# PROJECT:

# EastMed Pipeline Project


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## Table of Contents

## List of Figures



## List of Tables

## Abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Description |
|---|---|
| AA | Appropriate Assessment |
| C/S | Compressor Station |
| C-M/S | Compressor and fiscal Metering Station |
| Contractor | The contractor to which the construction shall be awarded. Currently, it is not defined the manner of awarding or the number of engaged contractors. |
| EC | European Commission |
| ECP | EastMed Compression Platform |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| EKPAA | National Center for Environment and Sustainable Development |
| ESIA | Environmental and Social Impact Assessment |
| ETA | Environmental Terms Approval |
| EU | European Union |
| FSA | Field Survey Area |
| ha | Hectares |
| HDD | Horizontal Directional Drilling |
| Investigated project | The EastMed consisting of an Onshore and an Offshore section and associated onshore facilities |
| IP | Interconnection Point |
| ITA | Inline Tee Assembly |
| IUCN | International Union for Conservation of Nature |
| JMD | Joint Ministerial Decision |
| kHz | kilohertz |
| km | Kilometers |
| LFi | Landfall |

| Abbreviation | Description |
|---|---|
| m | meters |
| MD | Ministerial Decision |
| MEE | Ministry of Environment & Energy |
| NCC | Nature Conservation Consultants Ltd. |
| O&M | Dispatching and Operation & Maintenance Building |
| OFYPEKA | Organization of Natural Environment and Climate Change |
| Onshore Stations | • Compressor and Metering Stations at Crete,<br>• Compressor Station at Achaia,<br>• Metering/ Pressure Regulating and Heating Station at Megalopoli. |
| PGM | Permanent Ground Markers |
| PIER | Preliminary Environmental Identification Requirements |
| PPS | Pipeline Protection Strip and Safety Zone (PPS) |
| Project | Construction and Operation of the EastMed Project |
| Project Owner | IGI Poseidon: a Company equally owned (50-50%) by DEPA International Projects and Edison, incorporated under Greek law |
| RCM | Reliability Centered Maintenance |
| SAC | Special Area of Conservation |
| SDF | Standard Data Form |
| SPA | Special Protection Area |
| SPT | System Pressure Test |
| SSCO | Site Specific Conservation Objectives |
| WS | Working Strip |

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Legal framework for the conduction of Appropriate Assessment for the SPA "Ori Anatolikis Lakonias", GR2540007

According to Greek national legislation Law 4014/2011 an Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) is required for technical projects belonging to category A1. In case they interfere with Natura 2000 sites a specialized Appropriate Assessment (AA) has to be conducted concerning the entire Natura 2000 site, which becomes an integral part of the projects' ESIA.

The EastMed Pipeline Project has offshore and onshore sections and is directly connecting East Mediterranean resources to mainland Greece via Cyprus and Crete. The Project is being developed by IGI Poseidon (Project Owner), a company based in Athens and equally owned (50-50%) by the Greek company DEPA International Projects S.A. and the Italian company Edison S.p.A.

The ESIA has been prepared on behalf of the Project Owner by the company ERM Italia SpA and the engineering company ASPROFOS Engineering S.A. (member of the HELPE Group of Companies) and in collaboration with renowned, experienced and specialised consultants, in accordance with applicable environmental legislation. The AAs of the Project have been carried out by Nature Conservation Consultants Ltd (NCC), subcontractor of ASPROFOS Engineering S.A.

The present AA concerns the Special Protection Area "Ori Anatolikis Lakonias", GR2540007, focusing mainly on the portion directly crossed by the onshore section of the pipeline (Figure 2-1).

In the framework of the present AA, NCC established an official communication with the Management Body of Parnon, Moustos, Mainalon & Monemvasia, the responsible Body for the management and protection of the site and requested the most up to date information on avifauna monitoring in the site available from the competent authorities' biodiversity data-bank. No data were available for the area.

### Category of Appropriate Assessment Study for the site, based on the Annexes of Ministerial Decision 170225/2014

The Greek MD 170225/2014 sets two possible categories of AA described in Annexes 3.2.1. and Annex 3.2.2. In particular:

- An AA falls under the requirements of Annex 3.2.1, when existing biodiversity data for the Natura 2000 site, where the project or portion of the project is proposed to be implemented, are not

recent and/or sufficient, and a detailed biodiversity field survey lasting at least 20 days (for projects of category A1) is required for the collection of biodiversity information.

- An AA falls under the requirements of Annex 3.2.2, when existing biodiversity data for the Natura 2000 site, where the project or portion of the project is proposed to be implemented, are recent, reliable and sufficient and are available from official/public sources, such as the Natura 2000 sites national biodiversity monitoring network and no field survey is required.

The present AA for the Special Protection Area (SPA) "Ori Anatolikis Lakonias", GR2540007, falls under the category set in Annex 3.2.1, since existing data for the sites are not sufficiently detailed to fulfil the requirements of Annex 3.2.2. Thus, a field survey of at least 20 days has to be performed addressing the requirements of Greek legislation, to gather sufficient biodiversity information for the present AA.

The field survey was carried out for an overall period of 20 days between March 2021 and December 2021 including the following activities:

- Collection of field data on avifauna of interest present in the section of the Natura 2000 site directly crossed by the pipeline, by ornithologists;
- Collection of field data on habitats, with a focus on habitats that are suitable for the identified avifauna species, by habitat expert at the same section;
- Collection of additional field data on other fauna species of interest present in the section of the Natura 2000 site directly crossed by the pipeline, by fauna experts;

Field survey results are presented alongside desktop data and clear reference to the data source is made throughout the AA.

## 1.2 Assumptions, limitations and exclusions

For the preparation of the AA a number of assumptions have been made:

- The assessment was based on Project design data available to date. Reliable assumptions on the following key elements have been made, on the base of existing bibliography on pipeline construction: (a) total duration, (b) specifications concerning the project within the Study Area.
- The AA is in alignment with the ESIA.
- The present AA focused solely on the normal operative conditions of the project. Consequently, emergency and non-routine events, that could potentially affect biodiversity, were not taken into consideration in this AA and will be assessed in the ESIA.

