðíçàèèÿ	Rosalia alpina
	Ñài. Èèñòíðíãè, òíðíè áðúíááðè	Scarabaeidae
*	Îñííááðíà	Osmoderma eremite
	Ñài. Ñã÷èíâòè	Cerambycidae
	Íáèèíááí ñã÷èí	Cerambyx cerdo
	Áóèíâ ñã÷èí	Morimus funereus
<hr/>		
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÄÄÄÓÄÈ	LEPIDOPTERA
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	*	Arctiidae
	Ñài. Áãÿíèè	Callimorpha quadripunctaria
	Æúèòóøèà	Pieridae
	Ëäíðèääà	Colias myrmidone
	Ñài. Ñèíáâèè	Leptidea morsei
	Ëèöáíà	Lycaenidae
	Ìàéóèèíáà	Lycaena dispar
	Îíèèíàðóñ	Maculinea nausithous
	Ñài. Íñííóááðíèèè	Polyommatus eroides
	Ñàðèð÷á	Nymphalidae
	Áóðèäðèãñ	Coenonympha oedipus
	Õèäðèãñ	Euphydryas aurinia
		Hypodryas maturna (Euphydryas maturna)
*	Áÿèí-v	Nymphalis vaualbum
	Ñài. Èàçèíèàííèèè	Lasiocampidae
	Òíðáíííáçáíèèè	Eriogaster catax
	Ñài. Íääííáðèè	Geometriade
	Ëèáíèíóáðà	Lignyoptera fumidaria
	Ñài. Ííúíè íáíáðóáè	Noctuidae
		Dioszeghyana schmidtii
<hr/>		
	ÒÈÌ ÍÄÈÌÓÄÈÈ	MOLLUSCA
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	ÊÈÄÑ ÎÕËÐÄÈ	GASTROPODA
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	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÐÄÄÍÈ ÄÄÑÒÐÍÍÄÈ	ARCHAEOGASTROPODA
	Ñài. Íáðèèèèèè	Neritidae
	Èàè÷ãñ òáíáíèñóñ	Theodoxus transversalis
<hr/>		
	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÍÄÈ ÄÄÈÌÄÐÍÄÈ	BASOMMATOPHORA
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	ÎÕËÐÄÈ	
	Ñài. Íèáííðáèèè	Planorbidae
	Àíèçóñ	Anisus vorticulus
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	ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÑÓÕÌÇÄÍÈ ÎÕËÐÄÈ	STYLOMMATOPHORA
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	Ñài. Áãðèèèèèèèèè	Vertiginidae
	Áãðèèè	Vertigo moulinsiona
	Áãðèèè	Vertigo angustior
	ÊÈÄÑ ÌÈÄÈ	BIVALVIA
	Ñài. Áèñáðíèè èèèè	Unionoidae
!	* Áèñáðíà èèèè	Unio crassus

3. ĐÀÑÒÁÍÈß	3. PLANTES
ÎÒÄÄË ÌÄÏÐÀÓÍÄÈÄÏÈ	POLYPODIOPHYTA (PTERIDOPHYTA)
Ñài. Đàçêíáíè÷âê ! ×àòèðèèñòí ðàçêíáíè÷â	Marsileaceae Marsilea quadrifolia
ÎÒÄÄË ÏËÐÈÒÏÑÀÌÁÍÈ	MAGNOLOPHYTA (ANGIOSPERMAE)
Ñài. Èààáíèòíàè	Alismataceae
! Ìàðíàñèààà èàèààçèÿ Ñài. Ñëíæíîââòíè Èìíóáíèàà ìàèè÷èà Bíèààà ìàèè÷èà	Caldesia parnassifolia Asteraceae (Compositae) Centaurea immanuelis- loewii Centaurea jankae
! Ñèàèðñèè àèà òòòí Ñài. Æðàíàíèèñòíè ×àðàáíí òñíèè÷â	Ligularia sibirica Boraginaceae Echium russicum
Ñài. Êðóíòíòáàòíè Òàðàðñèè àèá çàèà Ñài. Èàðàìðèèíàè	Brassicaceae (Cruciferae) Crambe tataria Caryophyllaceae
Bíèààà èóÿàè Ñài. Ìñðèèòíàè	Moehringia jankae Cyperaceae
! Èàðíèèñèà ìàèèòà Ñài. Ðíÿíèíàè	Eleocharis carniolica Droseraceae
! Æèàçèñòà àèðíàíàà Ñài. Ìàðóíèèíàè	Aldrovanda vesiculosa Iridaceae
Áèàòí ìàèèóíáí ìàðí Ñài. Ñàèáíàè	Gladiolus palustris Orchidaceae
! Áàíáðèí ìàíòí÷â Èàèíèèèàà ààèðèèðèçà Ìàèèíààíà ìá÷-íàèà	Cypripedium calceolus Dactylorhiza kalopissii Himantoglossum caprinum (H. hircinum)
! Èúíçàèíà èèìàðèñ Ñài. Ðíçíòáàòíè	Liparis loeselii Rosaceae
! Áíèèèñíáí ìðíçíð÷â Ñài. Æèàáíè÷âê	Potentilla emili-popii Scrophulariaceae
Èàðíàðñèà òíèèÿ Ñài. Òàíáíóáíàè	Tozzia alpina ssp. carpatica (T. carpatica) Violaceae
Äúèáíððàñòà òàíáíóàà	Viola delphinantha
ÏÓÓÄÄ	
ÎÒÄÄË ÈÈÑÓÍÄÓÈ ÏÓÓÄÄ	BRYOPHYTA
!	Buxbaumia viridis
!	Dicranum viride Hamatocaulis (Drepanocladus)vernicosus Leocobrium glaucum Meesia longiseta

(new – SG 94/07)

1. ÆÐÛÁÍÄ×ÍË	1. VERTEBRATES
ÏÖËÖË	AVES
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÅÛÑËÏÏÄÍÁÍË	ANSERIFORMES
Ñài. Ìàðèøíàè	Anatidae
Ãíëÿà ááëí-áèà ãññèà	Anser albifrons
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÑËÍÄËËÏÏÄÍÁÍË	CORACIIFORMES
Ñài. Ì-áëíÿáíàè	Ìeropidae
Ì-áëíÿà	Merops apiaster
2. ÐÄÑÒÄÍË	2. PLANTES
ÎÖÄÄË ÏËÐËÒÏÑÄÍÁÍË	MAGNOLOPHYTA (ANGIOSPERMAE)
Ñài. Ëíáíáíàè	Chenopodiaceae
Äèàèíáñà àáñëÿ	Bassia hirsuta
Ñài. Ìñððèøíàè	Cyperaceae
Áóèñáàóíèááà Ìñððèøà	Carex buxbaumii
Äáóðááíà Ìñððèøà	Carex disticha
Óóðáñà Ìñððèøà	Carex elata
Ðúæäèà Ìñððèøà	Carex ferruginea
Óùííèàðÿà Ìñððèøà	Carex fuliginosa
Õàðòíàíèááà Ìñððèøà	Carex hartmanii
Òèíáñà Ìñððèøà	Carex limosa
Ïèðèíèà Ìñððèøà	Carex pirinensis
Áðáááè-áñà Ìñððèøà	Carex punctata
Ñèàèíà Ìñððèøà	Carex rupestris
Ðáæàù èèáèøí	Cladium mariscus
Ìèðáèíà àèðíðèèèñ	Dichostylis mishelianus
Ïèááíàè èçíèáíèñ	Isolepis supina
Ááèàðáèááà èíáðáçèÿ	Kobresia myosuroides (Elyna bellardii)
Ëðàéáðáèáí ñðèðíõ	Scirpus litoralis (Schoenoplectus litoralis)
Òðèðúááñò ñðèðíõ	Scirpus triqueter
Ñài. Íáíáíèèíàè	Elatinaceae
Ïðáèáíèèñòáí íáíáíèèè	Älatine alsinastrum
Òðèèè-èíèíà íáíáíèèè	Elatine triandra
Ñài. Áíáíàè	Fabaceae (Leguminosae)
Æúèð ðááèçàðóí	Hedysarum grandiflorum
×áðááí ðááèçàðóí	Hedysarum tauricum
Ááííòááòíà èíííèà ñáèíàà	Hippocrepis unisiliquosa
Äèíèèíè ñáèèð-á	Lathyrus alpestris
Ïèáíèíè ñáèèð-á	Lathyrus montanus

Áèàòíí ñâêèð÷à
Ïáí÷è÷ââí ñâêèð÷à
Ñèàéíí ñâêèð÷à
Òðáíñèèâáíñèí ñâêèð÷à
Ðæíà èàùà
Áèàòáí çââçâáí
Áÿèà éóíèíà
Êàðñòíàà èðòáðíà
Êðàéáðâæíà èðòáðíà
Ðíáíñèèà èðòáðíà
Óðóííà íèñèððíèñ
Êíæóðáðíà íèñèððíèñ
Òàòðááíííèíáóñ
Ñòðáííæáíñèèà äàòáèèà
Òèíòáéèíà ààòáèèà
Ìáòóðáñòà ààòáèèà
Ðóáéííà ààòáèèà
Îñòðíèèááí ñíèíáóð
Êààèàçèà ààòáèèà
Êúñíçúáà ààòáèèà
Ðàçíðáííçúáà ààòáèèà
Ðèñèèà àèóèèà
Ïáçáííà àèóèèà
Îññ÷áííèñòíà àèóèèà
Ñàí. Áóéíàè
Ñòðáííæáíñèèà áúá
Ñàí. Áçóéíàè
Æàááèèà äçóèà
Ðàçíðáííà ñâòèèèèà
Ñàí. Ñàèáíàè
Ðááèíòáòáí ñàèáí
Ñàí. Æèòíè
Êà÷óèàðí àèáí æèòí
Êíèáí÷àòí àèáí æèòí
Ìàðèáðáòííà àèáí æèòí
Êðàéáðâæáí àèóðííóñ
Òðàèèèèèèà èèáñèòà
Ïðáèúñíàòà ààòðóèèà
Áàðíèèèà íáñèèà
Ìèçèèèèà íáñèèà
Ìàðèèèèà íáñèèà
Ñú÷èáíáí èíðèíáòíðóñ
Áúñòíòáòáí ðèðáé
Ïèðèíèèà àèáñàòèèà
Ïàðáíòðèçáòóí
Ìàðèèèèèèíí

Lathyrus palustris
Lathyrus pancicii
Lathyrus saxatilis
Lathyrus transsylvanicus
Lens ervoides
Lotus uliginosus
Lupinus albus
Medicago carstiensis
Medicago littoralis
Medicago rhodopaea
Oxytropis urumovii
Oxytropis kozhuharovii
Tetragonolobus maritimus
Trifolium ligusticum
Trifolium phleoides
Trifolium physodes
Trifolium rubens
Trigonella spicata
Trifolium spumosum
Trifolium squamosum
Trifolium squarrosum
Vicia abbreviata
Vicia amphicarpa
Vicia truncatulla
Fagaceae
Quercus hartwissiana
Juncaceae
Juncus ranarius
Luzula deflexa
Orchidaceae
Orchis laxiflora
Poaceae (Gramineae)
Aegilops comosa
Aegilops geniculata (A. lorentii)
Aegilops markgrafii (A. dichasians)
Aeluropus littoralis
Alopecurus thracicus
Apera interrupta
Bromus lanceolatus
Bromus moesiacus
Bromus parilicus
Corynephorus divaricatus
Elymus picnanthus (Agropyron litorale)
Festuca pirinica
Parvotrisetum myrianthum
Perydiction sanctum (Brachypodium)

Àéóîñèà èèààèíà	sanctum)
Éíðááííàà èèààèíà	Poa aitosis
Îí÷óðíà èèààèíà	Poa jordanovii
Ïèðéíñèà èèààèíà	Poa palustris
Ðíáíññèà àèàà ðúæ	Poa pirinica
Êíðááñèà áúæàà	Secale rhodopaeum
Ñáèò íâññâð	Sesleria korabensis (S. klusterskii)
Òàðñèà òðááà	Danthoniastrum compactum
Èçàèò ìððàðíèèñ	Imperata cylindrica
2. ÅÚÅÈ	Parapholis incurva
Polyporaceae	2. MYCOTA
Ñáááðáí àèèíðèèñ	Amylocystis lapponica
Boletaceae	
Êúðááí÷áðáíà ìáíàððèà	Boletus dupainii
Âæè÷áñðááíà ìáíàððèà	Boletus permagnificus
Ðíçíáíáÿèà ìáíàððèà	Boletus roseoalbidus
Íáèéíááí òèèíððñ	Phylloporus pelletieri
Tricholomataceae	
Òàðñèà èàòàòáèàçà	Catathelasma imperiale
Òðèòááðáí èáóéííàèñèèñ	Leucopaxillus compactus
Clathraceae	
Àð÷áðíà èèàððñ	Clathrus archeri
Cortinariaceae	
Ïðááúçðíááí ìáÿæèíèè	Cortinarius praestans
Suillaceae	
Ñèáèðñèà ìáñèíâèà	Suillus sibiricus
ÏÙÕÌÁÁ	
ÌÒÄÄÈ ÈÈÑÒÌÀÒÈ ÌÙÕÌÁÁ	BRYOPHYTA
	Leucobrium glaucum
	Sphagnum spp.

The sign "(I)" indicates that the provisions of Art. 70, Item 1 "b" regard the species.

