

#### Appendix 4 - Habitats and species insufficiently protected by the Cyprus Government proposal

The following **habitats** have been insufficiently covered by the current SCI by excluding from the site boundaries large tracts of private land on which they were situated:

- 6220\* Pseudo steppes with grasses and annuals of the *Thero-brachypodietea*,
- 62Bo\* Serpentinophilous grassland of Cyprus,
- 3170\* Mediterranean temporary ponds,
- 5330 Thermo-Mediterranean and pre-desert scrub (*Genista fasselata*),
- 5420 *Sarcopoterium spinosum* phryganas,
- 9320 *Olea* and *Ceratonia* forests and
- 92Ao *Salix alba* and *Populus alba* galleries.

According to the *Biogeographical Seminar for Cyprus (2012)*, the **representativity of all seven habitat types is classified as “insufficiently moderate” (IN MOD)**. Regarding the representativity of the priority habitat type 6220\*, there is also a “scientific reserve” (IN MOD SR), whilst there is a suggestion for the “correction of data” for the priority habitat type 3170\* and the habitat type 92Ao (IN MOD CD). Lastly, there is a “scientific reserve” and also a suggestion for the “correction of data” (CD SR) for the habitat type 62Bo\*.

The following **mammals** are under-represented: *Rhinolophus hipposideros*<sup>1,2</sup>, *Rhinolophus euryale*<sup>1,2</sup>, *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*<sup>1,2</sup>, *Rhinolophus blasii*<sup>1,2</sup>, *Miniopterus schreibersii*<sup>1,2</sup> and *Rousettus aegyptiacus*<sup>1,2</sup>.

The following **reptiles** are also under-represented: *Caretta caretta*<sup>1,2</sup> and *Chelonia mydas*<sup>1,2</sup>.

The habitat requirements of the following **birds** are not sufficiently covered by the SPA for the Akamas Peninsula:

- *Aquila fasciata*<sup>3</sup> (the unique species of eagle that continues to nest in Cyprus),
- *Coracias garrulus*<sup>1,3</sup>,
- Thirteen species of raptors passing over in large numbers during their migration ('bottleneck' migration site), and
- *Merops apiaster*<sup>1</sup>.

The wider region of the Peninsula is very important for the birds of the island, particularly for the migratory species. A total of 197 species of birds have been recorded and Akamas provides a nesting area for 13 species from Annex I of the Birds Directive 2009/147/EC, and for 105 migratory species. The region is also a nesting ground for raptor species (*Aquila fasciata* and *Falco peregrinus*) and maintains important populations of the European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*) and the endemic Cyprus Warbler (*Sylvia melanothorax*). In 2012, BirdLife Cyprus defined 34 Important Bird Areas (IBA) following the criteria and the well-recognised methodology of BirdLife International. Although IBAs have been recognized by the European Court of Justice as a scientifically sound basis for the determination of SPA boundaries, this has not been followed in the case of Akamas, as only 55% of the IBA is covered by the current SPA boundaries.

1: Strictly protected fauna species in Appendix II of the Bern Convention

2: Protected under Annex II of the Habitat Directive 92/43/EEC

3: Protected under Annex I of the Birds Directive 2009/147/E