- The decommissioning phase of the project was not taken into account in the present AA, since it is expected to take place in 3-5 decades from today, when all biodiversity parameters will have to be re-evaluated. Therefore, a new AA will be required for the decommissioning phase after the project end of life.

## 1.3 Analysis of Institutional / Legal Framework

### *1.3.1 Plans and projects within Natura 2000 sites*

The Natura 2000 network is an EU network of protected areas, whose main objective is the protection of vulnerable and endangered species of animals, plants and habitat types in the EU, and it constitutes the widest biodiversity conservation network worldwide. Based on the Birds and Habitats Directives (2009/147/EC and 92/43/EEC, respectively), every member of the Union declares Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), in order to protect the endangered biodiversity of Europe.

The connection between human activities and the protection framework of Natura 2000 sites is clarified in Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. More specifically, for every project or plan that is expected to significantly affect an area, it is noted that:

"*Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public*".

"*If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, the Member State shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted*".

The two Directives have been transposed into the Greek legislation with the following decrees: JMD 37338/1807/2010, JMD 8353/276/2012, JMD 33318/3028/1998, MD 14849/853/2008.

Concerning Article 6 of Directive 92/43/EEC, the L. 4014/2011 and the MD 170225/2014 are defining in detail the implementation of respective provisions. The national legislation includes also the Law 3937/11 "Conservation of biodiversity and other provisions".

Based on the above legal framework, the following are noted:

- The consequences of every project must be examined separately and in accordance with other existing projects or plans in the site,
- The criteria must be based on preserving the integrity of the site, along with keeping in mind the conservation objectives,
- In the case the construction of the project is necessary for overriding public interest, necessary compensatory measures will be taken.

### *1.3.2 Natura 2000 network in Greece*

The national Natura 2000 network has been updated and extended with the JMD 50743/2017, while the Management Bodies for all the Natura 2000 sites are set by the Laws 4519/2018 and 4685/2020. According to Law 4685/2020 the Organization of Natural Environment and Climate Change (OFYPEKA) was established and operates as the successor of the National Center for Environment and Sustainable Development (EKPAA). Among other things, the purpose of OFYPEKA is the implementation of the policy set by the Ministry of Environment and Energy for the management of Natura 2000 protected areas in Greece.

### *1.3.3 Environmental authorization of activities and projects*

According to Law 4014/2011, the environmental authorisation procedure of project and activities that may affect Natura 2000 sites, the preparation of an Appropriate Assessment is foreseen, constituting an integral part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment.

According to the Greek MD 1958/2012 and its subsequent amendments (Greek Decrees MD 20741/2012, MD 65150/1780, MD 173829/2014 and MD 37674/2016), the Projects are classified in two categories: Category A, when they potentially may cause very significant/significant environmental impacts, or in Category B, when they may cause only locally or of no significance environmental impacts.

The content of the Appropriate Assessment was specified by the MD 170225/2014, which includes

- detailed record of natural environment data with emphasis to the protected elements of the Natura 2000 sites and those likely to be affected by the project or activity,
- appropriate assessment and impact assessment,
- mitigation measures for the potential impacts,
- compensatory measures (if needed)
- monitoring program,
- conclusions summary,
- bibliography sources and
- study team.

### *1.3.4 Classification of the project based on National legislation*

The project classification according to National legislation (as amended and in force) is provided in Table 1-1.

Table 1-1 Classification of EastMed according to MD 170225/2014

| Legislation | Category | Project Categorization |
|---|---|---|
| MD 1958/2011 | Group | 11 - Transport of energy, fuels and chemical compounds |
| | No. | 1 –Pipelines of national importance or included in European or international networks and associated/ supporting facilities |
| | Category | A1 – Project and activities that may have very significant impacts on the environment |
| | Comment | - |
| STAKOD 08/ NACE Rev.2* | Section | D – Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply |
| | Division | 35 – Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply |
| | Group | 35.2 – Manufacture of gas; distribution of gaseous fuels through mains |
| | Class | 35.23 |
| | Description | Trade of gas through mains |
| JMD 3137/191/Φ.15/2012* | Group | n/a |
| | Sub-group | n/a |
| | No. | n/a |
| | Disturbance class | n/a |

* The classification presents the activity most relevant to the Project. The applicable provisions concern also the compressor stations.

| Legislation | Category | Project Categorization |
|---|---|---|
| *It is noted that the compressor stations, having a total capacity >50 MW, fall into the provisions of JMD 36060/1155/E.103 regarding "Establishing a framework of rules, measures and procedures for the integrated prevention and control of environmental pollution from industrial activities, in compliance with the provisions of Directive 2010/75 / EU "On Industrial Emissions (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control)" of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010"* | | |

Prepared by: (ASPROFOS, 2021)