(amend. SG 88/05; amend. – SG 94/07)

1. ÅÐÚÁÍÁ×ÌÈ	1. VERTEBRATES
ÁÌÇÀÈÌÈÒÈ	MAMMALIA
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÌÁÑÄÈÌÌßÁÌÈ	INSECTIVORA
Ñáì. Òàðàèææè	Erinaceidae
Òàðàèææè	Erinaceus concolor
Ñáì. Çáíáðíáèè	Soricidae
Àðððñèà çáíáðíâèà	Suncus etruscus

ḐÀÇḐĀĀ İḐÈÈĀİÈ

Ñài. İñæîâîîññè ïḑèèâîè
 Ñḑââèçâîîîîḑñèè ñæîâîîîñ
 Þæâî ñæîâîîîñ
 Āîeyî ñæîâîîîñ
 İæüé ñæîâîîîñ
 İñæîâîîîñ íà İâḑâèè
 Ñài. Áóèâîîâè ïḑèèâîè
 Áóèâîîâ ïḑèèâî
 Ñài. Āèâæîîîñè ïḑèèâîè
 Øèḑîéîḑḑ ïḑèèâî
 Ñâââḑâî ââ÷âḑîèè
 İñèóîñùâî ïḑèèâî
 Ñââèââî ïḑèèâî÷â
 Āúèâîèḑèè ïḑèèâî
 Àèèâḑîââ (ââèâîââḑâîâ) îñùîèè
 Çèâḑèñḑ îñùîèè
 Āúèâîḑḑ îñùîèè
 İñḑḑîḑḑ îñùîèè
 İñùîèè íà Áḑâîâḑ
 Āúèâîîḑḑñḑ îñùîèè
 Åçâḑâî îñùîèè
 Āîââî îñùîèè
 İḑñḑâèâḑ îñùîèè
 Øḑèḑââḑâî îñùîèè
 Āîeyî îñùîèè
 İñùîèè íà İâḑâḑâḑ
 Āîeyî ââ÷âḑîèè
 İæüé ââ÷âḑîèè
 Ḑúæâèâ ââ÷âḑîèè
 Èâḑyâî ïḑèèâî÷â
 İæèî èâḑyâî ïḑèèâî÷â
 İḑèèâî íà İâḑḑçèè
 Ñḑââèçâîîîîḑñèî ïḑèèâî÷â
 Èâḑyâ âúèâîḑḑ ïḑèèâî
 Ñèâ âúèâîḑḑ ïḑèèâî
 Āâḑḑââḑâî ïḑèèâî

CHIROPTERA

Rhinolophidae
 Rhinolophus blasii
 Rhinolophus euryale
 Rhinolophus ferrumequinum
 Rhinolophus hipposideros
 Rhinolophus mehelyi
 Molossidae
 Tadarida teniotis
 Vespertilionidae
 Barbastella barbastellus
 Eptesicus nilssoni
 Eptesicus serotinus
 Hypsugo savii
 Miniopterus schreibersi
 Myotis alcathoe
 Myotis aurescens
 Myotis bechsteini
 Myotis blythi
 Myotis brandti
 Myotis capaccinii
 Myotis dasycneme
 Myotis daubentoni
 Myotis mystacinus
 Myotis emarginatus
 Myotis myotis
 Myotis nattereri
 Nyctalus lasiopterus
 Nyctalus leisleri
 Nyctalus noctula
 Pipistrellus pipistrellus
 Pipistrellus pygmaeus
 Pipistrellus nathusii
 Pipistrellus kuhlii
 Plecotus auritus
 Plecotus austriacus
 Vespertilio murinus

ḐÀÇḐĀĀ ĀḐÈÇĀ×È

Ñài. Ñúíèèâḑè
 İèḑââèââî ñúíèèââḑ
 Èâḑîèèîâ ñúíèèââḑ
 Ñài. Ñèâ÷âùè ìèḑèè
 Ñèâ÷âùà (ñḑâîîâ) ìèḑèè
 Ñài. Øîîyḑè
 Āîâḑḑâæâîñèè (ñḑâââî) ḑîîyè
 Ñèâ (ìæüé) ḑîîyè

RODENTIA

Gliridae
 Myomimus roachi
 Muscardinus avellanarius
 Dipodidae
 Sicista subtilis
 Cricetidae
 Mesocricetus newtoni
 Cricetulus migratorius

Îáèèíñááí (ãíëÿì) ðíÿë	Cricetus cricetus
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÖËÛÍËÖË	CARNIVORA
Ñâì. Îã÷-èè	Ursidae
Ëàòÿââ ìã÷-èà	Ursus arctos (*)
Ñâì. Îíðíãè	Mustelidae
Âèãðà	Lutra lutra (*)
Çèàðèèà	Martes martes
Îáããñòóèèà	Mustela nivalis
Ñòãíãí ñð	Mustela eversmanni
Îúñòúð ñð	Vormela peregusna
Ñâì. Êíðèè	Felidae
Ðèñ	Felis lynx (*)
Âãðííãèñèà àèàà èíðèà	Felis silvestris
Ñâì. Ñúùèíñèè òðèãíè	Phocidae
Òðèãí ìíãð	Monachus monachus (*)
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ×ËÓÓÍËÎËËËËËË	ARTIODACTYLA
Ñâì. Êóóíðíãè	Bovidae
Âèàà èíçà	Rupicapra rupicapra (*)
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÈËÓÓÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎ	CETACEA
Ñâì. Îíðñèè ñãèíã	Phocoenidae
Îóðèóð (íðñèà ñãèíÿ)	Phocoena phocoena
Ñâì. Âãèòèèè	Delphinidae
Âãèòèè	Delphinus delphis (*)
Âóàèà	Tursiops truncatus (*)
ÏËËËË	AVES
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÆÍÓÐËÄ×ÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎ	GAVIIFORMES
Ñâì. Æíóðèà÷-íãè	Gaviidae
×ãðããííãóð Æíóðèà÷	Gavia stellata
×ãðííãóð Æíóðèà÷	Gavia arctica
×ãðííèèþí Æíóðèà÷	Gavia immer
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÆÍÓÐËÄÓÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎ	PODICIPEDIFORMES
Ñâì. Æíóðãóíãè	Podicipedidae
Óøàð Æíóðãó	Podiceps auritus
Ãíëÿì Æíóðãó	Podiceps cristatus
×ãðããííãðàð Æíóðãó	Podiceps grisegena
×ãðííãðàð Æíóðãó	Podiceps nigricollis
Îãèúè Æíóðãó	Tachybaptus ruficollis
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÁÓÐÃÃÃÑÓÍËËËËËËËË	PROCELLARIIFORMES
Ñâì. Áóðãããñóíèèèãè	Procellariidae
Æúèòíèèþí áóðãããñòíèè	Calonectris /Procellaria/ diomedea
Îáèèíããí áóðãããñòíèè	Puffinus yelkouan
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÎËËËËËÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎÎ	PELECANIFORMES
Ñâì. Êíðíðãíè	Phalacrocoracidae
Ñðãããí èíðíðãí	Phalacrocorax aristotelis
Îãèúè èíðíðãí	Phalacrocorax pygmeus (*)
Ñâì. Îãèèèãè	Pelecanidae

Êúãðîãëää ïãëëëái	Pelecanus crispus (*)
Ðíçíá ïãëëëái	Pelecanus onocrotalus
Ñài. Ðëáíÿáíãè	Sulidae
Áÿë ðëáíÿã	Ìorus bassanus
ÐÀÇÐÃÄ ÜÚÐËÄËÏÏÃÄÍÄÍÄË	CICONIIFORMES
Ñài. ×ãíëíãè	Ardeidae
Ãðëääñòà ÷ãíëã	Ardeola ralloides
Ðúæãëää ÷ãíëã	Ardea purpurea
Ñëää ÷ãíëã	Ardea cinerea
Ãíëÿì áíãáí áèè	Botaurus stellaris
Áéãíëñèà ÷ãíëã	Bubulcus ibis
Ãíëÿìã áÿëã ÷ãíëã	Egretta alba
Ìãëëã áÿëã ÷ãíëã	Egretta garzetta
Ìãëúé áíãáí áèè	Ixobrychus minutus
Íùíã ÷ãíëã	Nycticorax nycticorax
Ñài. Ùúðëãëíãè	Ciconiidae
Áÿë úúðëãë	Ciconia ciconia
×ãðáí úúðëãë	Ciconia nigra
Ñài. Èãéñíãè	Threskiornithidae
Áÿëã ëííãòãððèà	Plátalea leucorodia
Áëãñòÿù éãéñ	Plegadis falcinellus
Ñài. Óëãíëíãíãè	Phoenicopteridae
Ðíçíáí òëãíëíãí	Phoenicopterus ruber
ÐÀÇÐÃÄ ÄÚÑËÏÏÃÄÍÄÍÄË	ANSERIFORMES
Ñài. Ìãðëëíãè	Anatidae
Ñúðííëðëëã ïãðëëã	Anas falcata
Ñëää ïãðëëã	Anas strepera
Ìãëëã áãëí-ãèã áúñëã	Àanser erythropus
Íñãáíã áúñëã	Àanser fabalis
Ñëää áúñëã	Àanser àanser
Ñíãæíã áúñëã	Àanser caerulescens
Áãëíëã ïòãííëëã	Aythya nyroca
Èãòÿãíãëãää ïòãííëëã	Aythya ferina
Ëëãíëíñèã ïòãííëëã	Aythya marila
×ãðãáííãóøã áúñëã	Branta ruficollis
Çãúíãðèã	Bucephala clangula
Èãããíã ïòãííëëã	Clangula hyemalis
Óóíãðíã ëãããã	Cygnus bewickii
Íÿì ëãããã	Cygnus olor
Ííáí ëãããã	Cygnus cygnus
Ìðãíðíã ïãðëëã	Ìãrmaronetta angustirostris
Èããëëãíã ïòãííëëã	Ìelanitta fusca
Óðãóðíã ïòãííëëã	Ìelanitta nigra
Ìãëúé íèðãö	Mergus albellus
Ãíëÿì íèðãö	Mergus merganser
Ñðããáí íèðãö	Mergus serrator

×ãðããîêëþíà ñòàîíëöà	Netta rufina
Òóúííñàøàòà ñòàîíëöà	Oxyura leucocephala
Îàèéííãáíà áããà	Somateria mollissima
Ðúææèà áíáú÷	Òadorna ferruginea (*)
Áÿè áíáú÷	Òadorna tadorna
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÑÎÊËËÏÏÄÍÄÍÈ	FALCONIFORMES
Ñàì. Îðèè ðèáàðð	Pandionidae
Îðæè ðèáàðð	Pandion haliaetus (*)
Ñàì. ßñòðãáíàè	Accipitridae
Ëúñííðúñò ÿñòðãá	Accipiter brevipes
Âíèÿì ÿñòðãá	Accipiter gentilis
Ìæúé ÿñòðãá	Accipiter nisus
×ãðáí èãøíÿ	Aegypius monachus (*)
Ñèæèáí îðæè	Aquila chrysaetos
Âíèÿì èðãñèèà îðæè	Aquila clanga
Ëðúñòàò (øàðñèè) îðæè	Aquila heliaca
Ìæúé èðãñèèà îðæè	Aquila pomarina
Ñòáíáí îðæè	Aquila rapax
Îàèéííãáí ìèøáèíà	Buteo buteo
Ñáããðáí ìèøáèíà	Buteo lagopus
Áãèííàøàò ìèøáèíà	Buteo rufinus
Îðæè çìèÿð	Circus aeruginosus
Òóúñòèèíà áèàòàð	Circus cyaneus
Ïèñèè èèàòàð	Circus macrourus
Ñòáíáí áèàòàð	Circus pygargus
Ëèãããáí áèàòàð	Elanus caeruleus
Îáíáèÿà èáíÿ	Gypaetus barbatus (*)
Áðããàò èãøíÿ	Gyps fulvus (*)
Áãèííàøàò èãøíÿ	Haliaeetus albicilla (*)
Áãèííàøàò ïðñèè îðæè	Hieraaetus fasciatus
ßñòðãáíàè îðæè	Hieraaetus pennatus
Ìæúé îðæè	Milvus migrans
×ãðíà èáíÿ	Milvus milvus
×ãðãáíà èáíÿ	Neophron percnopterus
Áãèííàøàò èãøíÿ	Pernis apivorus
Îñÿ	Falconidae
Ñàì. Ñíèèèíàè	Falco biarmicus (*)
Äæíàðèíñèè ñíèèè	Falco cherrug (*)
Ëíááí ñíèèè	Falco columbarius
Ìæúé ñíèèè	Falco eleonora
Ñðããèçáíííðñèè ñíèèè	Falco naumanni
Áãèííàøàò áãððóøèà	Falco peregrinus (*)
Ñíèèè ñèèòíèè	Falco subbuteo
Îðèè	Falco tinnunculus
×ãðííøèè àãððóøèà (Ëãðèáíáç)	Falco vespertinus
Áã÷ãðíà áãððóøèà	

Ãîÿì ñâèðãö	Numenius arquata
Ìæúé ñâèðãö	Numenius phaeopus
Óúíéíêþí ñâèðãö	Numenius tenuirostris
Áíéíèè	Philomachus pugnax
Ãîÿì ÷ãðãáíííã áíáíáãã÷	Tringa erythropus
Ìæúé áíðñèè áíáíáãã÷	Tringa glareola
Ãîÿì çãèáíííã áíáíáãã÷	Tringa nebularia
Ãîÿì áíðñèè áíáíáãã÷	Tringa ochropus
Ìæúé çãèáíííã áíáíáãã÷	Tringa stagnatilis
Ìæúé ÷ãðãáíííã áíáíáãã÷	Tringa totanus
Æúöíêðàè áðãáíáãã÷	Xenus cinereus
Ñài. Ñàããèêþííàè	Recurvirostridae
Êíèèéíáãã÷	Himantopus himantopus
Ñàããèêþí	Recurvirostra avosetta
Ñài. Èèñòííáíàè	Phalaropodidae
Óúíéíêþí èèñòííá	Phalaropus lobatus
Ïèíèéêþí èèñòííá	Phalaropus fulicarius
Ñài. Íáúðèè÷íèèàè	Glareolidae
Èàðÿáíèðèè íáúðèè÷íèè	Glareola pratincola
×ãðíèðèè íáúðèè÷íèè	Glareola nordmanni
Ñài. ×áéèíàè	Lariidae
Áãéíáóçà ðèáàðèà	Chlidonias hybridus
Áãéíèðèèà ðèáàðèà	Chlidonias leucopterus
×ãðíà ðèáàðèà	Chlidonias niger
Ããããéíêþíà ðèáàðèà	Geochelidon nilotica
×àéèà áóðãããñòíèòà	Larus canus
Ìæèèà ÷ãðííáúðáà ÷áéèà	Larus fuscus
Ãúèáíèêþíà ÷áéèà	Larus genei
Ãîÿìà ÷ãðííáúðáà ÷áéèà	Larus marinus
Ìæèèà ÷ãðííáèããã ÷áéèà	Larus melanocephalus
Ìæèèà ÷áéèà	Larus minutus
Ðã÷íà ÷áéèà	Larus ridibundus
Òðèíðúñòà ÷áéèà	Rissa tridactyla
Áãéí÷áèà ðèáàðèà	Sterna albifrons
Èàñíèéñèà ðèáàðèà	Sterna caspia
Ðã÷íà ðèáàðèà	Sterna hirundo
Ãðèããñòà ðèáàðèà	Sterna sandvicensis
Ïèÿðíà ðèáàðèà	Sterna paradisaea
Ñài. Íðãèãðíèèíàè	Stercorariidae
Ãîÿì íðãèãðíèè	Stercorarius pomarinus
Ñðããáí íðãèãðíèè	Stercorarius parasiticus
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÚÉÚÁÍÏÏÄÍÉ	COLUMBIFORMES
Ñài. Íòñèéíàðèíàè	Pteroclididae
Íóðíðúñòà íòñèéíàðèè	Syrnhaptus paradoxus
Ñài. Äúéúáíàè	Columbidae
Àèà ñèàèáí áúéúá	Columba livia livia

Íõñòèííí èàìáíàð÷á
Ñèàèíí èàìáíàð÷á
Èñíàíñèí èàìáíàð÷á
Íðèáíòàèñèí èàìáíàð÷á
×áðíí èàìáíàð÷á
Ñèái èàìáíàð÷á
×áðííáúðái èàìáíàð÷á
Ãííàøía ÷áðááíííàøèà
Ãðààèíèà ÷áðááíííàøèà
Ðúæèèíáóøí èèàààð÷á
×áðííáóøí èèàààð÷á
Ááèíáóø áðíçä
Êíñ
×áðííáóø áðíçä
Õáiéíá áðíçä
Ííái áðíçä
Ááèíááæä áðíçä
Èíáèíá áðíçä
Ñái. Êíðèááð÷ááè
Èíáèèñèí øááàð÷á
Õðúñòèèíái øááàð÷á
Ãðààèíèíí øááàð÷á
Íóñòàèàòí øááàð÷á
Áíáíí øááàð÷á
Íí÷óðíí øááàð÷á
Êðàéáðáæíí øááàð÷á
Áèàòíí øááàð÷á
Ñáèèáíí øááàð÷á
Íúñòðííàøàòí øááàð÷á
Ìæúé ìàñèèíá ìðèñíáðóóéíèè
Áíèýì ìàñèèíá ìðèñíáðóóéíèè
Ãðààèíèè ìðèñíáðóóéíèè
Ííèñèè øáúðèà÷
Ðá÷ái øáúðèà÷
Õðúñòèèíá øáúðèà÷
Íèáíèíèè íáááö
Æúèòíáèáá íáááö
Áóéíá íáááö
Áèíá íáááö
Áðáçíá íáááö
×áðááííáóøí èíðèèááð÷á
Ìæèí ÷áðííáèèáí èíðèèááð÷á
Íðóááái èíðèèááð÷á
ßñòðááíáóøí èíðèèááð÷á
Ìæèí ááèíáóøí èíðèèááð÷á
Áíèýì ááèíáóøí èíðèèááð÷á

