

# KEY INFORMATION ABOUT PROTECTED AREA: KALKALPEN NATIONAL PARK, AUSTRIA

## Basic biodiversity data

1. Share (%) of main ecosystem types

**81%** Forest

**8%** Mountain pines

**6%** Mountain pasture and alp

**5%** Rock and rubble

2. Presence of habitat types according to:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/docs/Int\\_Manual\\_EU28.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/docs/Int_Manual_EU28.pdf) or EUNIS classification \_ are maps available?

## MAIN ECOSYSTEM TYPES → Annex I Habitat types

Code	Name
3140	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.
3240	Alpine rivers and their ligneous vegetation with Salix elaeagnos
4060	Alpine and Boreal heaths
4070	Bushes with Pinus mugo and Rhododendron hirsutum (Mugo-Rhododendretum hirsuti)
6110	Rupicolous calcareous or basophilic grasslands of the Alysso-Sedion albi

6170	Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands
6230	Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)
6410	Molinian meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinion caeruleae</i> )
6430	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels
6520	Mountain hay meadows
7110	Active raised bogs
7140	Transition mires and quaking bogs
7220	Petrifying springs with tufa formation ( <i>Cratoneurion</i> )
7230	Alkaline fens
8120	Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels ( <i>Thlaspietea rotundifolii</i> )
8160	Medio-European calcareous scree of hill and montane levels
8210	Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation
8310	Caves not open to the public
9110	Luzulo-Fagetum beech forests
9130	Asperulo-Fagetum beech forests
9140	Medio-European subalpine beech woods with <i>Acer</i> and <i>Rumex arifolius</i>
9150	Medio-European limestone beech forests of the <i>Cephalanthero-Fagion</i>
9180	<i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
91D0	Bog woodland
91E0	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> )
9410	Acidophilous <i>Picea</i> forests of the montane to alpine levels ( <i>Vaccinio-Piceetea</i> )

3. Presence of species of EU interest (Annex II and IV of the Habitats Directive), Annex I Birds Directive species \_ use data from Standard Data Forms in case of Natura 2000 areas; attractive/sensitive species – are species distribution maps available?

Species			Population in the site							Site assessment				
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D.qual.	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	GI
B	A168	<a href="#">Actitis hypoleucos</a>			r					G	D			
B	A223	<a href="#">Aegolius funereus</a>			p	40	55	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A091	<a href="#">Aquila chrysaetos</a>			p	2	4	p		G	C	A	C	A
I	1093	<a href="#">Austropotamobius torrentium</a>			p				R	M	C	A	C	A
M	1308	<a href="#">Barbastella barbastellus</a>			p	18	18	i		G	C	B	C	B
A	1193	<a href="#">Bombina variegata</a>			p				P	G	B	B	C	B
B	A104	<a href="#">Bonasa bonasia</a>			p	100	300	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A215	<a href="#">Bubo bubo</a>			p					G	D			
P	1386	<a href="#">Buxbaumia viridis</a>			p				R	P	C	B	C	B
I	1078	<a href="#">Callimorpha quadripunctaria</a>			p				P	G	C	A	C	A
B	A224	<a href="#">Caprimulgus europaeus</a>			c	1	1	i		G	D			
B	A030	<a href="#">Ciconia nigra</a>			r					G	D			
B	A080	<a href="#">Circaetus gallicus</a>			c	1	1	i		G	D			
B	A207	<a href="#">Columba oenas</a>			p				P	G	D			
I	1086	<a href="#">Cuculus cinnaberinus</a>			p				P	M	C	A	C	A
P	1902	<a href="#">Cypripedium calceolus</a>			p	50				M	C	A	C	A
B	A239	<a href="#">Dendrocopos leucotos</a>			p	5110	130	p		G	B	A	C	A
P	1381	<a href="#">Dicranum viride</a>			p				R	P	C	B	C	B
B	A236	<a href="#">Dryocopus martius</a>			p				P	G	D			
I	1065	<a href="#">Euphydryas aurinia</a>			p				P	G	C	C	C	C
B	A103	<a href="#">Falco peregrinus</a>			p	3	4	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A321	<a href="#">Ficedula albicollis</a>			r	375	420	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A322	<a href="#">Ficedula hypoleuca</a>			r	60	60	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A320	<a href="#">Ficedula parva</a>			r	210	235	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A217	<a href="#">Glaucidium passerinum</a>			p	40	55	p		G	C	A	C	A
I	1052	<a href="#">Hypodryas maturna</a>			p				P	G	C	C	C	C
B	A106	<a href="#">Lagopus mutus</a>			p				P	G	D			
B	A338	<a href="#">Lanius collurio</a>			r	20	30	p		G	C	A	C	A
M	1361	<a href="#">Lynx lynx</a>			r	1	3	i		G	A	B	A	B

B	A319	<a href="#">Muscicapa striata</a>			r				P	G	C	A	C	A
M	1323	<a href="#">Myotis bechsteini</a>			p	0	5	i		G	D			
M	1321	<a href="#">Myotis emarginatus</a>			p	6	6	i		G	C	B	C	B
M	1324	<a href="#">Myotis myotis</a>			p				P	G	C	A	C	A
B	A072	<a href="#">Pernis apivorus</a>			r	10	20	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A241	<a href="#">Picoides tridactylus</a>			p	140	220	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A234	<a href="#">Picus canus</a>			p					G	D			
M	1303	<a href="#">Rhinolophus hipposideros</a>			p	36	114	i		G	C	A	C	A
I	1087	<a href="#">Rosalia alpina</a>			p				P	G	B	A	B	B
P	1394	<a href="#">Scapania massalongii</a>			p				R	P	C	B	C	B
B	A155	<a href="#">Scolopax rusticola</a>			r				P	G	C	A	C	A
I	1927	<a href="#">Stephanopachys substriatus</a>			p				P	G	D			
I	1927	<a href="#">Stephanopachys substriatus</a>			p				R	P	C	B	C	B
B	A107	<a href="#">Tetrao tetrix</a>			p	33	33	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A108	<a href="#">Tetrao urogallus</a>			p	60	60	i		G	C	B	C	B
M	1354	<a href="#">Ursus arctos</a>			p				P	G	C	A	A	B