# 2 STUDY AREA – FIELD SURVEY AREA

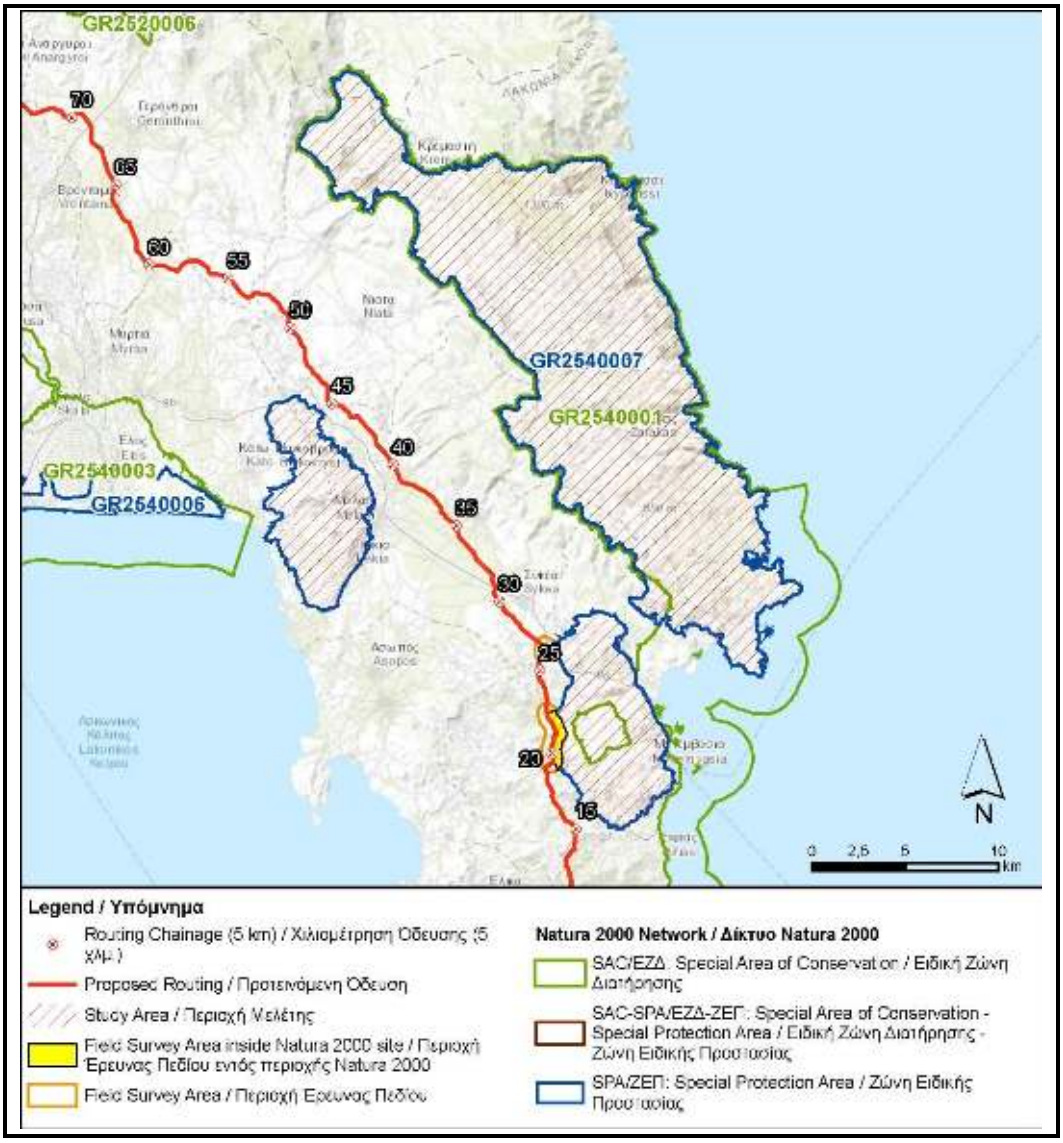
According to the AA specifications (MD 170225/2014) the whole Natura 2000 site, crossed or affected by the project should be defined as Study Area; hence the Study Area for the present AA is the SPA "Ori Anatolikis Lakonias", GR2540007. As shown in Figure 2-1 the routing of the Onshore pipeline crosses the site at its western edge for a length of 2 km.

According to the National regulatory specifications (MD 170225/2014), the Field Survey Area (FSA) for linear projects (such as the pipeline) is defined as a buffer zone of at least 500m either side of the linear infrastructure falling within the Study Area. Consequently, the FSA for the present AA is an area of more than 0.5km in width and of 2km in length within the Natura 2000 site, strictly considering the intersection between the pipeline and the site. However, given that:

- the routing of the pipeline extends outside the Natura 2000 site and at its immediate vicinity; and
- the construction of the project outside the Natura 2000 site may affect the defined buffer zone within the site;

a larger FSA area was considered, that includes also an area outside the Natura 2000 site, covering a total surface area of 486ha, of which 170ha overlaps with the Natura 2000 site (0.5% of the site's area) (Figure 2-3).

Maps of the Study Area and the Field Survey Area are provided in ANNEX E, in Maps 2 and 4 respectively.