Oenanthe deserti
Oenanthe finschii
Oenanthe hispanica
Oenanthe isabellina
Oenanthe leucura
Oenanthe oenanthe
Oenanthe pleschanka
Phoenicurus ochruros
Phoenicurus phoenicurus
Saxicola rubetra
Saxicola torquata
Turdus torquatus
Turdus merula
Turdus ruficollis
Turdus pilaris
Turdus philomelos
Turdus iliacus
Turdus viscivorus
Sylviidae
Acrocephalus agricola
Acrocephalus arundinaceus
Acrocephalus dumetorum
Acrocephalus melanopogon
Acrocephalus paludicola
Acrocephalus palustris
Acrocephalus schoenobaenus
Acrocephalus scirpaceus
Cettia cetti
Cisticola juncidis
Hippolais pallida
Hippolais olivetorum
Hippolais icterina
Locustella naevia
Locustella fluviatilis
Locustella luscinioides
Phylloscopus bonelli
Phylloscopus proregullus
Phylloscopus sibilatrix
Phylloscopus collybita
Phylloscopus trochilus
Sylvia cantillans
Sylvia melanocephala
Sylvia hortensis
Sylvia nisoria
Sylvia curruca
Sylvia communis

Điçîá ñêîðäö	Sturnus roseus
Ñâì. Òúèà÷íàè	Ploceidae
Ñíáæíà ÷èíèà	Montifringilla nivalis
Èñîáíñèî ãðáá÷á	Passer hispaniolensis
Ïèñèî ãðáá÷á	Passer montanus
Ñèàèíí ãðáá÷á	Petronia petronia
Ñâì. ×èíèíàè	Fringillidae
Íàèèíááíí èíñîðð÷á	Carduelis cannabina
Ùèãèãö	Carduelis carduelis
Çãèáíèèà	Carduelis chloris
Áðàçîáà ñèàðèÿ	Carduelis flammea
Æúèðíèèþíí èíñîðð÷á	Carduelis flavirostris
Áèøíáà ñèàðèÿ	Carduelis spinus
×ãðááíà ÷èíèà	Carpodacus erythrinus
×ãðáøððèà	Coccothraustes coccothraustes
Íàèèíááíà ÷èíèà	Fringilla coelebs
Ïèáíèíèà ÷èíèà	Fringilla montifringilla
Èðúñòí÷íàè	Loxia curvirostra
×ãðááíóøèà	Pyrrhula pyrrhula
Æèáí èáíàð÷á	Serinus serinus
Ñâì. Íáññàðèíàè	Emberizidae
Èàèèáíñèà íáññàðèà	Calcarius lapponicus
Áæèíèèáá íáññàðèà	Emberiza leucocephalos
Æúèòà íáññàðèà	Emberiza citrinella
Çãèáííáóøà íáññàðèà	Emberiza cirulus
Ñèáíèèáá íáññàðèà	Emberiza cia
Áðáæèíèà íáññàðèà	Emberiza hortulana
Áæèíáóøà íáññàðèà	Emberiza rustica
Ìàèèà íáññàðèà	Emberiza pusilla
Òðúñòèèíà íáññàðèà	Emberiza schoeniclus
×ãðííèèáá íáññàðèà	Emberiza melanocephala
Ñèàà íáññàðèà	Miliaria calandra
Ñíáæíà íáññàðèà	Plectrophenax nivalis
ÃÈÃ×ÓÃÈ	REPTILIA
ÐÀÇÐÃÃ ÈÎÑÒÃÍÓÐÈÈ	CHELONIA (TESTUDINES)
Ñâì. Íðñèè èíñòãíóðèè	Cheloniidae
Çãèáíà íðñèà èíñòãíóðèà	Chelonia mydas
Èàðáà	Caretta caretta
Ñâì. Ñóðíçáííè èíñòãíóðèè	Testudinidae
Øèíááãðáíà èíñòãíóðèà	Testudo graeca
Øèñîððáà èíñòãíóðèà	Testudo hermanni (*)
Ñâì. Áèàðíè èíñòãíóðèè	Emydidae
Íàèèíááíà áèàðíà èíñòãíóðèà	Emys orbicularis
Þæíà áèàðíà èíñòãíóðèà	Mauremys rivulata (Mauremis caspica rivulata)
ÐÀÇÐÃÃ ÃÓÚÃÐÈ	LACERTILIA (SAURIA)

Ñàì. Ñòèíéíàè ãóúàðè	Scincidae
Éúñíèðàè ãóúàð	Ablepharus kitaibeli
Ñàì. Ñóúàðè	Lacertidae
Èèààááí ãóúàð	Lacerta agilis
Èàè÷ãñò ãóúàð	Lacerta trilineata
Çàèáí ãóúàð	Lacerta viridis
Æèáíðíááí ãóúàð	Lacerta vivipara (Zootoca vivipara)
Çìèáíè ãóúàð	Ophisops elegans
Ìàèááíñèè ãóúàð	Podarcis erhardii
Ñòáíáí ãóúàð	Podarcis muralis
Èðèíñèè ãóúàð	Podarcis taurica
Ñàì. Ñàèíèè	Gekkonidae
Íúáí ãóúàð (ãàèíí)	Cyrtopodion kotschy (Gymnodactylus kotschy)
Ñàì. Ñèãñòè	Anguidae
Ñèãñè	Anguis fragilis
Æúèòíèíðáíáí ãóúàð	Ophisaurus apodus
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÇÌÈÈ	OPHIDIA
Ñàì. ×ãðááéíèèè	Typhlopidae
Çìèÿ ÷ãðááéíèèè	Typhlops vermicularis
Ñàì. Áíè	Boidae
Çìèÿ ìÿñú÷íèèè	Eryx jaculus
Ñàì. Ñííéíáá	Colubridae
Òúíúé ñòðáèèè	Coluber najadum (Platyceps najadum)
Ñííè-ñòðáèèè (Ñèíóðíèèè)	Coluber caspius (Coluber jugularis caspius)
×ãðííáðàòà ñòðáèèèèèè	Coluber rubriceps (Platyceps collaris) (*)
Ìáäÿíèè	Coronella austriaca
Èáííàðáíá ñííè	Elaphe situla (Zamenis situla) (*)
Èàè÷ãñò ñííè	Elaphe quatuorlineata
Íúñóúð ñííè	Elaphe sauromates
Ñííè ìèèèèè	Elaphe longissima (Zamenis longissimus)
Âäèúáíàòí÷ãè ñííè	Malpolon monspessulanus
Ñèèà àíáíà çìèÿ	Natrix tessellata
Èíðáèèè çìèÿ	Telescopus fallax
Ñàì. Íòðíáíèèèè	Viperidae
Ìáíáèÿíèè	Vipera ammodytes
Íñòðííóòóíáñòà òñííèèèèèè	Vipera ursinii
ÇÁÍÍÁÍÁÍÈ	AMPHIBIA
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÌÀØÀÒÈ	CAUDATA
Ñàì. Ñàèàíáíáðíèè	Salamandridae
Äúæáíáíèè	Salamandra salamandra
Àèíèèèèè òðèèíí	Triturus alpestris
Ãðáááíáñò òðèèíí	Triturus cristatus
Èòàèèáíñèè òðèèíí	Triturus carnifex (Triturus cristatus carnifex)
Ãíáðóáæáíñèè òðèèíí	Triturus dobrogicus
Ãíèÿì ãðáááíáñò òðèèíí	Triturus karelinii (Triturus cristatus karelinii)

Ñàì. Ñà÷-éíàöè Íàèéíááí ñà÷-éí	Cerambycidae Cerambyx cerdo
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÌÁÌÁÐÓÄÈ	LEPIDOPTERA
Àñëíí ÷-áðááí ×áðááí àñëíí Çáðèíöèÿ Ñàì. Ááèÿíèè Èáíòèááá Áàèèáíñèà æúèòóøèà Æúèòóøèà Ñàì. Ñèíááèè Èèòáíá Ïèèèíàòóñ Ãèááíóñèà ñèíááèè Ìàèèèèíáá Ñàì. Íííáíòááòíèèè Ðíáíñèà èàèèðÿèà Ñàòèð÷-á Áíáòóðà Õèáðèàñ Èíòèáíá Áÿèí-ν Ñàì. Èàçèíèàííèèèè Óíðáííáíáçáíèèè Ñàì. Íááííáðèè Èèáíèííòáðà Ñàì. Áá÷-áðíèèè Ïðíçáðíèíá	Papilionidae Parnassius apollo Parnassius mnemosyne Zerynthia polyxena Pieridae Leptidea morsei Colias balcanica Colias myrmidone Lycaenidae Lycaena dispar Polyommatus eroides Maculinea arion Maculinea nausithous Nymphalidae Erebia rhodopensis Coenonympha oedipus Apatura metis Hypodryas maturna (Euphydryas maturna) Lophinga achine Nymphalis vaualbum Lasiocampidae Eriogaster catax Geometriade Lignyoptera fumidaria Sphingidae Psoserpinus proserpina Noctuidae Dioszeghyana schmidtii Saturniidae Perisomena caesigema
Ðíçíáí íúíí ñàóííáí íèí ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÕÈÌÈÐÈÈÈ	HYMENOPTERA
Ñàì. Íðááèè ×áðááíá áíðñèà ìðááèè	Formicidae Formica rufa
ÕÈÌ ÍÁÈÍÓÁÈÈ	MOLLUSCA
ÈÈÄÑ ÍÕÈÐÁÈ	GASTROPODA
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÐÁÁÍÈ ÄÄÑÒÐÍÍÄÈ	ARCHAEOGASTROPODA
Ñàì. Íáðèèèèè Èàè÷-áñò òáíáíèñóñ	Neritidae Theodoxus transversalis
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÁÍÁÍÈ ÁÁÈÌÁÐÍÁÍÈ ÍÕÈÐÁÈ	BASOMMATOPHORA
Ñàì. Èèáíðáèèè Áíèçóñ	Planorbidae Anisus vorticulus
ÈÈÄÑ ÈÈÄÈ	BIVALVIA
Ñàì. Áèñáðíè èèèè	Unionoidae

Áeñáðíà ièää	Unio crassus
3. ÐÀÑÕÀÍËß	PLANTÁS
ÏÒÄÄË ÌËÀÓÍÍÁÐÀÇÍË	LICOPODIOPHYTA
Ñài. Øeëíeëñóíe	Isoetaceae
Âçáðáí øeëíeëñò	Isoetes lacustris
Ñài. Ìeàóííæ	Lycopodiaceae
Àeíeéñeè æeðàçeàñòðóí	Diphasiastrum alpinum
Ñíeáñeáí æeðàçeàñòðóí	Diphasiastrum complanatum
Áeàóíà eèeñíæeáeà	Lycopodiella inundata (Lepidotis inundata)
ÏÒÄÄË ÌÁÏÐÀÓÍÁËËÍË	POLYPODIOPHYTA (PTERIDOPHYTA)
Ñài. Àæàíóííæ	Adiantaceae
Âáíáðeí eíñúí	Adiantum capillus-veneris
Ñài. Èçòðááíe÷áæ	Aspleniaceae
Ëèeñíæeáí èçòðááíe÷á	Asplenium cuneifolium
Ëþñíáñòí èçòðááíe÷á	Asplenium lepidum
Ñài. Ñèðeòíeíeíáeíeéíæ	Cryptogrammaceae
Ëúáðáà ñèðeòíeíeíáeíeé	Cryptogramma crispa
Ñài. Àðeííòáðeñíæ	Dryopteridaceae
Àeíeéñeà èðáðeà ìáíðàò	Cystopteris alpina
Àeèàðeáá àðeííòáðeñ	Dryopteris villarii
Ñài. Ðàçeííáíe÷áæ	Marsileaceae
×áðeðeèeñòíí ðàçeííáíe÷á	Marsilea quadrifolia
Ñài. Çíeéñeíáçeéíæ	Ophioglossaceae
Ëæeéíáà eóííà ìáíðàò	Botrychium matricariifolium
Ñài. Õáðñeííáíðàòíæ	Osmundaceae
Õáðñeà ìáíðàò	Osmunda regalis
Ñài. Ìííííæeíæ	Polypodiaceae
Ëáíáðeéñeà ñeàáeà ìáíðàò	Polypodium cambricum (P. australe)
Ñài. Èáeéíæ	Salviniaceae
Ïeàáàùà eáeéà	Salvinia natans
Ñài. Ñeíííòáðeáíæ	Sinopteridaceae
Ïáðñeéñeè èðáeñííðíeè	Cheilanthes persica
Ñài. Õæeèíòáðeáíæ	Thelypteridaceae
Áeàòáí òæeèíòáðeñ	Thelypteris palustris
ÏÒÄÄË ÆÍËÏÑÁÍÁÍË	PINOPHYTA
Ñài. Èèíàðeñíæ	Cupressaceae
Âúðáíæeáíà òáíeíá	Juniperus excelsa
Èàçàøeà òáíeíá	Juniperus sabina
Ñài. Áòááðíæ	Ephedraceae
Èàðáðeèeáá áòááðá	Ephedra campylopoda
Ïæeéííááíá áòááðá	Ephedra distachya
Ñài. Áíðíæ	Pinaceae
Èàeááðeéñeè áíð	Pinus brutia
Ñài. Õeñíæ	Taxaceae
Ïæeéííááí òeñ	Taxus baccata
ÏÒÄÄË ÏËÐËÕÓÏÑÁÍÁÍË	MAGNOLIOPHYTA (ANGIOSPERMAE)

Éðúãëíëëñòíà áúë÷à ýáúëèà
Ñài. Ñëíæííòáàòíè
Óðóííà ðàáíáö
Ïðëëãíáíæííàèèíáñò ðàáíáö
Áëãáíæúëð ðàáíáö
Òðàèèëñèè ðàáíáö
Ñòááðèñòííæèèíáñòí ñãðóíè÷ã
Éíðááííáí ñãðóíè÷ã
Ïðáíæáí ñãðóíè÷ã
Áãðíèííè÷ãñòí ñãðóíè÷ã
Ðèèñèí ñãðóíè÷ã
Áíðèñíáí ñãðóíè÷ã
Áëèèíáñòí ñãðóíè÷ã
Èááííáí ñãðóíè÷ã
Ñòðèáúðííáí ñãðóíè÷ã
Ïèíèíèðñíáñòí ñãðóíè÷ã
Òðáñòíáèãáí íæèí
Óúííèðñíáñò íæèí
Óúííæèèãñò íæèí
Ñááðèíèðñíáñò íæèí

