BIODIVERSITY

PROTECTED AREAS OF GREECE

CONTENTS

PROTECTED AREAS

All categories refers to Greece

0

DEFINITION OF PROTECTED AREAS

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DEFINITION OF PROTECTED AREAS

In Greece natural areas are identified as protected areas either according to existing national legislation, or through international conventions and international or European initiatives.

NATURA 2000

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ΔΕΛΤΑ ΕΒΡΟΥ

1

PROTECTED AREAS
ACCORDING TO NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Protected Areas Greece

Since **1937**, Greece has started to identify natural areas of specific ecological importance (forests, wetlands etc.) and place them under special protection

As far as the national legislation is concerned, the declaration of protected areas, in various categories of protection, was based up to 1986 mainly on **Forest Law**.

Categories

Today, the categories of protected areas according to the existing legislation are **as follows**:

- National Woodland Parks
- National Parks
- Aesthetic Forests
- Natural Monuments and Landmarks
- Wildlife Refuges
- Controlled hunting Areas
- Game Breeding Stations
- Nature Reserve Areas
- Absolute Nature Reserve Areas
- Protected Forests
- Protected significant natural formations and landscapes
- Ecodevelopment Areas

Photos

Petrified Forest of Lesvos

National Marine Park of Alonissos

National Park wetland of Evros delta

Lake Volvi

Mount Olympus

2

PROTECTED AREAS
IN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Apart from the national legislation, special commitment on the protection of the natural environment derives from international conventions, ratified by the country, and from Greece's participation in international organizations such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO.

Categories

The following categories apply to the above:

- Wetlands of international importance according to the Ramsar Convention
- World Heritage Sites (UNESCO)
- Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO)
- Specially Protected Areas according to the Barcelona Convention
- Biogenetic Reserves (Council of Europe)
- Eurodiploma Sites (Council of Europe)

Photos

Delta Evrou

Meteora

Mount Athos

Lake Koronia

Lake Volvi

3

PROTECTED AREAS
IN EUROPEAN LEVEL

PROTECTED AREAS IN EUROPEAN LEVEL

- A remarkable area of the Greek territory has been included in the European Ecological Network Natura 2000.
- Greece includes at its National List **163** Special Protection Areas and **239** Sites of Community Importance.
- The surface area of the network in Greece, excluding overlaps, is approximately **3.4 million hectares** and occupies **21% of the land**.

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