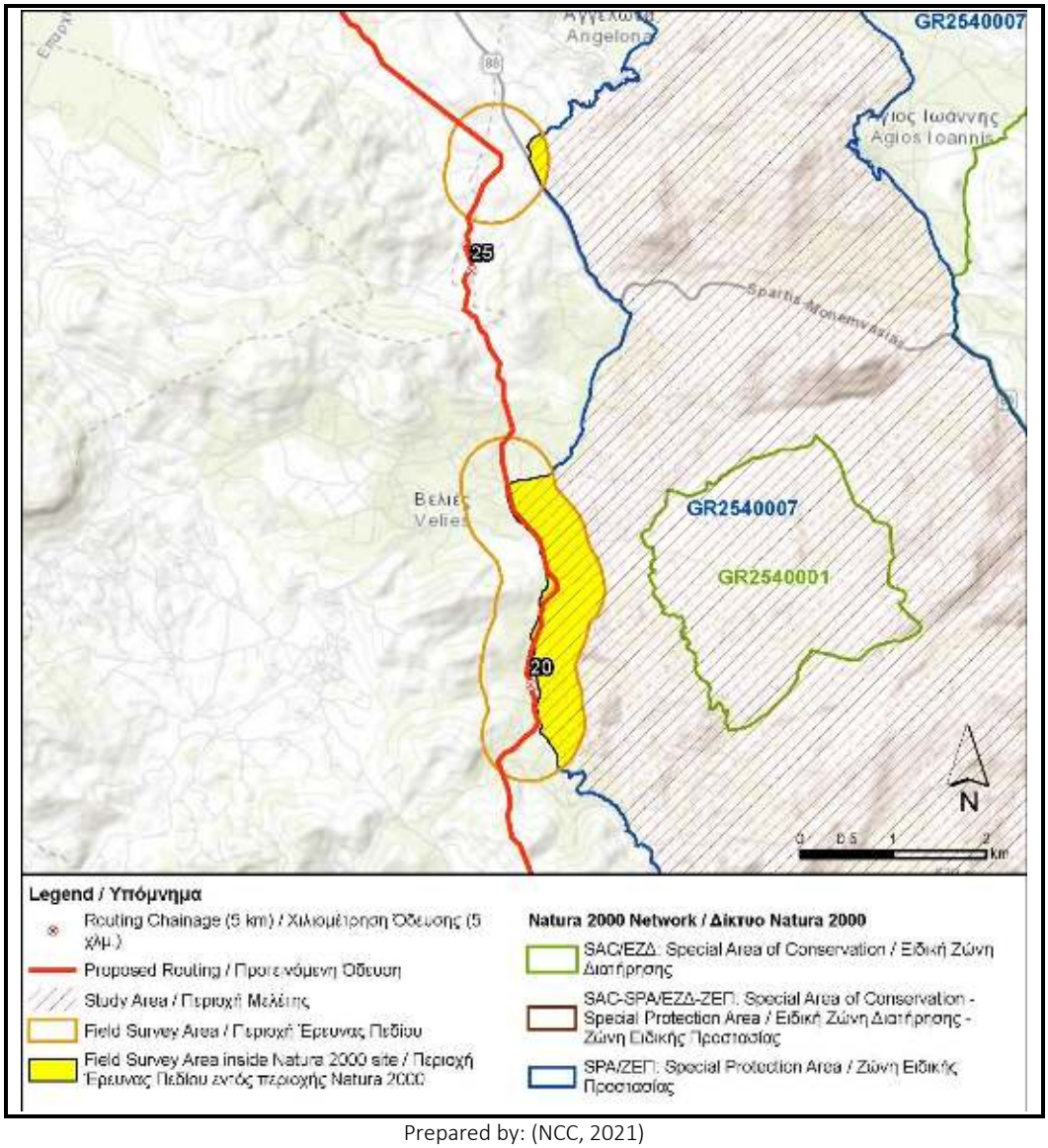



Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Figure 2-1 Study Area (red hatch) and Field Survey Area (orange). Pipeline routing in red


Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Figure 2-2 Protected areas of the broader area, crossed by the pipeline. Pipeline routing in red




Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Figure 2-3 Field Survey Area (in yellow the FSA part within the SPA). Pipeline routing in red

# 3 CURRENT STATUS OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

According to the specifications of MD 170225/ 2014, the characterization of the current status of the natural environment shall include the description, recording and analysis of elements of the natural environment of the Study Area, as well as its conservation status.

The present section focuses on the whole SPA ecosystem providing data on existing baseline conditions of the site. Information on the FSA is provided based on fieldwork collected data.

## 3.1 Description, Recording and Analysis of the Study Area Natural Environment

The analysis of the current status of the natural environment in the Study Area has been based on data derived from the literature, enriched by the findings of the dedicated field surveys performed for the development of this AA.

In particular, for the purpose of the present document, a literature review of published references and a desktop review of data available from existing databases were carried out for the Study Area.

The main bibliographic sources of information used include:

- The Standard Data Form of SPA Area GR2540007 (2020).
- The most recent reports on the implementation of Directives 92/43/EEC and 2009/147/EC.

In addition, the results of the following studies have been considered:

- Determination of compatible activities in relation to the avifauna trigger species of the Special Protection Areas (Dimalexis et al., 2009).
- Action Plans for species at National and European level.
- The most recent Red Data Books (national, European, international).
- Important Bird Areas in Greece: Priority Areas for Biodiversity Conservation (Portolou et al., 2009)

The present AA includes also the mapping of ecological spatial units within the Study Area, carried out by habitat experts along with a desktop analysis of available data on habitat suitable for avifauna species. It is noted that the production of this map exceeds the minimum regulatory requirements for the AA; however, it was deemed necessary for the assessment of the extent of habitats suitable for protected bird species within the SPA, in comparison to their presence in the FSA.

### 3.1.1 Short description of the Study Area

The Study Area is the Special Protection Area "Ori Anatolikis Lakonias", GR2540007, which is located within the administrative limits of the Peloponnisos Regional Entity and covers an area of 37788,25 hectares. The region is managed by Management Body of Parnon, Moustos, Mainalon & Monemvasia.

The site consists of bare or sparsely forested mountains and in scrub in many places. The coastal line often ends with steep sea-cliffs and rocky shores. Geologically, the site belongs to the Gavrovos-Tripolis zone and consists mainly of phyllites and dark-coloured limestones of Jurassic age as well as Eocenic and Oligocenic flysch. At higher altitudes the vegetation consists of coniferous forests with *Abies cephallonica* and *Pinus nigra ssp. pallasiana*. At lower altitudes *Juniperus phoenicea* arborescent matorals, while Thermo-Mediterranean brush vegetation, thickets and heath-garrigues mixed with *Sarcopoterium spinosum* phrygana predominate in the area. Scattered spots of *Platanus orientalis*, *Nerium oleander* and *Tamarix galleries* are also present while some thickets of *Castanea sativa* exist.

The site is an important corridor for migratory passerines and breeding and migrant raptors.

The map of the Study Area is provided in ANNEX E, in Map 2.

### 3.1.2 Detailed description of the Study Area

#### *3.1.2.1 Ecological spatial units*

21 ecological spatial units were identified within the Study Area. Table 3-1 provides the spatial extension of each ecological spatial unit identified in the Study Area, as well as their percentage with respect to the whole area of the site, as mapped by the habitat expert in the framework of the AA, a task estimated as necessary for the estimation of the suitable habitats for the bird species of interest. As reported in Table 3-1 the largest part of the Study Area is covered by shrubland. In addition to these phrygana, arboreal crops and coniferous forests cover a significant part of the area. The rest of the area is occupied by agricultural land (abandoned and in use), grasslands, settlements, and steep cliffs.