Ðíáííèèè ìããðáðèè áíæè
Òðàèèèñèè ìããðáðèè áíæè
Àðòáðíáà ìðèè÷èá
Ïýñ÷÷íá ìðèè÷èá
Óúíííòðíóðíá ìðèè÷èá
Áíèñèà ìðèè÷èá
Íæíá ìðèè÷èá
Èíáíóáèíáà ìðèè÷èá
Áðááíá ìðèè÷èá
ßíèááà ìðèè÷èá
Èãðíáðíáà ìðèè÷èá
Ïèðèñèèà ìðèè÷èá
Ìððàèíáà ìðèè÷èá
×áðíá ìðèè÷èá
Ïðèèñèèà ìðèè÷èá
Ïèðèðíáà ìðèè÷èá
Èúæèèííáçááíá ìðèè÷èá
Ðóíáèèñèèà ìðèè÷èá
Ñèèèíá ìðèè÷èá
Áããáíèòíáà ìðèè÷èá
Óðóííá èðèãáö
Áúèããðèèà ìæèèèè
Ïáí÷÷ããà òèðáðáèðà
Èðèèðíèèñòíá òèðáðáèðà
Ñòíýíáà ìæèèèè

Aristolochia rotunda
Asteraceae
Achillea kotschy (Achillea urumoffii)
Achillea leptophylla
Achillea ochroleuca
Achillea thracica
Anthemis argyrophylla
Anthemis jordanovii
Anthemis gaudium-solis
Anthemis macrantha
Anthemis orbelica
Anthemis regis-borisii
Anthemis rumelica
Anthemis sancti-johannis
Anthemis stribnyi
Anthemis virescens
Artemisia chamaemelifolia
Artemisia eriantha
Artemisia lerchiana
Artemisia pedemontana
Carduus rhodopaeus (C. adpressus ssp. rhodopaeus)
Carduus thracicus
Centaurea achtarovii
Centaurea arenaria
Centaurea atropurpurea
Centaurea bovina
Centaurea gracilentia
Centaurea immanuelis-loewii
Centaurea inermis
Centaurea jankae
Centaurea kernerana
Centaurea mannagetae ssp. pirinica
Centaurea marshaliana
Centaurea nigrescens
Centaurea parilica
Centaurea pichleri
Centaurea pseudoaxillaris
Centaurea rumelica
Centaurea rupestris
Centaurea wagenitziana
Chondrilla urumoffii
Cirsium bulgaricum
Cicerbita pancicii
Cicerbita plumieri
Cirsium stajanovii

Áèèíñèà äðèíàâèà
Øaðóíàà äðèíàâèà
Ñóíýííàà äðèíàâèà
Ëâíèèàà àèððèðèý (èâíèèà ñíàí)
Âèððáíñèà çèíèàóíèèà
Ïèàíèíñèè æúèò ñíèè
Áâèíâðââ÷èèèà óóíýíèà
Âèèíðè÷íèèñòáí ñíàí
Ëââââóðíà íèñè
Áíâèèà íèñè
Òàòàðñèà ñàèàòà
Âââèâèñ
Ëèèíèèñòáí àèà òðòðí
Ñèàèðñèè àèà òðòðí
Âúèâííâèèèñòáí ñííðâóí
Ïðñèè ñòáíóóñ
Áíâèèà ñàèíèñ
Ïèðèíñèà ÷íàâíèà
Âíð÷èà÷ââðâèððèý
Áâçòââóíà ñàóñòóðââ
Âðâáííðââòáí èíèâø
Ñóââèíèèèèè ñííðâæ
Áúèââðñèè ñúðíâò
Áèàòáí ñííðâæ
Âúèíâñòà èíçý áðâââ
Ñòðèâúðííâà èíçý áðâââ
Ïèèðíàèèââí óðíñíâðíóí
Ñàí. Èèñâèèððúííâè
Âíèíâèèóí
Ñàí. Âðâíââíèèèòíèè
Ëíðââííâà àèââæèèà
Ñòðèâúðííâà àèââæèèà
Ñèíý àèââæèèà
Âââèâíâí âèí÷â
Âíâèèíâí âèí÷â
Ìàèââíñèè âèí÷â
Âúèâíñòóúéâ÷âñòí âèí÷â
Ââèâíñèèèâí âèí÷â
Ñèàèðñèè àðâóçèý
Æèâçèñòà áâèí÷èèà
Âíèèèèñòáí íàóíèà
Ëðúâèè íàóíèà
×âðââíí óñíèèè÷â
Ðíâíñèè ñíðâçèè÷â
Ñàí. Èðúñòíðââòíèè
Àðââñèè àðèííâèè

Crepis bithynica
Crepis schachtii
Crepis stajanovii
Dittrichia viscosa (Inula viscosa)
Erigeron vichrensis
Helichrysum plicatum
Hieracium belogradcense
Inula spiraeifolia
Jurinea ledebourii
Jurinea tzar-ferdinandii
Lactuca tatarica
Leontopodium alpinum
Ligularia glauca
Ligularia sibirica
Onopordon bracteatum
Otanthus maritimus
Pallenis spinosa
Petasites kablikianus
Reichardia picroides
Saussurea discolor
Scorzonera parviflora
Senecio subalpinus
Serratula bulgarica
Sonchus palustris
Tragopogon floccosus
Tragopogon sibirnyi
Urospermum picroides
Berberidaceae
Epimedium pubigerum
Boraginaceae
Alkanna jordanovii
Alkanna sibirnyi
Alkanna tinctoria
Anchusa davidovii
Anchusa gmelinii
Anchusa macedonica
Anchusa stylosa
Anchusa velenovskyi
Argusia sibirica
Buglossoides glandulosa
Cynoglossum germanicum
Cynoglossum rotatum
Echium russicum
Onosma rhodopaea
Brassicaceae (Cruciferae)
Aethionema arabicum

Áîðçááíîà èãëîáðúð
Ïèðéíñèè èãëîáðúð
Îðáãèèèñèè èãëîáðúð
Ñòðèáúðíîà èãëîáðúð
Õúèíîà àúøàðèà
Ïèðéíñèà àúøàðèà
Ñèàèíà àúøàðèà
Ãðàøèíçíà àóáðèàòà
×ãðííðñèà àóðèéÿ
Ïèðéíñèè çãèà
Òðáèèèèèà îá÷àðñèà òíðáè÷èà
Ãðááíîøáòíà àíðáà
Ïáíçáøíà àíðáà
Òàòàðñèè àèáí çãèà
Áàèèáíñèà ðóíà
Èà÷óèàòà áíÿíèà
×àðèðèðúáñòà áíÿíèà
Àèèáíðóøèà áíÿíèà
Ãíðñèè àá÷àðíèè
Áàèèáíñèè àá÷àðíèè
Ïèááíàè ïíáíñáíáíèè
Ñèàèáí èááðèñ
Úáèíèèñòíà ìàèèíèèÿ
Ñòúáñèà ìàèèíèèÿ
Ãðááíà ìàðçèÿ
Ãðííàòíà ìàðèèèà
Àèíèèèèè ïðèòòáèèáí
Ãúíðøèáðíàà øèááðáèèÿ
Èçíáí÷èà ìáððèòà
Áíáíà øèèèèèðèèà
Ñáí. Ãðáí÷àè
Èðáèíðñèè àðáí÷à
Ñáí. Èáíááíèèèè
Áàèèèèñèè èáíááíèè
Èíðááííàà èáíááíèè
Áúèíáñòà èáíááíèè
Øèðíèèèèèèèèèè èáíááíèè
Îðáíèèèèèèèèèè èáíááíèè
Ïèíáíèèèèèèèèèè èáíááíèè
Ñòúáñèè àðáèáíð
Áúèáðñèè àÿòóð÷à

Alyssum borzaeanum
Alyssum cuneifolium ssp. pirinicum
Alyssum orbelicum
Alyssum stribrnyi
Arabis collina
Arabis ferdinandi-coburgii
Arabis nova
Aubrieta gracilis ssp. Scardica
Aurinia uechtriziana (Lepidotrichum uechtrizianum)
Brassica nivalis ssp. jordanoffii
Capsella thracica
Cardamine parviflora
Cardamine penzesii
Crambe tataria
Draba korabensis
Erysimum comatum
Erysimum quadrangulum (Syrenia cana auct.)
Erysimum slavjankae
Hesperis sylvestris
Hesperis theophrasti
Hymenolobus procumbens (Hornungia procumbens)
Iberis saxatilis
Malcolmia orsiniana ssp. angulifolia
Malcolmia sárbica
Maresia nana
Matthiola odoratissima
Pritzelago alpina ssp. brevicaulis (Hutchinsia alpina)
Schivereckia doerfleri
Sisymbrium polymorphum
Subularia aquatica
Callitrichaceae
Callitrichae brutia
Campanulaceae
Campanula euxina
Campanula jordanovii
Campanula lanata
Campanula latifolia
Campanula orphanidea (Petkovia orphanidea)
Campanula transsilvanica
Campanula versicolor
Edraianthus serbicus
Jasone bulgarica

Ðóláëëéñêè òðàððäëëóì
 Ñài. Êàìàððëáíàè
 Ñàðàááëíàèáí èëáíá
 Ñài. Áúçíàè
 Äááúðñêè áúç
 Ñài. Êàðàìòèëíàè
 Ðañíè÷-áñòà ìññú÷-àðêà
 Êðèòñêà ìññú÷-àðêà
 Àçèàòñêà ìññú÷-àðêà
 Ìðèíñêà ìññú÷-àðêà
 Ðíáíñêà ìññú÷-àðêà
 Óáúðáíèñòíà ìññú÷-àðêà
 Êàðòóçèáíñêè èàðàìòèë
 Óíáàðñêè èàðàìòèë
 Äðáíñêè èàðàìòèë
 Êàðòóçèáíñêè èàðàìòèë
 Áëáíñòáðáí èàðàìòèë
 Ñòðèáúðíá èàðàìòèë
 Óðóíá èàðàìòèë
 Óàëèðñêà ìèðíðêà
 Óðíéíáëëóáíà ìèðíðêà
 Äëëýíáà ìèðíáè
 Ðóláëëéñêà ìèðíáè
 Ñòíýíáà ìèðíáè
 ßíëáá èóòýáè
 Àëíèéñêà ìàìòèëè
 Óáñàñêà ìàìòèëè
 Ñòðáíáæáíñêè ñàìóí÷-á
 Àëíèéñêè ìèðñêàáè÷-á
 Êàëèèððáíñêè ìèðñêàáè÷-á
 Êðèòñêè ìèðñêàáè÷-á
 ×áðííðñêè ìèðñêàáè÷-á
 Äúóèí ìèðñêàáè÷-á
 Êèèèáí ìèðñêàáè÷-á
 Áë÷-áí ìèðñêàáè÷-á
 Ñài. Êíáíáíàè
 Áëèíáñòà ááñèý
 Íáëéíááí ðàëèèíá
 Óó÷-áíè÷-ááí ðàëèèíá
 Íàððñêèííèý
 Ðàçíèèñòíà ñóááá
 Ñài. Êááááíàè
 Óàíýíà
 Ñài. Íááòèèíàè
 Äðááí ÷-ááúð÷-á

Trachelium rumelianum (T. jacquinii)
 Capparidaceae
 Cleome ornithopodioides
 Caprifoliaceae
 Sambucus deborensis
 Caryophyllaceae
 Arenaria ciliata
 Arenaria cretica
 Arenaria gypsophylloides
 Arenaria pirinica
 Arenaria rhodopaea
 Arenaria rigida
 Dianthus carthusianorum
 Dianthus kladovanus (D. pontederiae ssp.
 kladovanus)
 Dianthus drenowskyanus
 Dianthus nardiformis
 Dianthus pallidiflorus
 Dianthus stribrnyi
 Dianthus urumoffii
 Gypsophylla tekirae
 Gypsophylla trichotoma
 Minuartia diljanae
 Minuartia rumelica
 Minuartia stojanovii
 Moehringia jankae
 Petrorhagia alpina
 Petrorhagia thessala
 Saponaria stranjensis
 Silene alpina
 Silene caliacrae
 Silene cretica
 Silene euxina
 Silene graeca
 Silene lydia
 Silene velcevii
 Chenopodiaceae
 Bassia hirsuta
 Halimione pedunculata
 Halimione portulacoides
 Petrosimonia brachiata
 Sueda heterophylla
 Cistaceae
 Cistus salvifolius
 Convolvulaceae
 Calystegia soldanella

Íáæíà ñîáòèòà	Convolvulus althaeoides (C. elegantissimum)
Ïàðíàñèà ñîáòèòà	Convolvulus boissieri ssp. parnassicus (C. compactus)
Çþíááðíàííàà ñîáòèòà	Convolvulus boissieri ssp. suendermannii (C. suendermannii)
Êñðèíàñòíàèàèíàòà ñîáòèòà	Convolvulus holosericeus
Ôàñííèèñòíà ñîáòèòà	Convolvulus lineatus
Ïàðñèèñèà ñîáòèòà	Convolvulus persicus
Êðèòñèà èðàñà	Cressa cretica
Ñàì. Ááááèáîíàè	Crassulaceae
Ááááèíèèò	Crassula tillaea
Ðíçíà çèàòíáðúð	Rhodiola rosea
Êñòíàà òèóñòèàà	Sedum kostovi
Ïááèáíñèà òèóñòèàà	Sedum magellense
Ñòáð÷íà òèóñòèàà	Sedum stefco
×áðííèèááà òèóñòèàà	Sedum tschernokolevii
Ïíèèíòáðíà òèóñòèàà	Sedum zollikoferi
×áðèíàò áááèáò	Sempervivum ciliosum
Ñàì. Ìñðèèíàè	Cyperaceae
Êàðíèèñèà áèàðíèèà	Eleocharis carniolica
Ñàì. Èóáá÷èíàè	Dipsacaceae
Âèçàíèèèíè ÷áðáííèèà÷á	Knautia byzantina
Âèíàðñèíè ÷áðáííèèèà÷á	Knautia dinarica
Ñàì. Ðñýíèíàè	Droseraceae
Æèçèñòà àèðíààíà	Aldrovanda vesiculosa
Êðúáèèèñòíà ðñýíèà	Drosera rotundifolia
Ñàì. Ìèðèçèèáíúðáíàè	Elaeagnaceae
Ïáèíèðà	Hippophae rhamnoides
Ñàì. Ïáííèèèíàè	Elatinaceae
Ïðáèèíèèèòáí íáííèèèè	Elatine alsinastrum
Ïðèèè÷èíà íáííèèèè	Elatine triandra
Ñàì. Áííàððíàè	Empetraceae
×áðáí áííàððí	Empetrum nigrum
Ñàì. Ìèðáííàè	Ericaceae
Áíèà èóíàðèà	Arbutus andrachne
Æèçèñòà èóíàðèà	Arbutus unedo
Êàèóíà	Calluna vulgaris
Ïèðáí	Erica arborea
Ïèðíèèñòíà çáèáíèèà	Rhododendron myrtifolium
Ñòðáíáèáíñèà çáèáíèèà	Rhododendron ponticum
Êááèàçèà áíðíàèíèà	Vaccinium arctostaphylos
Ñàì. Ìèá÷èíàè	Euphorbiaceae
Àèáíñèà íèá÷èà	Euphorbia aleppica
Èúñèáíèèñòíà íèá÷èà	Euphorbia lucida
Ïýñú÷íà íèá÷èà	Euphorbia peplis
Ñàì. Áííàè	Fabaceae (Leguminosae)