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes

- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)

- **Type:** p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)

- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the Standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting (see [reference portal](#))

- **Abundance categories (Cat.):** C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information

**Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if no even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

#### **4. Brief description of formal designation (legal status) and managing organisation (max. 100 words)**

Ownership: 50 % Upper Austria, 50 % Federal Government of Austria

Most of the area belongs to the Republic of Austria (88 % Federal Forests), only little area is private land: 12 % protected by long term contracts

89 % are designated as Zone A – that means “nature zone, non-intervention zone”

11 % are designated as Zone B – i.e. management zone, e.g. the Alpine pastures and mountain meadows.

The NP is part of the European network of protected areas (**Natura 2000 site**)

And it is an internationally important wetland area, that means **RAMSAR** site, because of the karst landscape, the streams and springs.

#### **Management goals are:**

- **protection of nature** –  
to leave nature to itself, to enable wilderness. Wilderness is much older than mankind. Wilderness creates diversity
- **education**  
The NP offers visitor programs for adults as well as for school children. Our Rangers guide about 12.000 visitors per year through the National Park.
- **research**  
several research and monitoring programs are run by the NP. We have a water laboratory, where the quality of the springs and their water is permanently monitored.
- **recreation**  
The National Park area is a place for recreation, to experience nature with all senses. There are only some restrictions for visitors, e.g.: wetlands are strictly protected

#### **Has a management plan been adopted for the protected area (please describe in few sentences)?**

We have a national park plan, but we will get a new next year. (not official yet)

Business plan: <http://www.kalkalpen.at/system/web/GetDocument.ashx?fileid=910787> (in German)

#### **Which sectors have the most significant impact on biodiversity in the area (please rate 3-high, 2-medium, 1-low)?**

- Agriculture 1 (only mountain pastures and meadows)
- Forestry 0
- Hunting and fisheries 0
- Nature conservation 3
- Tourism 2
- Water management 0
- Transportation 0
- Industry 0
- Households 0

**Land ownership – please assess the percentage of land owned publicly or privately:**

- Agricultural land

Public:   4  %; Private:   2  %

- Forests

Public:  80 %; Private:   9  %

- Other land

Public:   3  %; Private:   2  %

**What are the main threats to biodiversity in the protected area?**

~~Illegal logging~~

Pollution

~~Illegal dumping~~

~~Urban expansion~~

Soil erosion

~~Land use intensification~~

Other:

- Bark beetle => Management, Noise, timber extraction, soil erosion, soil compaction
- Mountain pasture management => Wetland habitats are trampled by cows
- Tourism => Hiking, biking, ski tour, climbing, canyoning, paragliding => Noise, disturbance of wild animals, soil erosion, pollution
- Natural disturbance => Avalanche, wind, bark beetle, fire, flood
- Neobiota

**Where do you see the main opportunities for pro-biodiversity business (PBB) development related to the protected area?**

**Tourism:** we have partnership program for tourism agencies, accommodations, restaurants, museums, etc.

<http://www.kalkalpen.at/system/web/sonderseite.aspx?menuonr=221800038&detailonr=221800038&sprache=2>

**Agriculture:** selling products

**Sport activities:** guided tours (adventure agents)

**Alpine pastures:** selling products to hiking and biking tourists

**Companies:** contract with regional companies, who are allowed to use our Kalkalpen national parc partner-logo for their PR (create “green companies”)

**Who are the main stakeholders you can identify at this early stage that will be involved in the process of mapping ecosystem services and biodiversity opportunities and generating the action plan for opportunities to come true?**

We have more than 20 different groups of stakeholders:, very important external organizations are:

- Curatorship: board of trustee (advisory function referring national parc affords and activities)
- Mayors of 18 communities: contract between national parc and community referring the receipt of the appearance of the cultural landscape and sustainable economic activities
- Agency of Leader Region: agency with is responsible for the natural development of the region, precessing of European project and money
- National parc partners: companies, restaurants, accomadations which have a contract with the parc organisation concerning the use of our label
- Regional chamber of agriculture
- Regional chamber of economy and business
- Partner schools (elementary schools)
- Tourism agenturies
- State forestry (ÖBf)
- Farmers who have contract with parc organisation
- Farmers who sell their products with the national parc label

**Development projects**

- hiking trails, bicycle and mountainbike tracks, thematic trails, bridle path
- three visitor centres in the region
- a hotel
- Alpine pastures: energy and solar power, water
- Guided Tours: education and training of national parc ranger
- Wide range of guided tour program
- Partnership program with tourism agencies, accommodations, restaurants, museums, etc.
- Agriculture: selling products
- ...

**Conflicts:**

- A lot of discussions about our wild animal management: release of lynxs in the parc area
- Bark beetle managment: we have more than 75 % wilderness area without bark beetle manangement

- General discussions about our wilderness area, where humans aren't allowed to influence the nature.

**Local topics, we discuss in our region:**

- What is the identity in the region?
- How is it possible to gain added value in a region with a protected area without mass tourism and big industry
- Bark beetle and wild animal management
- Development of the national parc region as „green region“ e.g: biosphere reserve