Table 3-1 Ecological spatial units found in the Study Area

| Ecological spatial unit | Area (ha) | Percentage (%) |
|---|---|---|
| Shrubland | 24,212.15 | 64.08 |
| Phryganas | 5,018.93 | 13.28 |
| Multiannual / arboreal crops | 2,781.46 | 7.36 |

| Ecological spatial unit | Area (ha) | Percentage (%) |
|---|---|---|
| Coniferous forests | 2,141.60 | 5.67 |
| Abandoned cultivation | 2,095.33 | 5.54 |
| Steep cliffs | 392.92 | 1.04 |
| Grasslands | 440.79 | 1.17 |
| Annual crops | 381.54 | 1.01 |
| Urban ecosystems | 195.78 | 0.52 |
| Forest plantations (reforestation) | 43.85 | 0.12 |
| Broad-leaved forests | 36.96 | 0.10 |
| Wind farms | 16.30 | 0.04 |
| Rivers | 13.87 | 0.03 |
| Wetlands | 6.59 | 0.02 |
| Sandy beaches and dunes | 6.05 | 0.02 |
| Water reservoirs | 4.29 | 0.01 |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

The Map 3 in ANNEX E shows the ecological spatial units identified in the Study Area, mapped for the purpose of the present AA.


Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Figure 3-1 Ecological spatial units within the Study Area

### *3.1.2.2 Avifauna*

The site is an important corridor for migratory passerines and breeding and migrant raptors. The trigger species are 5: *Circaetus gallicus, Hieraaetus fasciatus, Hippolais olivetorum, Sylvia rueppelli*

and *Emberiza caesia*.The whole site offers a great variety of ecological niches. It is a very interesting area for resting and nesting of migratory birds.

29 species have been recorded in the Study Area, and been included in its Standard Data Form (SDF), of which 14 species are listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive.

ANNEX A of the present AA presents the trigger species, the Annex I species of the Birds Directive and the migratory species with regular presence, included in the SDF of the SPA. Their presence in the SPA, population and conservation assessment, are also presented in ANNEX A.

Of the species included in the SDF, 6 avifauna species are residents, 13 are reproducing in the area, 3 overwinter in the area and 12 use it as a stopover site, during their annual migratory movements. None of the species have been characterized as rare or very rare visitors of the area, as all are regularly recorded in the area.

One species has been characterized as Vulnerable (*Streptopelia turtur*) and two as Near Threatened (*Alectoris graeca* all others*, Falco vespertinus*) worldwide (IUCN), while at national level species one species has been characterized as Endangered (*Larus melanocephalus*), three as Vulnerable, namely *Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata), Alectoris graeca* all others*, Circus aeruginosus*, and five as Near Threatened, namely *Circaetus gallicus, Hippolais olivetorum, Sylvia rueppelli, Lanius nubicus, Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii*. ANNEX B of the present AA provides information concerning the threat status of the species included in the SDF of the SPA, based on the most up to date bibliographic sources.

ANNEX A of the present AA also provides information concerning other species of interest included in the SDF.

## 3.2 Other projects – potential cumulative impacts

The following broad categories of types of third-party projects that is likely to have direct or indirect synergy with EastMed Pipeline Project include (a) other linear projects, namely pipelines, roads, power lines, (b) other energy projects and (c) other major projects.

The existence or planning of third-party projects that may act cumulatively with the current project was investigated within the Study Area.

The site has some significant existing and planned projects and infrastructures besides the existing road network (EO 86) crossing at the site, in close proximity to the pipeline. There is one operating wind park and 7 under permitting planned wind park projects, which are located at a considerable distance (>4,5km) from the FSA and the pipeline routing.


Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Figure 3-2 Main other project at the Study Area

## 3.3 Description, Recording and Analysis of elements of Natural Environment in the Field Survey Area

### *3.3.1 Field survey methodology*

According to the MD 170225/2014 for Category A1 projects implemented within SPAs or outside but potentially affecting them, falling under the category set in Annex 3.2.1, field work *"[...] will have to cover the ecological requirements of an annual cycle of avifauna, depending on the seasonal presence of the species in the area and should include observations during (a) the breeding season, (b) the migratory period and (c) the wintering period [...]"*, unless otherwise stated, due to the existence of recent and sufficient data for the species of interest. Field work should last at least 20 days, requiring (a) recording of reproduction indications, (b) mapping of critical species habitats.

In light of the above a total of 20 days of field work were performed (timing provided in Table 3-2); more specifically:

- 9 days of field work were conducted during March 2021 (spring survey - migration)
- 6 days of field work were conducted during May 2021 (summer survey - breeding)
- 3 days of field work were conducted during September 2021 (autumn survey - migration)
- 2 days of field work were conducted during December 2021 (winter survey - wintering)

and included the following activities:

- Field data collection for avifauna species at the FSA, collected by ornithologists;
- Field data collection for habitats and flora with a focus on habitats that are suitable for the identified avifauna species, collected by habitat expert;
- Field data collection has also carried out also for other elements of biodiversity in the Natura 2000 site, such as mammals and reptiles, contributing to the conservation of the ecological integrity of the Natura 2000 site and the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network.

Table 3-2 Timetable of the Field work days

| Group | Date | No. of field work person-days |
|---|---|---|
| Site assessment | 27-29/03/2021 | 3 |
| Avifauna | 27-29/03/2021 | 3 |
| | 22-23/05/2021 | 2 |
| | 21/09/2021 | 3 |
| | 22/12/2021 | 2 |

| Group | Date | No. of field work person-days |
|---|---|---|
| Habitats, Flora/Fauna | 27-29/03/2021 | 3 |
| | 22-23/05/2021 | 4 |
| | Total | 20 |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

The field work methodological approach aimed at:

- Recording all species of avifauna and other fauna species within the FSA in all the main and secondary habitats of the area.
- Focusing on the study to the trigger species.
- Focusing on the colonies and nests of bird species important for the SPA and nests of other fauna species present within the FSA. It was estimated that the potential use of the FSA by other important species not included in the SDF should also be investigated.

For the organization of the field work, a series of factors were considered for optimal recording of species of interest and include:

- The adequacy of existing ornithological data from literature.
- The knowledge and experience of the avian experts concerning the area.
- The size, relief and accessibility of the area.
- The homogeneity, extent and diversity of the types of vegetation.