Çèàòíà ðàìáíéà
Áéòíñèè êèèí
Òðàèèéñèè êèèí
Àëïèéñèí ñãðàáè÷à
Ðíà÷àñòí ñãðàáè÷à
Âúéíáñòíòáòí ñãðàáè÷à
Áàçñòóáéíáí ñãðàáè÷à
Ìáðòðáñòí÷àòéíáí ñãðàáè÷à
Ìúòíàòíòáòí ñãðàáè÷à
Âèèíòèááí ñãðàáè÷à
Èàðáááíà
Êíà÷àá çàííáö
Íáé÷à çàííáö
Ðááíáíáóðñèè çàííáö
Òàðèáðáñèè íáðòò
Íáíñèà æúèòóáà
Âèèíáñòà æúèòóáà
Âíè ñèááíèè
Ìúèçýù áðúíòðúí
Ñáí. Áóéíáè
Ìúðíàð
Ìáñòáíñèè áúá
Òðàèèéñèè áúá
Òðíýíñèè áúá
Ñáí. Òðáíéáíèáè
Òðáíéáíèý
Ñáí. Òèíòýáíèè
Ìðíèçàííèèòíà áèáèñòííèý
Èðáéáðáèáí ÷áðááí èáíòàðèíí
Ìðñèè ÷áðááí èáíòàðèíí
Áàçñòóáéíáí ðèíòýáà
Ñèáèíà ðèíòýáà
Æúèòà ðèíòýáà
Ìáòíèñòà ðèíòýáà
Èñòèíñèà ãíð÷èèèè
Èúáðááá ãíð÷èèèè
Áíáááèííà ãíð÷èèèè
Ìáòíèñòà ñááðòèý
Ñáí. Çáðáááòíèè
Áàèèáíñèí ÷áñíáíè÷à
Ìñèèáñò çáðáááö
Áíðáíñèè çáðáááö
Ááðíñòóéá÷áñò çáðáááö
Áèàòáí çáðáááö
Ñáí. Ñèèèáðýéíèè
Ðíáíñèè ñèèèáðýè

Anthyllis aurea
Astracantha aitosis
Astracantha thracica (*Astragalus thracicus*)
Astragalus alopecurus
Astragalus corniculatus
Astragalus dasyanthus
Astragalus exscapus
Astragalus physocalix
Astragalus pubiflorus
Astragalus wilmottianus
Caragana frutex
Chamaecytisus kovacevii
Chamaecytisus neicheffii
Chamaecytisus ratisbonensis
Cicer montbretii
Genista germanica
Genista pilosa
Glycyrrhiza glabra
Ononis repens
Fagaceae
Quercus coccifera
Quercus mestensis
Quercus thracica
Quercus trojana
Frankeniaceae
Frankenia pulverulenta
Gentianaceae
Blackstonia perfoliata
Centaurium littorale
Centaurium maritimum
Gentiana acaulis
Gentiana frigida
Gentiana lutea
Gentiana punctata
Gentianella amarella
Gentianella crispata
Gentianella engadinensis
Swertia punctata
Geraniaceae
Erodium absinthoides
Geranium aristatum
Geranium bohemicum
Geranium macrostylum
Geranium palustre
Gesneriaceae
Haberlea rhodopensis

Ñóúáñèà ðàìííàà
 Ñàì. Áíëíãèàà-áàè
 Ðàáíéííí áíëíãèàà-á
 Ñàì. Çáúíééíàè
 Ááãðèèíà çáúíéèà
 Áíáñèáðííà çáúíéèà
 ×àøéíáèáíá çáúíéèà
 ×áðèíáñòà çáúíéèà
 Òàñíñèà çáúíéèà
 Ñàì. Êííñéíãñòáííàè
 Êííñèè èáñòáí
 Ñàì. Õèíóðèáíàè
 Íáèéííááí òèíóðèñ
 Ñàì. Áíäýíéíàè
 Àéíááèááí ñòðàòèíòáñ
 Ñàì. Íáðóíééíàè
 Íèèèáðíá íèíçóðáð
 Òííáñéíèáá íèíçóðáð
 Áèàóíí íàðèüíáí íáðí
 Ááçèèñòíà íáðóíéèà
 Êóéíáè-íá íðíèáòèà
 ãðúóèà íðíèáòèà
 Ñàì. Áçóéíàè
 Æáááøèà áçóèà
 Òðèöááòíà áçóèà
 Ðàçíáðáíà ñááòèèèà
 Ñàì. Áçóéíàèáíè
 Íðèíðñèè òðèíðòáíéè
 Ñàì. Õñóííóááòíè
 Õðèáàèáñèèááá íèèðííáðèý
 Þèèáííàá íèèðííáðèý
 ×áðíííðñèà èí-à áèèèà
 Óèðàèíèà èí-à áèèèà
 Õíðñèáèááá èáèóèà
 Íáðáñòà èáèóèà
 Êðèíèà èáèóèà
 Êðèíèèè íèðèçèèà áóðáí
 Ìýñú-áí ðáíèèèñò
 Ááèèáíèèè ðáíèèèñò
 Íðèíðñèè ðáíèèèñò
 Øàðíèáíéííèè ðáíèèèñò
 Ááííáíèèèíí íñáúáè-á
 Ñòðáíáæáíñèí íñáúáè-á
 Íðèöááòíèèíáá íàúáðèà
 Íèðèíèà íàúáðèà
 Ñòíýííáá íàúáðèà

Ramonda serbica
 Globulariaceae
 Globularia trichosantha
 Guttiferae
 Hypericum androsaemum
 Hypericum boissieri
 Hypericum calycinum
 Hypericum setiferum
 Hypericum thasium
 Hippocastanaceae
 Aesculus hippocastanum
 Hyppuridaceae
 Hippuris vulgaris
 Hydrocharitaceae
 Stratiotes aloides
 Iridaceae
 Crocus olivieri
 Crocus tommasinianus
 Gladiolus palustris
 Iris aphylla
 Romulea bulbocodium
 Romulea linairesii ssp. graeca
 Juncaceae
 Juncus ranarius
 Juncus triglumis
 Luzula deflexa
 Juncaginaceae
 Triglochin maritima
 Lamiaceae
 Micromeria frivaldszkyana
 Micromeria juliana
 Nepeta parviflora
 Nepeta ucranica
 Salvia forskahlei
 Salvia pinnata
 Salvia scabiosifolia
 Sideritis syriaca (S. taurica)
 Stachys arenariaeformis
 Stachys balcanica
 Stachys maritima
 Stachys scardica
 Teucrium botrys
 Teucrium lamifolium
 Thymus bracteosus
 Thymus perinicus
 Thymus stojanovi

Ñàì. Èáíòèáóéàðèèáàè
 Þæíà íàðóðèà
 Äðááíà íàðóðèà
 Ñàì. Èðáííàè
 Ðúááñòíñòúáéáí éóé
 Èà=óéáñò éóé
 Ìèáíéíñèè éóé
 Ñòíýíá éóé
 Ðáñíé=áñòà ááèááàèèý
 Øèðíéíèñòáí íðàçíááö
 Áíðèñíá íðàçíááö
 Áááèáíá íðàçíááö
 Þíáíèñèè íðàçíááö
 Ðíáííñèè íðàçíááö
 Äðýííñèà ááðèèà
 Ñóñèèèááá ááðèèà
 Øàðíàðíáèáíá ááðèèà
 Èçòí=íá ááðèèà
 ×áðííðñèà ááðèèà
 Ñòðèáúðííá ááðèèà
 Õðèçáíòáííá æúèò áàðááíñèè éóé
 Õæäðàèðèáá æúèò áàðááíñèè éóé
 Àèááíñèè èðáí
 Æúèò èðáí
 Ðíáííñèè èðáí
 Èúñíá éíéáèý
 Ðíáííñèà íàðáíááðà
 Áèòèíñèè ñèí=áö
 Áúèáàðñèè ñèí=áö
 Çèàðèñòí èàèá
 Þæíí èàèá
 Ìèðèíñèí èàèá
 Ðíáííñèí èàèá
 Áèáñòýúí èàèá
 Õðàèèèñèí èàèá
 Óðóííáí èàèá
 Ñàì. Èáííàè
 Íáæáí èáí
 Ñòàðííèáíéíñèè èáí
 Ñàì. Áéàðèááè
 Ìðáøèáííèèñòíá àíàíèý
 Ìàùðèíáá áèàðèý
 Ìèááíáíððèý
 Óáñííèèñòáí íáíèèñ
 Ñàì. Áíáííááðáèéíáè
 Õðèèèñòíá áíáíá áàðáèèá

Lentibulariaceae
 Utricularia australis (U. neglecta)
 Utricularia minor
 Liliaceae
 Allium angulosum
 Allium jubatum
 Allium montanum
 Allium stojanovii
 Bellevalia ciliata
 Colchicum bivonae
 Colchicum borisii
 Colchicum davidovii
 Colchicum diampolis
 Colchicum rhodopaeum
 Fritillaria drenovskii
 Fritillaria gussichiae
 Fritillaria meleagroides
 Fritillaria orientalis
 Fritillaria pontica
 Fritillaria sibirnyi
 Gagea chrysantha
 Gagea heldreichii
 Lilium albanicum
 Lilium jankae
 Lilium rhodopaeum
 Lloydia serotina
 Merendera rhodopaea
 Scilla bithynica
 Scilla bulgarica
 Tulipa aureolina
 Tulipa australis
 Tulipa pirinica
 Tulipa rhodopaea
 Tulipa splendens
 Tulipa thracica (T. hageri)
 Tulipa urumoffii
 Linaceae
 Linum elegans
 Linum extraaxilare
 Lythraceae
 Ammania verticillata
 Lythrum thymifolia
 Middendorfia borystenica
 Peplis alternifolia
 Menyanthaceae
 Menyanthes trifoliata

Úeòíèèñòíè èàèè÷èè
 Ñàì. Ìíðèííàè
 Ìãðñèèñèà ìíðèíà
 Ñàì. Áeàòíè ðíçà
 Áúðäó÷à
 Áíáíà ðíçà
 Ñàì. Áúðáíáèíáè
 Äðááíà ÷àðíáíèòà
 Áeàòíà èóääèäèý
 Ñàì. Ñàèáííàè
 Íáèèííááí àíàèàìíðèñ
 Äðáííèèíà àèáííðàøíèè
 Ááíáðèíí òáíòíò÷à
 Ìàñíí÷àðááíà ààèòèèíðèçà
 Èàèííèñèááà ààèòèèíðèçà
 Æðíéóððíà äðáííèè
 Áeááíóñòáí äðáííèè
 Áeàòáí äðáííèè
 Ìóðíóðáí äðáííèè
 Ááçèèñòáí àèííáèóí
 Ìúèçýuà ãóàèèðà
 Áeàòèñòà ðàíàðáèý
 Ááííáðóáèíà ðáðíèèéóí
 Íáèèííááíà ìúð÷íàèà
 Íááíðàçàèò èèííáíðóí
 Èüíçáèíà èèíáðèñ
 Ñúðòáàèèáí òáèíèè
 Íáèèííááíà ì÷àèèòà
 Æðúòèà ì÷àèèòà
 Ááóðíáà ì÷àèèòà
 Ìóðíáèèáíà ì÷àèèòà
 Ìàýéíáèèáíà ì÷àèèòà
 Ðáàèíòáàòáí ñàèáí
 Øeáííáèèáí ñàèáí
 Ìáíáðóáíòáàòáí ñàèáí
 Ìðíááííèè ñàèáí
 Øíèòóáèíà ñàèáí
 Èúéááñòà òðáóíñòáèíáðà
 Ìáèáøíèèíà ñáðáíèèàñ
 Áñáíáí ñíèðàèíèè
 Ñàì. Áíáéðíáè
 Ðíçíà áíáéð
 Õáñííèèñòáí áíáéð
 Ñàì. Ìáèíáè
 Ìèðèííèè ìáè

Nymphoides peltata
 Morinaceae
 Morina persica
 Nymphaeaceae
 Nuphar lutea
 Nymphaea alba
 Onagraceae
 Circaea alpina
 Ludwigia palustris
 Orchidaceae
 Anacamptis pyramidalis
 Cephalanthera epipactoides
 Cypripedium calceolus
 Dactylorhiza incarnata
 Dactylorhiza kalopissii
 Epipactis greuterii
 Epipactis leptochila
 Epipactis palustris
 Epipactis purpurata
 Epipogium aphyllum
 Goodyera repens
 Hammarbia paludosa
 Herminium monorchis
 Himantoglossum caprinum (H. hircinum)
 Limodorum abortivum
 Liparis loeseli
 Listera cordata
 Ophrys apifera
 Ophrys argolica
 Ophrys cornuta (O. scolopax ssp. cornuta)
 Ophrys insectifera
 Ophrys mammosa (O. sphegodes ssp. mammosa)
 Orchis laxiflora
 Orchis militaris
 Orchis papilionaceae
 Orchis provincialis
 Orchis spitzelii
 Traunsteinera globosa (Orchis globosa)
 Serapias vomeraceae
 Spiranthes spiralis
 Paeoniaceae
 Paeonia mascula
 Paeonia tenuifolia
 Papaveraceae
 Papaver degenii

Ñàì. Æèáíâæáíâè	Plantaginaceae
Ðíààò æèáíâèè	Plantago cornuti
Ãèãáíòñèè æèáíâèè	Plantago maxima
Ñàì. Ñàðèíòàáàè	Plumbaginaceae
Áãñàðíàà çìèéñèà òðááà	Goniolimon besseranum
Áýèà çìèéñèà òðááà	Goniolimon collinum
Àæíàòèíñèà çìèéñèà òðááà	Goniolimon dalmaticum
Òàòàðñèà çìèéñèà òðááà	Goniolimon tataricum
Ìáííèíñèà áúðèèòà	Limonium asterotrichum
Áúèãàðñèà áúðèèòà	Limonium bulgaricum
Ãíàèèíñà áúðèèòà	Limonium gmelinii
Øèðíèèñòíà áúðèèòà	Limonium latifolium
Ìáéáðíàà áúðèèòà	Limonium meyeri
Íáèèíñàáíà áúðèèòà	Limonium vulgare
Ñàì. Æèòíè	Poaceae (Gramineae)
Ðàááíñèè áðèáíòóñ	Erianthus ravennae
Ãèãàæèùíà áèãñàòèè	Festuca vaginata
Ñàì. Òãè÷àðèíâè	Polygalaceae
Ñóòà òãè÷àðèíâè	Polygala acarnanica
Àèíèèñèà òãè÷àðèíâè	Polygala alpestris
Ãíð÷èàà òãè÷àðèíâè	Polygala amarella
Ñèáèðñèà òãè÷àðèíâè	Polygala sibirica
Ñàì. Èàíàáíâè	Polygonaceae
Ðèèñèè ðáááí	Rheum rhaponticum
Ñàì. Ðúæãããòíâè	Potamogetonaceae
Ãúñòíèèñòíà áðáíèáíàèý	Groenlandia densa
Óúííèèñòáí ðúæãããò	Potamogeton friesii
Ãèáèíñàèãáí ðúæãããò	Potamogeton trichoides
Ñàì. Èãèèíâè	Primulaceae
Óúííèèñòáí íèèí	Androsace obtusifolia
Ìá÷í íèí	Cortusa matthioli
Íðíèáðíí áíòóð÷á	Cyclamen coum
Áèàòíà íáðóøèíà	Hottonia palustris
Ãáðííáèñèí èáíèà÷á	Lysimachia thyrsoflora
Ðèèñèè èãèèèà	Primula deorum
Ñòàðííèáíèíñèà èãèèèà	Primula frondosa
Ãúèáíòááòíà èãèèèà	Primula halleri
Ñèáòíðíèèããà èãèèèà	Primula vulgaris ssp.sibthorpii
Óíááðñèí èðàéñíáæíí çáúí÷á	Soldanella chrysostricta
Íèðèíñèí èðàéñíáæíí çáúí÷á	Soldanella pirinica
Ñàì. Íóðááíâè	Pyrolaceae
Èðúáèíèèñòíà íóðááá	Pyrola rotundifolia
Ñàì. Ðàòèáçèááè	Raflesiaceae
Òèòèíóñ	Cytinus clusii
Ñàì. Èðòèèíâè	Ranunculaceae
Ãíèæèè áíðèòááò	Adonis vologensis

