

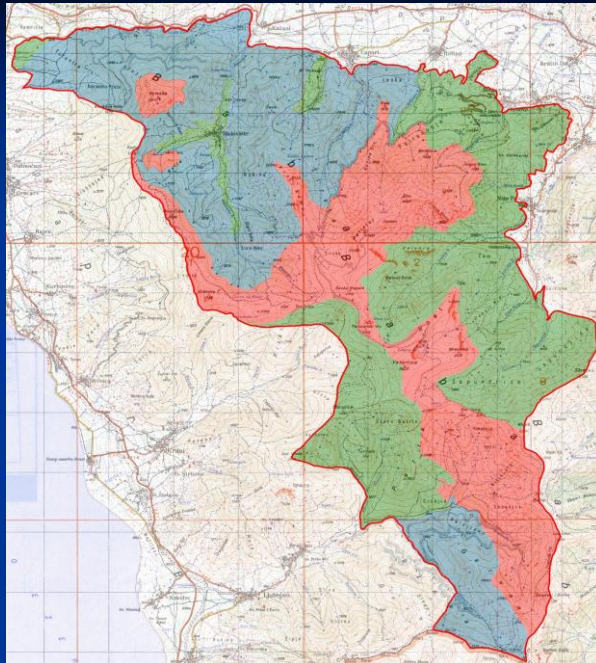


## PELISTER – A SPECIAL PLACE

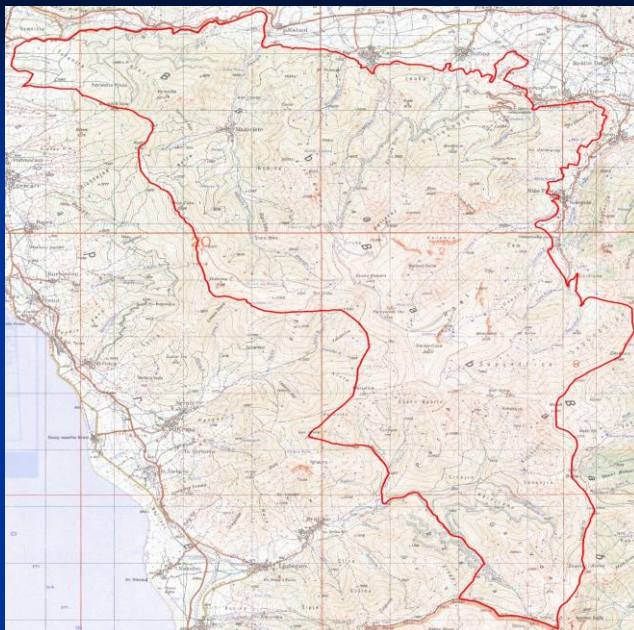
### 1. Location and boundaries

- Pelister National Park is located in the south-western part of the Republic of Macedonia, encompassing an area of 17.150 ha on the northern side of the Baba massif at altitudes between 900 and 2601m.
- The regional road Bitola-Resen and the Bigla Mountain are to the north of the Park and the border with Greece, to the south.
- To the east of the Park are the Pelagonide valley and the city of Bitola and to the west are the Prespa valley and the city of Resen.

### Existing borders and zoning in Pelister National Park



## Existing borders and zoning in Pelister National Park



PELISTER NATIONAL PARK

### 2.) Management zones

**Management zones are defined and recognizable units used to control the activities in different parts of the national parks.** Following the Spatial Plan for Pelister National Park there are four zones in the Park:

- *Zone of strict protection*
- *Administrative managing zone*
- *Sustainable managing zone*
- *Protected belt zone*



**PELISTER NATIONAL PARK**

### 3.) Background

- Pelister was declared a National Park in 1948
- Just one village within the Park borders – Malovishta - with 98 permanent inhabitants and there are several villages in the Park vicinity (app. 1 km distance)
- Approximately 10,000 people inhabit the area around the Park.
- National Park Directorate registered as a Public Institution is responsible for the management of Pelister National Park
  - 21 employees
  - Ranger service (5 full-time rangers)
  - Seasonal work force (13-18)
  - Volunteers (5 part time)



**PELISTER NATIONAL PARK**

### 4.) Self financing institution

#### Funding mechanism

Due to the lack of state financial support the Park is developing different mechanisms for financing

- Non timber forest products
  - Molika cones, pines and seeds
  - Blueberries, Juniper berries, Medicinal plants and Mushrooms
- System for licensing based on strategy for sustainable collection
  - First model species is blueberries
- In procedure is introducing entrance fees and ecological taxes



#### 4.1.) Self financing intentions

- **Eco tourism** – support to local communities in providing tourism services
- Development of a **regional label** together with local NGO's and business sector as a tool for promoting regional products, tourist offers and services.
- Enhancing the offers for the Park visitors
  - Through development of **Environmental education**
  - Visiting the information centre
  - Development of specific offers (new trails)



### HUMAN USE

#### 1.) Past use

- Livestock breeding has traditionally been the main economic activity of the communities of Malovishta and the villages neighboring the Park (e.g. Magarevo, Trnovo, Capari, Nizsepole, Dihovo, Kazzani and Rotino)

#### 2.) Current use

- Recreation and tourism
- Environmental education
- Scientific research
- Collection of medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products
- Forestry
- Water resources use
- Agriculture



### SPECIAL VALUES OF PELISTER NATIONAL PARK

#### 1. Key values

- *The forests, molika (pinus peuce gris.)* as a typical and most important sample of this habitat type;
- *The grass communities*, alpine graze land in particular;
- Fresh-water ecosystems
- The Bruckenthalia heaths
- The species which are threatened globally or in Europe
- The species that are considered to be rare and threatened in Macedonia
- Endemic plants and animals
- Non-timber forest products
- The animals which are easily recognized and highly attractive to the local people and the visitors



**PELISTER NATIONAL PARK**

### STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT DIRECTIONS

Vision for the future of Pelister National Park is focus on:

- Protection of the biodiversity, landscape and the cultural heritage for the future generations
- Various possibilities for experiencing the beauties of the Park for the visitors (wide range of activities).
- Continuous collaboration with the local communities for economic and social development.
- Increased scientific research activities and improved capacities of the National Park Directorate.



**PELISTER NATIONAL PARK**

### CONSERVATION OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

<p><b>1.) Conservation of geological heritage and biological diversity</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Long history of human activities in the area (artifacts from over 4,000 years).</li> <li>- Archeological findings from the Roman and Medieval period.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.) Protection of cultural heritage</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Over 40 churches and monasteries in and around the Park (oldest one from the 12th century).</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.) Landscape Protection</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- World War I remains (Thessalonica front).</li> <li>- Villages with typical architecture and traditional life style.</li> </ul>





THANK YOU