#### *3.3.1.1 Field survey methodology for Habitats*

The purpose of the survey on habitats is to locate habitats in order to contribute in the identification of the important for bird species habitats inside the SPA. The results are consolidated in the form of a map of ecological units. The research techniques used are the interpretation of satellite images and on-site verification (ground-truthing validation), while the available mapping of habitat types for overlapping SAC and Corine land cover are utilized as a base.

Satellite images provide important information about land uses of the Study Area. Through the interpretation of an updated satellite image, the general conditions (e.g. vegetation coverage, land use) of the Study Area and the wider area are easily illustrated and provide a preliminary map of ecological units. Verification in the field refers to the survey of the FSA with the systematic visit and recording of all the environmental resources encountered by the field researcher.

By this process the preliminary map of ecological units is confirmed, necessary modifications are being made and details, which are not visible in the satellite images or aerial photographs, are

recorded, while important flora species are being identified. For the ecological units, an on-the-spot investigation was carried out to check all possible microenvironments and taking into account the Braun-Blanquet method (1964), which is based on the distinction between vegetation types and then ecological units.

#### *3.3.1.2 Field survey methodology for Avifauna and other fauna*

Field work has been carried out using the following methods:

- *Look and see*, to identify species in suitable habitats.
- *Point counts,* which is an adequate method for monitoring birds in areas with shrub or tree vegetation.
- Vantage Points for location of presence, flights and nests of birds of prey in suitable habitats.
- Line transects.

The fieldwork has been carried out by 3 experienced ornithologists, with visits as summarized in Table 3-2, using binoculars, spotting scopes and zoom cameras to record birds and their habitats in FSA. Field experts searched on a wider area than the FSA for species of interest, identified possible or confirmed breeding of birds within the FSA and recorded individuals of various species singing, defending breeding territories or simply passing over the area.

Furthermore, 2 fauna experts and 1 habitat expert have carried out surveys.

Concerning bats, nocturnal acoustic bat recording was conducted stationary and along line transect. The recorded sound files were organized and scanned for bat calls and bat calls were identified automatically with the use of a software, as well as manually based on the Greek Bat Call Library. Furthermore, information on bat roosts and bat presence in general was collected from the Greek Bat Database and by contacting local people and speleologists. Settlements within the overlap of the Natura area and the buffer zone, for instance old buildings that were spotted along the pipeline design, were visited and checked for bats.

Concerning *Canus aureus*, point inspections and random transects were carried out, as well as interviews to local inhabitants.

### *3.3.2 Detailed description of the Field Survey Area*

#### *3.3.2.1 Ecological spatial units*

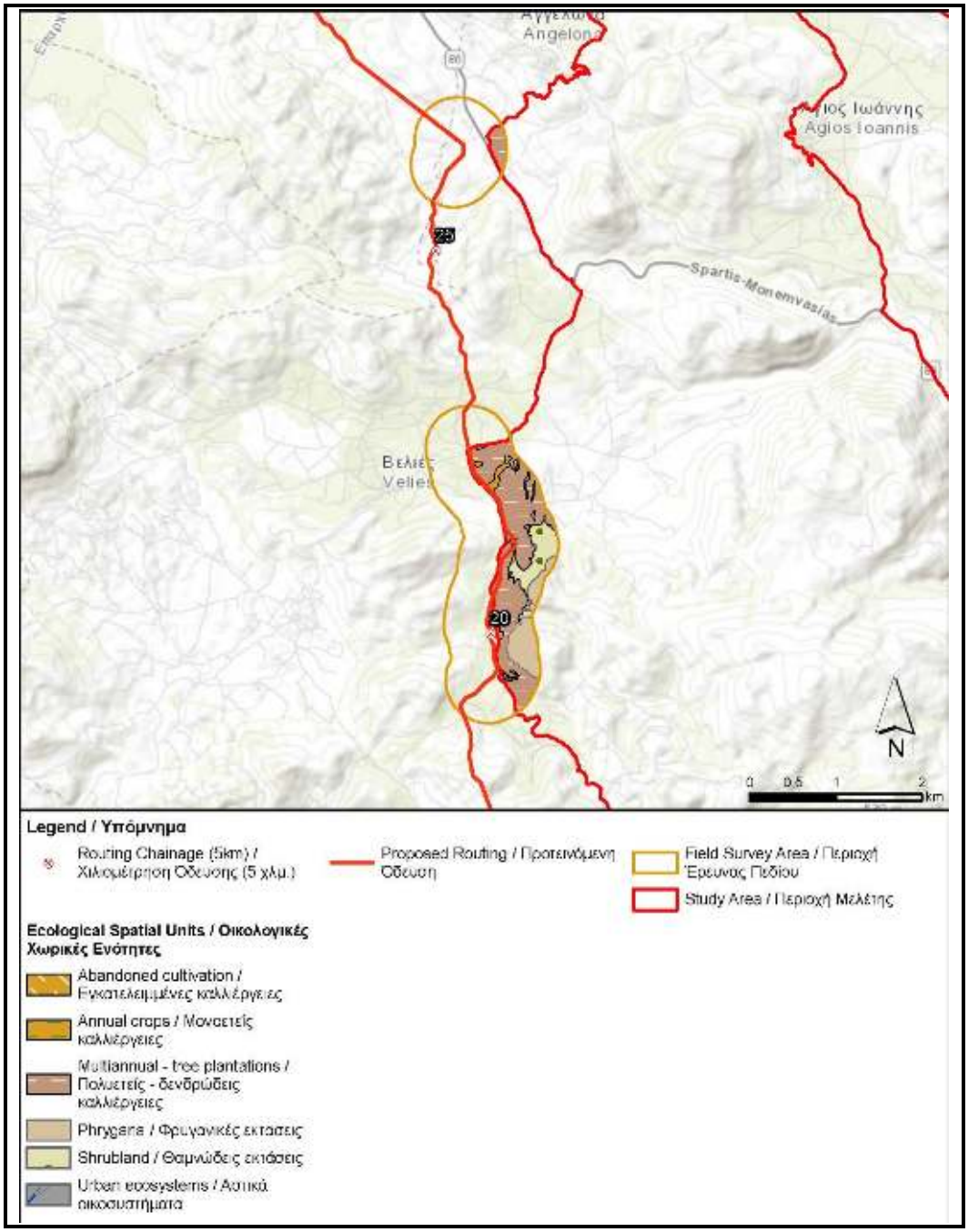
The ecological spatial units identified in the FSA include mainly arboreal crops, shrubland and phrygana (Table 3-3). The Working Strip (WS) and the Pipeline Protection Strip (PPS) are crossing arboreal crops and the affected area is expected to be 6.70ha (0.24% of this habitat within the site) and 1.41ha (0.05%), respectively, as well as abandoned cultivation with the affected area expected to be 0.34ha (0.02%) and 0.07ha (0.00%), respectively. Furthermore, they also cross shrubland and urban ecosystems affecting even smaller areas.