Íàðöèñíàà ñúñúíèà
 ×áðááíà ñúñúíèà
 Ñíðñèà ñúñúíèà
 Çèàòèñòà èáíàèèèà
 Íàèéíàáíà èáíàèèèà
 Àèíèèñèè ñíààò
 Áàèíòáàòáí øíðáò
 Áúèààðñèè àðáíðèñ
 Èçòí÷íà ÷áèáàèèèèà
 Õàèáðíáí èíðáíòá
 Ìíèñèí èíðáíòá
 Ñèàáíñèí èíðáíòá
 Ìðíèáòí èíðáíòá
 Èèáááí÷ááí èðòè÷á
 Èúèáíñáíáíí èðòè÷á
 Ñòíýíáí èðòè÷á
 Áííýúí íàè÷íè÷á
 Âèòíèè èàèà
 Ñàí. Çúðíèèíèè
 Àèíèèñèè çúðíèèèà
 Ñàí. Ðíçíòáàòíè
 Àðòàðíáí øàíè÷á
 Çááçáíòááòí øàíè÷á
 Áúíáàðèòíáí øàíè÷á
 Ðíðóè÷áèñèí øàíè÷á
 Íàèíèèñòí øàíè÷á
 Ìèðèíñèí øàíè÷á
 Áááèèè èè àáááí
 Äðááíèèñòáí àèíá
 Íðèáíðàèñèè àèíá
 Õðèðàçááèíèèñòáí áðèíèíáóñ
 Áúèààðñèí ñàéíè÷á
 Ðíáíñèí ñàéíè÷á
 Çèàòíòááòí ïðíçíð÷á
 Áíèèèíñáí ïðíçíð÷á
 Õðáñòíàèáí ïðíçíð÷á
 ×áðíáíðñèí ïðíçíð÷á
 Íè÷èíáí ïðíçíð÷á
 Íí÷óðíí ïðíçíð÷á
 Áúèààðñèè èðóøà
 Äðááíòááòíà ñèááèèèè
 Íàðýçáíèèñòáí óúæíèè
 Çáúíèèèñòáí óúæíèè
 Áúðáíèèñòáí óúæíèè
 Ñàí. Áðíøíàè
 Ñòðáíàèáíñèè èàçàðèèíý

Anemone narcissiflora
 Anemone pavonina
 Anemone sylvestris
 Aquilegia aurea
 Aquilegia nigricans (A. vulgaris)
 Clematis alpina
 Delphinium fissum ssp. Albiflorum
 Eranthis bulgaricus
 Nigella orientalis
 Pulsatilla halleri
 Pulsatilla pratensis
 Pulsatilla slavjankae
 Pulsatilla vernalis
 Ranunculus fontanus
 Ranunculus sphaerospermus
 Ranunculus stojanovii
 Thalictrum foetidum
 Trollius europaeus
 Rhamnaceae
 Rhamnus alpina
 Rosaceae
 Alchemilla achtarovii
 Alchemilla asteroantha
 Alchemilla bandericensis
 Alchemilla jumrukczalica
 Alchemilla mollis
 Alchemilla pirinica
 Amygdalus webbii
 Crataegus microphylla
 Crataegus stevenii
 Eriolobus trilobata
 Geum bulgaricum
 Geum rhodopaeum
 Potentilla chrysantha
 Potentilla emili-popii
 Potentilla fruticosa
 Potentilla montenegrina
 Potentilla nicicii
 Potentilla palustris
 Pyrus bulgarica
 Sibbaldia parviflora
 Spiraea crenata
 Spiraea hypericifolia
 Spiraea salicifolia
 Rubiaceae
 Asperula involucrata

Īēðēíñēà èàçãððēēÿ
Äðãáíí áúíîá÷ã
Īèçáÿããúí áúíîá÷ã
Ðíãíñēí áúíîá÷ã
Áðíøíáí áúíîá÷ã
Ñãì. Ñãããô÷ããè
Áàèèáíñèè öÿēíèèñò
Ëáíñèèñòáí öÿēíèèñò
Ñãããô÷ã
Ñãì. Áúðáíãè
Īãððè÷èíèíã àúðãã
Óúíñèèñòíã àúðãã
Ðíçíãðèíñèèñòíã àúðãã
Ëñãíòèèñèã àúðãã
Ñãì. Èãíãíñèíèíãè
×ãðí òðãíñèí ãðíçãã
Æúèòã èãíãíñèíèã
Īèèííãã èãíãíñèíèã
Ðíðãèíãã èãíãíñèíèã
Àçèàðñèã èãíãíñèíèã
Àèíèèñèã èãíãíñèíèã
Ñãì. Æèããíè÷ããè
Ãíè íãíðúñòíèè
Ðíãíñèã ãíðñèã ìãèèã
Ëúñã èóãã÷èã
Ãðúèèã èóãã÷èã
Ëãæãúã èèíããðíèÿ
Áèãòíí ìðíããíè÷ã
Õíãíòíè÷ã
Èãðíãðñèã òíòèÿ
Īãðèíñèè èííãí
Áíãñííã èííãí
Áíãã èííãí
Áèí÷ãèèñòáí èííãí
Äããèãíã èííãí
Äãèíðãðèèããí èííãí
Áèãèèãíã èííãí
Īóøèíã èííãí
ßíèãã èííãí
Ëíðããííã èííãí
Ððóøèè èííãí
Èããóðíã èííãí
Äðãáííòããðãí èííãí
Ëúããèããíðíããí èííãí
Īóðíóðãí èííãí
Ñèãèãí èííãí

Asperula suberosa
Galium demissum
Galium procurrens
Galium rhodopaeum
Galium rubioides
Rutaceae
Haplophyllum balcanicum
Haplophyllum thesioides
Ruta graveolens
Salicaceae
Salix pentandra
Salix retusa
Salix rosmarinifolia
Salix xanticola
Saxifragaceae
Ribes nigrum
Saxifraga aizoides
Saxifraga androsacea
Saxifraga marginata
Saxifraga mollis
Saxifraga retusa
Scrophulariaceae
Digitalis laevigata
Lathraea rhodopaea
Linaria brachyphylla
Linaria peloponesiaca
Lindernia procumbens
Pedicularis palustris
Rhynchosocorys elephas
Tozzia alpina ssp. carpathica (T. carpathica)
Verbascum adrianopolitanum
Verbascum anisophyllum
Verbascum boevae
Verbascum bugulifolium
Verbascum davidoffii
Verbascum decorum
Verbascum dieckianum
Verbascum eriophorum
Verbascum jankaeanum
Verbascum jordanovii
Verbascum juruk
Verbascum lagurus
Verbascum minutiflorum
Verbascum pseudonobile
Verbascum purpureum
Verbascum rupestre

Ðiãĩĩñèè ēĩĩáí	Verbascum spathulisepalum
Òðàèèèñèè ēĩĩáí	Verbascum thracicum
Öàð Áíðèñíà ēĩĩáí	Verbascum tzar-borisii
Óðóííà ēĩĩáí	Verbascum urumovii
Áàóíààðòáííáí àãèèèääí÷ã	Veronica baumgartenii
×ãðĩĩíðñèí àãèèèääí÷ã	Veronica euxina
Ñèáí àãèèèääí÷ã	Veronica glauca
Ãðèçáááðííáí àãèèèääí÷ã	Veronica grisebachii
Ĩàðãñòíèèñòíí àãèèèääí÷ã	Veronica multifida
Óúðèèíáí àãèèèääí÷ã	Veronica turrilliana
Ñàì. Æãíãèããè÷èíãè	Sparganiaceae
Òãñííèèñòíá àãíáà ãèããèöà	Sparganium angustifolium
Ìãèèà àãíáà ãèããèöà	Sparganium minimum
Ñàì. Ðãèèðíãèöíãè	Tamaricaceae
Íáíñèà ìèðèèàðèý	Myricaria germanica
Ñàì. Òãèèãíííãè	Theligonaceae
Òãèèãííèóí	Theligonum cynocrambe
Ñàì. Òèíãèããè	Tymeleaceae
Áèãããããí áýñíí áúðáí	Daphne blagayana
Èããðííáí áýñíí áúðáí	Daphne laureola
Ñòðáííãèáíñèí áýñíí áúðáí	Daphne pontica
Ñàì. Æãóèþííãè	Trapaceae
Äýáíèñèè ìðãð	Trapa natans
Ñàì. Ìãíððíãè	Typhaceae
Øóòèããíððèèãã ìãíðð	Typha shuttleworthii
Ñàì. Èĩĩðèãíãè	Urticaceae
Ðiãĩĩñèà ðãçããèãíèà	Parietaria rhodopaea
Ñàì. Æèýííèíãè	Valerianeaceae
Èãèãðãðíá èáíððáíðóñ	Centranthus kellererii
Öýèíèèñòíá àèèýíèà	Valeriana simplicifolia
Ñàì. Òãíáíóãíãè	Violaceae
Áãèèãíñèà òãíáíóãã	Viola balcanica
Äúèãíðñðãñòà òãíáíóãã	Viola delphinantha
Ñòðíèíà òãíáíóãã	Viola gracilis
Ãðèçáááðííáà òãíáíóãã	Viola grisebachiana
Ðèèñèà òãíáíóãã	Viola orbelica
Áèàóíá òãíáíóãã	Viola palustris
Ãðãáíá òãíáíóãã	Viola parvula
Ïèðèíñèà òãíáíóãã	Viola perinensis
Ïðãñèíãíèèñòíá òãíáíóãã	Viola persicifolia
Íèñèà òãíáíóãã	Viola pumila
Ïèðáíãèñèà òãíáíóãã	Viola pyrenaica
Ïðãèðãñíá òãíáíóãã	Viola speciosa
Ñòíýííãã òãíáíóãã	Viola stojanovii

Ãóðãóëèòà	Streptopelia turtur
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÂÐÄÄ×ÏÏÄÄÄÉ	PASSERIFORMES
Ñài. Ñëíðóíàè	Sturnidae
Íàèéíàáí ñëíðãó	Sturnus vulgaris
Ñài. Áðáííàè	Corvidae
×ááèà	Corvus monedula
Ïñááíà áðáíà	Corvus frugilegus
Ñèàà áðáíà	Corvus corone
Ñãðàèà	Pica pica
ÇÄÏÏÄÄÄÉ	AMPHIBIA
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÄÇÏÏÄÄÖÄÖÈ	ANURA
Ñài. Áíáíè æááè	Ranidae
Áíáíà æááá	Rana ridibunda
Ïèáíèíèà áíáíà æááá	Rana temporaria
Çæéáíà áíáíà æááá	Rana esculenta
ÐÉÄÈ	PISCES
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÄÑÄÖÏÏÄÄÄÉ	ACIPENSERIFORMES
Ñài. Äñãóðóíàè	Acipenseridae
Ðónèà äñãóððà	Acipenser gueldenstaedti
×èää	Acipenser ruthenus
Ïúñòðóää	Acipenser stellatus
Ïíðóíà	Huso huso
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÑÄÈÄÏÏÄÄÄÉ	CLUPEIFORMES
Ñài. Ñäèáíàè	Clupeidae
Èàðääüíç	Alosa pontica
Íàèèà áóíàáñèà ñèóíðèÿ	Alosa caspia nordmani
Ðäçíáñèè èàðääüíç	Alosa caspia bulgarica
Áèä-	Alosa maeotica
Ñðääèçáíííðñèà ðéíòà	Alosa fallax
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÖÄÐÄÏÏÄÄÄÉ	CYPRINIFORMES
Ñài. Öððáííàè	Cyprinidae
Ðàñíáð	Aspius aspius
×áðíà (áàèèáíñèà) íðÿíà	Barbus meridionalis petenyi
Ðäçíáñèà (íðèíðñèà) íðÿíà	Barbus tauricus (Barbus plebejus tauricus)
Íàðèèèà íðÿíà	Barbus cyclolepis (Barbus cyclolepis tauricus)
Ñàáèèòà	Pelecus cultratus
ÐÀÇÐÄÄ ÈÏÑÓÓÏÏÄÄÄÉ	PERCIFORMES
Ñài. Èíñóóðóíàè	Percidae
Èèè-áñò áéááí	Gymnocephalus schraetser
Áíèÿíà/íàèèíááíà áðãóáíàðèà	Zingel zingel
2. ÄÄÇÄÐÚÄÄÄ×É	2. INVERTEBRATES
ÏÄÈÏÖÄÈÈ	MOLLUSCA
ÈÈÄÑ ÏÖÈÐÄÈ	GASTROPODA
Ñài. Öæèèèèèè	Helicidae
Áðääèíèèè ïðèðà	Helix pomatia

Ēīcīā īōēpā	Helix lucorum
ĒĒĀÑ ĪĐĀØĒĀĪĀÑŌÈ ×ĀĐĀĀÈ	ANNELIDA
Ñāi. Īēyāèèè	Hirudinidae
Īāèèèēīñèā ĩēyāèèà	Hirudo medicinalis
×ĒĀĪĀÑŌĪĪĀÈ	ARTHROPODA
ĒĒĀÑ ĐĀĒĪĪĀĐĀÇĪÈ	CRUSTACEA
Ñāi. Ñēāāēīāīāīē ðāøè	Astacidae
Đā÷āī ðāè	Astacus astacus
Āçāðāī ðāè	Astacus leptodactylos
3. ĐĀÑŌĀĪÈĬ	3. PLANTES
ĪŌĀĀÈ ĪĀĪĐĀŌĪĀÈĀĪÈ	POLYPODIOPHYTA
Ñāi. Āñīēāāāè	Aspidiaceae
Āðēīròāðēñ	Dryopteris sp. div.
Īīāīðāāīēè	Polystichum sp. div.
ĪŌĀĀÈ ĪĒĐĒŌĪÑĀĪĀĪÈ	MAGNOLIOPHYTA
Ñāi. Ēīēè÷āāè	Amaryllidaceae
Āēāōī ēīēè÷ā	Leucorum aestivum
Ñāi. Ñāīīēēīōāāōīè	Apiaceae
Ōðīèā	Bupleurum sp. div.*
Īðīēçāīīēēñōāī òðēāāè	Smyrnum perfoliatum
Ñāi. Ñēīæīīōāāōīè	Asteraceae
×āēyāīēè	Echinops sp. div.*
Ñīèè	Helichrysum arenarium
Ñāi. Ēāðāīòèēīāè	Caryophyllaceae
Ñāèòā ìèøīðèā	Gypsophylla glomerata
Īāðèè÷āñòā ìèøīðèā	Gypsophylla paniculata
Ñāi. Īāðōīèēīāè	Iridaceae
Īèīçóðāð	Crocus sp. div.*
Īāðēūīāī ĩāðī, ãēāāēīè	Gladiolus sp. div.*
Ñāi. Ēðāīīāè	Liliaceae
Çāè÷ā ñyīèā	Asparagus sp. div.*
Āyē áúðāōī	Asphodelus albus
Ñāīīāèāñēī òāāòā	Erytronium dens-canis
Īāðōīā èðúñò	Lilium martagon
Īīīēīāā ñúèçā	Polygonatum officinale
Āīāèèā çāèèñò, àèā ÷āīøèð	Ruscus aculeatus
Īīāāçè÷āī çāèèñò	Ruscus hypoglossum
Īāèèīāāī ñēī÷āð	Scilla bifolia
Ñāi. Ñāēāīīāè	Orchidaceae
Āāèòèēīðèçā	Dactylorhiza sp. div.*
Ñāèāī	Orchis sp. div.*
Ñāi. Āīæóðīāè	Paeoniaceae
×āðāāī āīæóð	Paeonia peregrina
Ñāi. Ñāðēīòāāāè	Plumbaginaceae
Çīèèñèā òðāāā	Goniolimon sp. div.*
Āúðèèòā	Limonium sp. div.*

Ñàì. Æèòìè	Poaceae
Êìèèì	Stipa sp. div.*
Ñàì. Èãèèèîàè	Primulaceae
Âñàííí áìòóð÷â	Cyclamen neapolitanum
Ëâ÷âáíà èãèèèà	Primula veris
Îàèèíâáíà èãèèèà	Primula vulgaris
Ñàì. Ëðòèèîàè	Ranunculaceae
Êîðáíöâ	Pulsatilla sp. div.*
Ñàì. Âúðáíàè	Salicaceae
Èàà, êîçÿ áúðáà	Salix caprea

Appendix No 7 to Art. 75, Para 1
(revoked – SG 94/07)

(new – SG 88/05; revoked – SG 94/07)

WHC REGISTRATION
Date 28/01/09
Id N° 225 bis
Copy 1 Item 03

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REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

22 Maria Louiza Str., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria; Tel.: (+3592) 940 6541; Fax: (+3592) 980 9641

January 2009

Re: A signal for violations in Pirin National Park World Heritage property, submitted to the World Heritage Center by nongovernmental organizations

Dear Mr. Bandarin,

In relation to the signal submitted to the World Heritage Center by Bulgarian nongovernmental organizations, related to violations committed on the territory of Pirin National Park World Heritage property, I would like to provide you with relevant information:

I. Exclusion of territories from Pirin National Park and World Heritage property without consultation with the World Heritage Center.

In 1998, a new Protected Areas Act (PAA) entered into force in Bulgaria, regulating all the issues related to protected areas, such as ownership, management, designation, changes in the area and regimes, etc.

The Protected Areas Act introduces a modern protected areas classification in compliance with the international requirements.

In relation to the above, in 1999, with Order RD - 395 from 15.10.1999 of the Minister of Environment and Water the category of the existing at the time Pirin People's Park was changed into a National Park, with a territory of 40332.4 ha, later on recalculated to 40356.0 ha by the Management Plan of the National Park, as a result of better measurement.

Mr. Francesco Bandarin
Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre
7 Place de Fontenoy
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Fax: + 33 (0) 1.45.68.55.70

CC
Ambassador Irina Bokova
Permanent Delegate of Bulgaria to UNESCO
1, Rue Miollis
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National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria
for UNESCO
Mr. Georgi Grancharov
Director of Pirin national Park Directorate
4 Bulgaria St.
2770 Bansko, BULGARIA

With the same Order from the territory of the National park were excluded the “Kulinoto ski zone” in the territory of Razlog municipality (58.1 ha) and the resort area (ex camping area) in the region of Sandanski municipality (76.4 ha). These territories were excluded according to the procedures, determined by the Bulgarian legislation.

The main argument for the exclusion of the territories was the lack of conservation value, because at the time the same were already occupied by different facilities and buildings.

The necessity of undertaking official steps in order to exclude these areas from the World Heritage property as well, was pointed by the IUCN expert who visited the site in 2007 as part of a previous nomination procedure mission.

As far as the other two territories pointed by the NGOs, in the region of Dobrinishte (10.1 ha) and also Sandanski (6 ha), the same were excluded from the territory of the Park as protected area with an Order 1036/ 17.11.1987 of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers, with the aim to adapt the boundaries of the park to specific features of the terrain (existing road).

Regardless of the exclusion of these comparatively small areas from the boundaries of the National Park, I would like to point out that with Order № 1036/ 17.11.1987 of the Nature Protection Committee of the Council of Ministers, the territory of the park was also sufficiently extended. The territory which was added constituted about 12 639.9 ha (later on recalculated to 12 913.5 ha) and was composed of high mountain treeless zone, unique rock formations and huge forests stands, all characteristic with their high conservation value and worthy to be officially protected.

II. Violations of Pirin NP Management Plan, pointed in Annex 2

II.1. Modification of the Detailed Spatial Development Plan with the aim of construction Kulinoto Ski and Golf complex near Razlog

On 31 October 2007, “Balkanstroy” Company submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Water an official notification, pointing that the company has the intention to realize a project for development of a modern tourist resort, including ski runs, additional facilities and ski lifts, trails for mountain tourism, alternative forms of tourism (golf fields, mountain trails, etc.), specialized infrastructure, places for rest and recreation. The project was foreseen to be accomplished in two phases and the total area for its realization was estimated to 4250 ha (including those 4000 ha, foreseen for the construction of ski runs and lifts). In the notification was pointed that an official procedure for preparation of a Detailed Spatial Development plan (DSDP) was started, still, without pointing the official grounds of its assignment, as well as its territorial scale.

In the official reply of the MoEW (Ref. № OBOCY-2371/26.02.2008) to “Balkanstroy” Company are stated the motives, as follows:

- what pointed in the notification is not clear in terms of the subject and the grounds and therefore cannot be further on proceeded in line with Chapter 6 of the Environmental Protection Act – investment proposal or plan;
- it cannot be confirmed that “Balkanstroy” Company are meeting the requirements for being appointed as developer of an investment proposal or developer of a plan;
- the required check-up within the Regulation on the terms and order for carrying out of an assessment of plans, programmes, projects and investment proposals on their possible negative impact on the Natura 2000 sites, according to Article 6 of the EU Habitat Directive, showed that most of the constructions foreseen within the investment proposal, such as ski runs, lifts, other supplementary facilities are impermissible according to the regimes, stipulated by the Protected Areas Act and Management Plan of Pirin National Park.

It was indicated to “Balkanstroy” Company that further proceeding of the investment proposal as a whole, including its adoption or approval, could be provided only in case of removing the existing contradictions with the national legislation in the field of environment and Pirin National Park Management plan.

On 17 March 2008 “Balkanstroy” Company submitted to the MoEW a letter, containing additional information, which clarified that the company had started a procedure for development planning of the area, necessary for the realization of the investment proposal. The procedure was initiated in front of the Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad Region. In the additional information was quoted Permission № 30-00-301/01.03.2007 of the Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad, showing that the upper mentioned preparation of Detailed Spatial Development Plan was admitted on the ground of article 124, § 4 from the Territorial Development Act for “Ski and golf complex “Kulinoto”. A copy of the Permission was not attached as evidence.

Other relevant evidences in favour of the fact that the “Balkanstroy” Company meets the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act for being assigned as developer of a plan or of an investment proposal were also not attached.

In the letter was pointed that on the meeting of the *Expert council on territorial development* for Blagoevgrad Region, held on 28.01.2008 г., was adopted a draft project of Detailed Spatial Development Plan – plan for construction and plan for regulation of “Ski zone and golf complex “Kulinoto”.

In the letter was also stated that during the meeting were made positive statements, as well as recommendations and indications were given. After the check-up, provided afterwards, it became clear that the representative of the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water for the town of Blagoevgrad who participated in the meeting clarified the requirements of the specific environmental legislation and informed the participants about the required procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment and the specific assessment provided according to Article 6 of the Habitat Directive. Besides, it was stressed that there was no statement from the specialized directorate – National Nature Protection Service, under the MoEW if the constructions are admissible according to the regimes of Pirin National Park as protected area.

In relation to the above, we consider that the MoEW provided in time, clearly stated and adequate instructions for the required procedures.

The Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad submitted a statement to the MoEW, with No 08 - 00 -505 from 21.04.2008 in which were stated considerations for the approval and the assignment of the Detailed Spatial Development Plan.

With a letter from 19.06.2008 to the Regional Governor of Blagoevgrad, who was supporting the project, the Ministry of Environment and Water stated that the constructions foreseen by the Detailed Spatial Development Plan were impermissible and do not comply with the regimes, determined for the national park. In the letter was also pointed that the “Balkanstroy” Company has no legal rights to initiate further procedures for the approval of the project under the Environmental Protection Act, Chapter 6. It was also pointed that further continuation of the procedure for adoption of the plan is impermissible, as well as the realization of any investment proposals included in this plan. In this relation, the Detailed Spatial Development Plan was never approved by the Ministry of Environment and Water or its regional departments, as well as other investment proposals concerning the area of Kulinoto within Pirin National Park and World Heritage property. At the present no construction is on-going at the place.

II. 2. Bansko ski zone

In the MoEW there is no information concerning the number of beds, since this kind of constructions has been carried out outside Pirin National Park and World Heritage property. The hotels and guest houses which provide accommodation within the town of Bansko are constructions on which the MoEW has no competence to influence on, since the municipality has the legal right to decide about them.

The MoEW has the competence only as far as constructions within Pirin National Park are concerned. In this relation, the Ministry has not approved the construction of facilities in Bansko ski zone, which are not foreseen in the approved Territorial Arrangement Plan (TAP) and concession contract, for which we provide you information below.

II. 2.1. Project “Construction of a four-seats lift in the area of Chalin Valog in “Bansko ski zone”

In the year of 2000 a Territorial Arrangement Plan (TAP) for the “Bansko ski zone” was approved, after carrying out of EIA following the requirements of the legislation that was in force at the time, including a public hearing was carried out.

On 12 December 2001, a concession contract was concluded between Republic of Bulgaria, represented by the Minister of Environment and Water and the Yulen Company. According to it the protected area, exclusively state property – part of Pirin National Park was given under concession for construction and exploitation of “Bansko ski zone”, according to what envisaged by the TAP, mentioned above.

It should be mentioned that in the period 1985-1987 in Pirin National Park above the town of Bansko were built several ski runs and cable lifts including the ski drag and run within the Chalino valog area, which further development was decided on in compliance with the TAP and the given concession.

The particular case in point is replacement of the existing old (from 1986) and amortized ski drag in the area of “Challino valog” with a seat lift, which replacement was foreseen by the TAP and the concession contract.

The way of the seat lift follows the existing way of the ski drag which means that the replacement of the facility is within the concession area. Nevertheless, according to the Bulgarian legislation, in which the requirements of the European one were fully transposed (the Ordinance on the terms and procedure for carrying out EIA of investment proposals for construction, activities and technologies and the Regulation for terms and order for carrying out of an assessment of plans, programmes, projects and investment offers on their possible negative impact on the Natura 2000 sites, according to Article 6 of the EU Habitat Directive), for this particular investment proposal was carried out a screening procedure for EIA, as well as the upper mentioned assessment according to Article 6 of the EU Habitat Directive was applied, since the National Park and World Heritage property fall within Natura 2000 site.

Within the screening procedure under Article 6 assessment of the EU Habitat Directive, was decided that the investment proposal will not affect negatively the Natura 2000 site and particularly the habitats and species, which are subject for protection within this site. Arguments were also exposed that there is no need of carrying out of Environmental Impact Assessment, on which ground, the investment proposal was approved.

II. 2.2 Modification of the Spatial Development Plan of “Bansko ski zone” – construction of three drag lifts with lengths of 300 m, 330 m and 150 m.

As pointed out above, in the year of 2000, a *Territorial Arrangement Plan* for “Bansko ski zone” was approved after carrying out of EIA. The same envisaged development of

the ski runs and facilities, constructed during the 80's in "Bansko ski zone", in Pirin National Park.

This Plan consist of a textual part in which are described the existing and the newly proposed ski runs and cable lifts and a graphical part (sketches) on which are visualized the runs and facilities described in the textual part. In the textual part of the TAP, are pointed 3 ski drags already existing, with corresponding lengths of 300, 330 and 150 meter. In the second part of the TAP, consisting of sketches and graphs, the same drags were omitted. That is to say that there is a certain discrepancy between the textual and graphic part of the TAP as far as those three drags are concerned.

In relation to the above, with Decision 44 the Municipal Council of the town of Bansko, admitted the correction of this evident error of fact. In the Decision is clearly stated that that the correction of the evident error in fact **will be provided by means of adding of those facilities in the graphic part of the TAP (its sketches) in order to avoid the existing discrepancy.**

Obviously, in this case there is **no modification of the TAP of the "Bansko ski zone", aiming at the construction of three new ski drags**". The case is related only to elimination of an error, admitted because of not pointing the three ski drags in the TAP and particularly its graphic part, at the time of its approval.

In these circumstances, when no modifications in the TAP are envisaged, the correction of the evident error of fact is not subject to further proceedings foreseen by the Environmental Protection Act or the Biodiversity Conservation Act.

In relation to the above, we consider that in Pirin National Park and World Heritage property a new construction in violation of the environmental legislation in force has not been approved and correspondingly allowed.

II. 3. A project for the extension of the "Dobrinishte ski zone"

In the MoEW there is no information about such a project. Consequently, the MoEW has not considered or approved investment proposals within Pirin National Park and World Heritage Property in the region of Dobrinishte. At the present moment, no construction activities are on place.

III. Meeting of the Consultative Council of Pirin National Park launching a procedure for development of a new management plan, which legalize the infringements done hitherto in the ski zone of Bansko, as well as to set up new ski zones within the National Park and the World Heritage Site.

As for the meeting of the Consultative Council of Pirin National Park, held in July 2008, it should be pointed out that it is not in the competence of this council to make decisions, especially as far as investment proposals and changes in the management plan of the National Park are concerned.

The investment proposals are subject and can be approved only after carrying out of procedures, determined by the specialized legislation. The same are of competence only of the state authorities.

Similar is the situation related to possible changes in the management plan of the National Park, which is in the competence of the Ministry of Environment and Water and the Council of Ministers. In this relation, I would like to inform you that the MoEW has not initiated a procedure for changing the Management Plan of Pirin National Park.

The Consultative Council of Pirin National Park is a consultative body to the National Park Directorate, which supports the Directorate in the implementation of the Management plan (MP), by means of discussing the implementation of the MP, as well as issues related to the conservation, guarding, using of lands, forests and waters; working

with the public and information activities; organization of the recreational and tourist activities; conservation of biological diversity; safety and service of the visitors; research activities; educational programmes, etc.

IV. Reduction of the State budget funding to the Pirin National Park Directorate

There is a certain reduction of the funds, allocated from the State budget for activities in the national parks. This is mainly because there is already an opportunity for realization of such activities by means of funds, coming from Operational Programme “Environment”, where the structures of the MoEW including the National park administrations have been determined as beneficiaries.

More than € 100.000 million will be ensured within priority 3 “Conservation and restoration of the biodiversity” under the Operational Programme “Environment” for the period 2007-2013.

In this relation, it should be mentioned that recently was launched a call for proposals for projects for “Conservation and restoration of biological diversity in Bulgaria”.