Table 3-3 Area (in ha) and Percentage (%) of the ecological spatial units per Areas of Interest.

| Ecological spatial units | Study Area | FSA | FSA% | WS | WS% | PPS | PPS% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Multiannual / arboreal crops | 2,781.46 | 112.19 | 4.03% | 6.70 | 0.24% | 1.41 | 0.05% |
| Shrubland | 24,212.15 | 26.95 | 0.11% | 0.19 | 0.00% | 0.04 | 0.00% |
| Phryganas | 5,018.93 | 25.17 | 0.50% | - | | - | |
| Abandoned cultivation | 2,095.33 | 3.29 | 0.16% | 0.34 | 0.02% | 0.07 | 0.00% |
| Annual crops | 381.54 | 2.27 | 0.59% | - | | - | |
| Urban ecosystems | 195.78 | 0.17 | 0.09% | 0.17 | 0.09% | 0.04 | 0.02% |

Notes: *FSA: Field Survey Area, WS: the typical Working strip for the construction of the investigated project (19 m on each side of the pipeline axis), PPS: the Pipeline Protection Strip (4 m on each side of the pipeline axis). Percentages refer to cover compared to the total area of the ecological spatial units of the Study Area.*

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)




Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

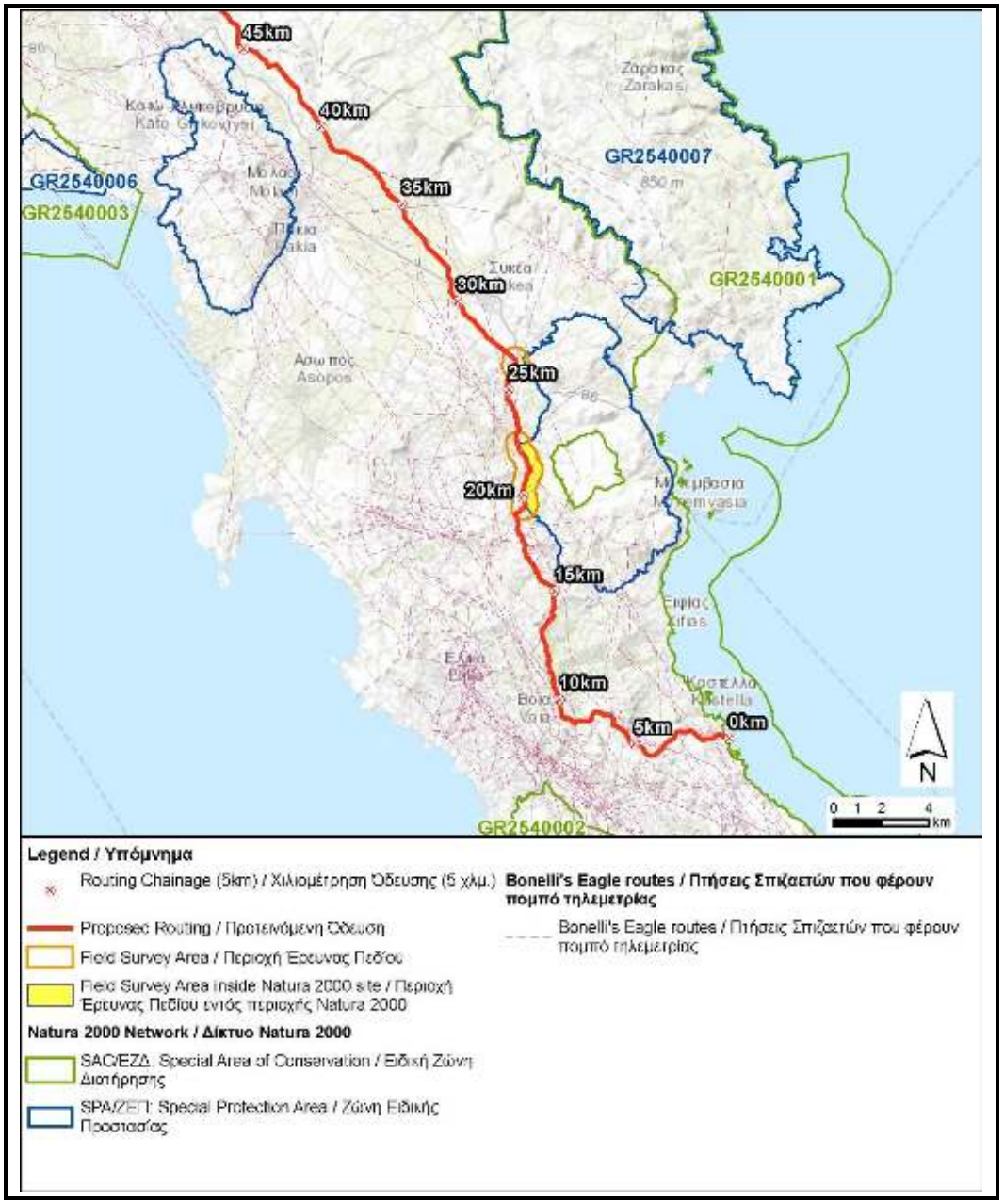
Figure 3-3 Ecological spatial units of the Field Survey Area.