The total amount of the financial support, which is about to be provided within the upper mentioned procedure is BGN 13 098 930. Other similar procedures will be launched soon, as well.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you for your support and co-operation for the protection of the World Heritage properties of Bulgaria.

Sincerely yours,

Dzhevdet Chakarov

Minister of Environment and Water



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
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para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

The Culture Sector

H.E. Mr Alexandre Savov
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
of Bulgaria to UNESCO
UNESCO House

Ref: WHC/74/3185/BG/CM/FB

5 October 2010

Subject: **Nomination of the extension of Pirin National Park (N 225bis) (Bulgaria) World Heritage property**

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to inform you that the World Heritage Committee, at 34th session (Brasilia, Brazil, 25 July – 03 August 2010), examined the extension of the **Pirin National Park** nomination and decided to **approve** the extension of this property. Please find below the Decision **34 COM 8B.5** adopted by the Committee.

I am confident that your Government will continue to take the necessary measures for the proper conservation of this property. The World Heritage Committee and its Secretariat, the World Heritage Centre, will do everything possible to collaborate with you in these efforts.

The *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (paragraph 168)*, requests the Secretariat to send to each State Party with a newly inscribed property a map of the area(s) inscribed. Please examine the attached map, as well as the notification of the characteristics of the property, and inform us of any discrepancies in the information by and not later than **15 December 2010**.

The inscription of the property on the World Heritage List is an excellent opportunity to draw the attention of visitors to, and remind local residents of, the *World Heritage Convention* and the outstanding universal value of the property.

To this effect, you may wish to place a plaque displaying the World Heritage and the UNESCO emblems at the property. You will find suggestions on this subject in the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*.

I would be grateful if you could provide us with the name, address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address of the person or institution responsible for the management of the property so that we may send them World Heritage publications.

Please find attached the brief description of the property, prepared by IUCN and the World Heritage Centre, in both English and French. As these brief descriptions will be used in later publications, as well as on the World Heritage web site, we would like to have your full concurrence with their wording. Please

examine these descriptions and inform us, by and not later than **15 December 2010**, whether there are any changes that should be made. If we do not hear from you by this date, we will assume that you are in agreement with the text as prepared.

Furthermore, as you may know, the World Heritage Centre maintains a web site at <http://whc.unesco.org/>, where standard information about each property on the World Heritage List can be found. Since we can only provide a limited amount of information about each property, we try to link our pages to those maintained by your World Heritage property or office, so as to provide the public with the most reliable and up-to-date information. If there is a web site for the newly inscribed property, please send us its web address.

The full list of the Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session is available on line at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/34COM/>

Please accept, dear Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Bandarin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Francesco Bandarin
Director a.i.
World Heritage Centre

cc: National Commission of Bulgaria for UNESCO
IUCN

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Spread over an area of over 38,000 ha, at an altitude between 1008 and 2914 m in the Pirin Mountains, southwest Bulgaria, the site comprises diverse limestone mountain landscapes with glacial lakes, waterfalls, caves and predominantly coniferous forests. It was added to the World Heritage List in 1983. The extension now covers an area of around 40,000 ha in the Pirin Mountains, and overlaps with the Pirin National Park, except for two areas developed for tourism (skiing). The dominant part of the extension is high mountain territory over 2000m in altitude, and covered mostly by alpine meadows, rocky screes and summits.

BREVE DESCRIPTION

Sur une étendue de plus de 38 000 ha, à une altitude de 1 008 à 2 914 m dans le massif du Pirin, dans le sud-ouest de la Bulgarie, le parc présente un paysage karstique des Balkans, avec ses lacs, ses cascades, ses grottes et ses forêts de pins. Il a été ajouté à la Liste du patrimoine mondial en 1983. L'extension inclut désormais l'ensemble du Parc national de Pirin, soient près de 40 000 ha, à l'exception de deux zones touristiques (ski). La partie principale de cette extension est une zone de hautes montagnes de plus de 2000 mètres d'altitude comprenant surtout des prairies alpines, des éboulis rocheux et des sommets.

Extract of the Decisions adopted by the 34th session of the World Heritage Committee (Brasilia, 2010)

Decision: 34 COM 8B.5

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-10/34.COM/8B and WHC-10/34.COM/INF 8B2;
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.21**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009);
3. Approves the extension of the **Pirin National Park, Bulgaria**, inscribed under criteria **(vii)**, **(viii)** and **(ix)**, in order to strengthen the integrity and management of the World Heritage property;
4. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

Brief synthesis

The World Heritage property covers an area of around 40,000 ha in the Pirin Mountains, southwest Bulgaria, and overlaps with the undeveloped areas of Pirin National Park. The diverse limestone mountain landscapes of the property include over 70 glacial lakes and a range of glacial landforms, with many waterfalls, rocky screes and caves. Forests are dominated by conifers, and the higher areas harbour alpine meadows below the summits. The property includes a range of endemic and relict species that are representative of the Balkan Pleistocene flora.

Criterion (vii): The mountain scenery of Pirin National Park is of exceptional beauty. The high mountain peaks and crags contrast with meadows, rivers and waterfalls and provide the opportunity to experience the aesthetics of a Balkan mountain landscape. The ability to experience remoteness and naturalness is an important attribute of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

Criterion (viii): The principal earth science values of the property relate to its glacial geomorphology, demonstrated through a range of features including cirques, deep valleys and over 70 glacial lakes. The mountains of the property show a variety of forms and have been developed in several different rock types. Functioning natural processes allow for study of the continued evolution of the landforms of the property, and help to understand other upland areas in the region.

Criterion (ix): The property is a good example of the continuing evolution of flora, as evidenced by a number of endemic and relict species, and the property also protects an example of a functioning ecosystem that is representative of the important natural ecosystems of the Balkan uplands. Pirin's natural coniferous forests include Macedonian Pine and Bosnian Pine, with many old growth trees. In total, there are 1,315 species of vascular plants, about one third of Bulgaria's flora, including 86 Balkan endemics, 17 Bulgarian endemics and 18 local endemics. The fauna of Pirin National Park includes 45 mammal species, including brown bear, wolf and pine marten, and 159 bird species. Pirin is also home to eight species of amphibians, eleven species of reptiles and six fish species. Although the forests are affected by some historical use, the natural functioning of the ecosystem ensures the protection of its regionally significant biodiversity values.

Integrity

The original inscription of the property in 1983 proved to be inadequate in representing and maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value of Pirin, but an extension in 2010 has addressed the issues to the best possible degree and represents the minimum area of Pirin National Park that can be considered to correspond to the requirements of Outstanding Universal Value set out in the *World Heritage Convention*.

The National Park is clearly defined from the point of view of its mountainous nature and ecology, and the boundaries of the property are of sufficient size to capture the natural values of Pirin. Adequate boundaries have been established through the extension of the initially inscribed property, to include the most remote areas of the interior of the National Park, and exclude adjacent areas that are not compatible with World Heritage status due to impacts on integrity from ski development. The values of the property as extended retain the attributes of a natural landscape but they closely adjoin areas subject to intensive tourism development that are a risk to the integrity of the property.

Protection and management requirements

The property is covered by national legislation which should ensure strong national protection of the values of the property, including the prevention of encroachment from adjoining development. It is essential that this legislation is rigorously enforced and is respected by all levels of government that have responsibilities in the area. The property also has an effective and functioning management plan, provided its implementation can be ensured through adequate resources to both maintain the necessary staffing levels and undertake the necessary management activities to protect and manage the property. A system of regular monitoring of the natural values of Pirin and ongoing programmes to maintain habitats and landforms in their natural state, avoid disturbance and other impacts on wildlife, and to preserve the aesthetic values of the property are required.

The World Heritage property has long been subject to tourism pressure, largely caused by the development of ski facilities and ski runs. Small ski areas were developed at Bansko, Dobrinishte and Kulinoto in the 1980s and 1990s. Activities such as night skiing, off-piste skiing and heliskiing are activities which may affect the values and integrity of the property and require rigorous control. Bansko, adjoining the property, has become one of the most rapidly developing towns in Bulgaria with hotels and holiday resorts constructed literally on the park boundary. Tourism development within and around the property has not been effectively controlled in the past including some areas that were developed within the property and caused significant damage. The management plan for the property needs to ensure a long-term priority for the protection of the natural values of Pirin, and to guard against any encroachments and impacts within the property from skiing, sporting events or other inappropriate development. Equally the planning documents that are created by national, regional and local authorities need to similarly ensure the protection of the natural values of the property, and also integrate the benefits it provides as a natural landscape to the surrounding area.

Other threats to the property include illegal logging, poaching and the use of snow mobiles and quad bikes. These uses require close monitoring, management and the enforcement of effective regulations. The management of visitor use to both prevent negative impacts and provide opportunities to experience the values of the property in a sustainable way is also an essential long term requirement for this property.

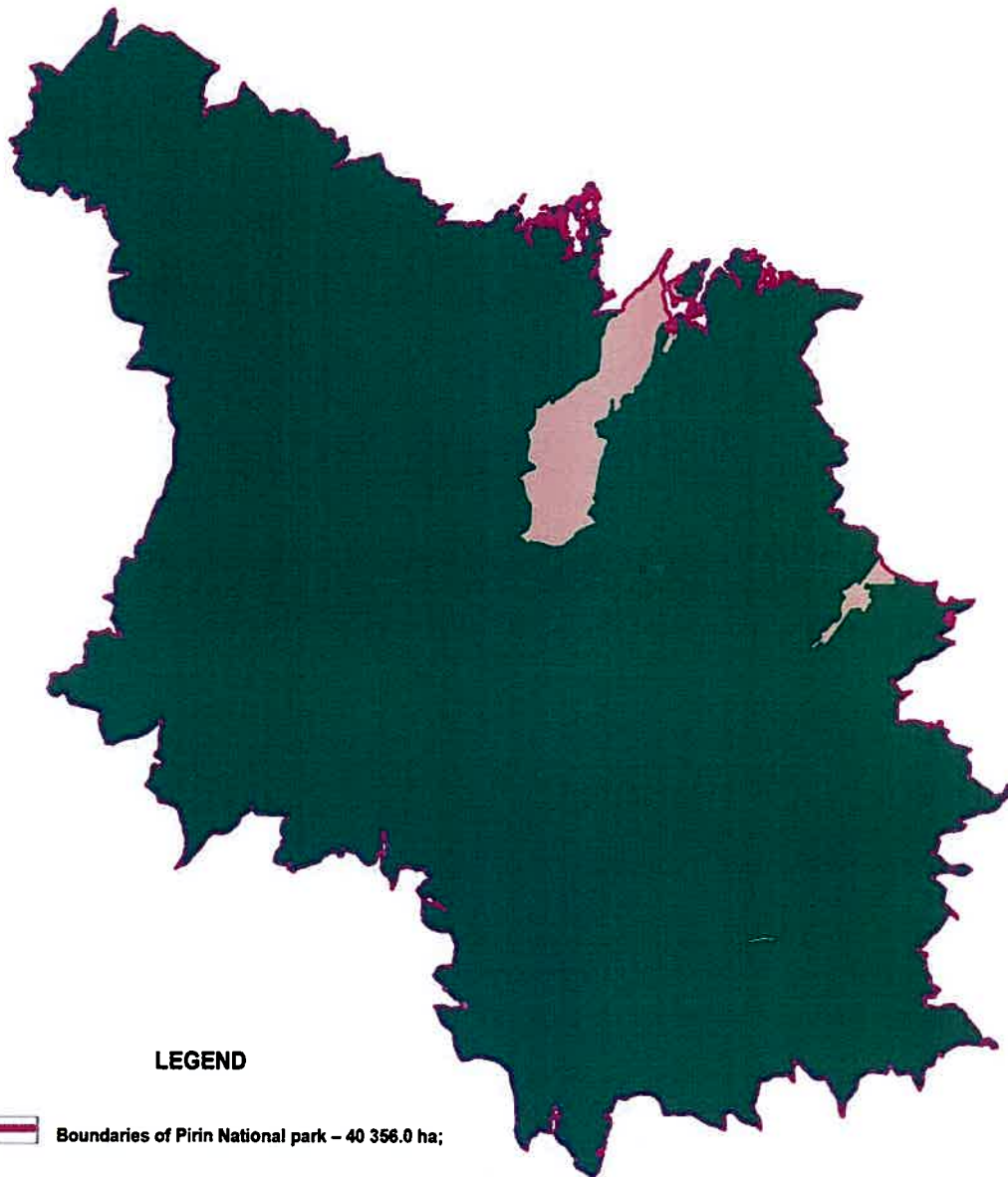
5. Accepts, in the specific context of the above extension, the proposal of the State Party to exclude from the property four small areas (150.6 ha in total) on the periphery of the property which have been excluded from the national park; and also accepts the proposal of the State Party to exclude from the property the Bansko and Dobrinishte tourism zones (1078.28 ha in total), and to include these latter areas, which are still within the national park, in a new buffer zone;
6. Regrets that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property has been repeatedly and significantly impacted by the development of ski facilities and ski runs, to the extent that the property may be considered for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and that continued ski development is a critical threat to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
7. Requests the State Party to strictly ensure that no further ski development takes place within the property and its buffer zone, and to ensure that the existing ski facilities and ski runs comply with the approved requirements, including those for the restoration of degraded areas;
8. Decides that any further development of and severe impacts from ski facilities or ski runs, or associated infrastructure, within the property and its buffer zone would result in the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Urges the State Party to ensure that the new management plan to be developed for the period post 2013 will not permit further ski development or construction of other ecologically unsustainable facilities within the property and its buffer zone, nor extension of the tourism zone into the property;
10. Also urges the State Party to take all possible measures to prevent the inappropriate use of the World Heritage Emblem, including by not allowing its use in relation to the Bansko ski resort, which cannot be considered a sustainable use of a World Heritage property; and encourages the State Party to explore and enhance options for ecologically sustainable tourism in the property that will benefit local communities;
11. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint UNESCO/IUCN monitoring mission to the property in 2011 to assess the state of conservation of the property, with particular reference to its effective protection from inappropriate development and human use within and beyond its boundaries, as well as the establishment of more appropriate buffer zones which satisfy the requirements of Paragraph 104 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and to review a draft of the new management plan to ensure that it will provide for the continued protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
12. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2011**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, with particular reference to its effective protection from inappropriate development and human use within and beyond its boundaries, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session in 2011. This report should include the State Party response to the NGO submissions that resulted in an infringement procedure by the Directorate-General for the Environment of the European Commission

Surface and coordinates of the property inscribed on the World Heritage List by the 34th session of the World Heritage Committee (Brasilia, 2010) in accordance with the *Operational Guidelines*.




Bulgaria				
N 225 bis Pirin National Park				
Serial ID No	Name	Property	Buffer zone	Centre point coordinates
225-001	Pirin National Park inscribed in 1983	27442.9 ha	-	N41 44 33,8 E23 25 49,7
	Becomes Buffer zone	-1078.28 ha		
	Excluded	-150.6 ha		
225bis-001	Pirin National Park	12136.02 ha	1078.28 ha	
	TOTAL	38350.04 ha	1078.28 ha	

PIRIN NATIONAL PARK

PROPOSED AS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY (2009)



LEGEND

-  Boundaries of Pirin National park – 40 356.0 ha;
-  Proposed World Heritage Property (2009) – 39 277.72 ha
-  Proposed buffer zone - 1078.28ha