#### *3.3.2.2 Avifauna*

The project crosses the SPA site at an area occupied mainly by cultivated land and specifically olive groves and vineyards, while smaller patches of natural vegetation with maquis and scattered shrubs, as well as a small artificial pond are also present.

At the northernmost location where the FSA overlaps with the Study Area (IP 0155-0156) the species observed that may breed in the wider area include only *Lullula arborea*. Furthermore, it is estimated that *Sylvia rueppelli, Hippolais olivetorum, Alectoris graeca, Emberiza caesia* may also breed in the area and at IP 0121-129. The area is also expected to be used by migratory birds, as presence of olive groves and vineyards can act as refueling stopovers for the species mainly during the autumn migration.

Based on recent telemetry data of *Hieraaetus fasciatus*, retrieved through the "Bonelli Eastmed Life Project", the Study Area is being intensively used by immature birds, as a foraging and roosting habitat.




Reference: (LIFE Bonelli EastMed, 2021. Source: https://www.lifebonelli.eu/el/tilemetria)

Figure 3-4 Tagged Bonelli's Eagle tracks

### *3.3.2.3 Other species of interests*

Concerning bats, ten bat taxa (Table 3-4) were recorded within the FSA. Due to the high overlap of the call parameters between several species, it was not possible to identify the *Myotis* calls in species

level. The recorded *Myotis* calls can be possibly attributed to two or more of the following species: *Myotis aurascens*, *M. bechstenii*, *M. blythii*, *M. capaccinii*, *M. myotis*. In a distance of about 2 km from the pipeline routing, the Solomou Trypa Cave is situated that currently hosts more than 1,000 individuals belonging to *Myotis* species, *Rhinolophus blasii*, *R. ferrumequinum*, *R. hipposideros,* but also possibly *Miniopterus schreibersii* (unpublished data, personal communication with Artemis Kafkaletou-Diez, June 2021) (Figure 3-5). The presence of *Miniopterus schreibersii* is also possible in the FSA. It is known to forage mainly in deciduous woodlands and mature orchards but also along hedgerows separating pastures (IUCN 2021). *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, *R. blasii* and probably *R. euruale* were recorded in the FSA. Probably the area that the pipeline route is crossing, is used as foraging ground for the bats that roost in Solomou Trypa Cave. Other species that were recorded in the area were *Hypsugo savii*, *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* and *Tadarida teniotis.* Also, one or both of the species *P. nathusii* and *P. kuhlii* are recorded but due the similarity in their calls, it is difficult to distinguish the species.

Table 3-4 Bat species that were recorded at the FSA during field surveys and species found in previous surveys (SDF and Greek Bat Database of the Natural History Museum of Crete)

| Code | Species | Observed during fieldwork | Annex of Habitats Directive / IUCN / Greek Red List |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5365 | *Hypsugo savii* | X | IV\|LC\|LC |
| | *Myotis sp.* | X | |
| | *Nyctalus sp.* | X | |
| 5009 | *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* | X | IV\|LC\|DD |
| | Pipistreloid high frequency | X | |
| | *Pipistrellus kuhlii / P. nathusii* | X | |
| 1306 | *Rhinolophus blasii* | X | II;IV\|LC\|NT |
| | *Rhinolophus* high frequency (*R.euryale*?) | X | |
| 1304 | *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* | X | II;IV\|LC\|LC |
| 1333 | *Tadarida teniotis* | X | IV\|LC\|LC |

Note: X: confirmed presence, *Nyctaloid*: *Nyctalus* spp. or *Eptesicus* spp.

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Reference: (Artemis Kafkaletou-Diez)

Figure 3-5 Roosting bats in the Solomou Trypa Cave, June 2021

Concerning *Canus aureus*, its presence was not confirmed in the FSA during the field surveys, though two howling groups were heard in close proximity (2-3 km from the pipeline routing). The site is in close proximity with the National Road EO86 along which, many golden jackal fatalities have already been recorded (Kominos, Galanaki & Giannatos, 2010). This site, even without livestock presence in immediate proximity, is suitable for golden jackals to forage. In addition, adjacent hill areas with dense vegetation seem to be suitable as denning/resting sites. Due to habitat suitability of the broader are at IP 0109-0157 (based on field observations), the proximity to confirmed the species presence (direct and from interviews) and according to last available desktop data about the area, it is assumed that species have constant presence in the area.

### *3.3.3 Key findings*

The project crosses the Study Area at an area occupied mainly by cultivated land and specifically olive groves and vineyards, while smaller patches of natural vegetation with maquis and scattered shrubs, as well as a small artificial pond are also present. At IPs 0155-0156 the species observed during the field visits and may breed in the wider area include currently only *Lullula arborea*. Furthermore, it is estimated that *Sylvia rueppelli, Hippolais olivetorum, Alectoris graeca, Emberiza caesia* may also breed in the area. The species *Hieraaetus fasciatus* also uses the area, based on telemetry data, with the area considered to be used only as a feeding ground, due to the lack of suitable nesting habitat

within the FSA. The area is also expected to be used by migratory birds, as presence of olive groves and vineyards can act as refueling stopovers for the species mainly during the autumn migration.

Based on recent telemetry data of *Hieraaetus fasciatus*, retrieved through the Bonelli EastMed Life Project, the Study Area is being used by immature birds, as a foraging and roosting habitat. In particular, the semi-mountainous zone at the outskirts of Taygetos mountain and the agricultural and riparian zone of Evrotas valley are used by 3 tagged individuals of the species, an indication of the importance of these habitats for the species.

Concerning other species of interest, in respect of the connectivity of the Natura 2000 network, are:

- Five (5) bat species included in the Habitats Directive. The area is estimated to be a foraging ground for the bats that roost in Solomou Trypa Cave;
- *Canis aureus* is estimated to have a constant presence in the area, due to habitat suitability for foraging, while two howling groups were heard in close proximity (2-3 km from the pipeline routing) at approximately IP 095-105 and IP 155-165.

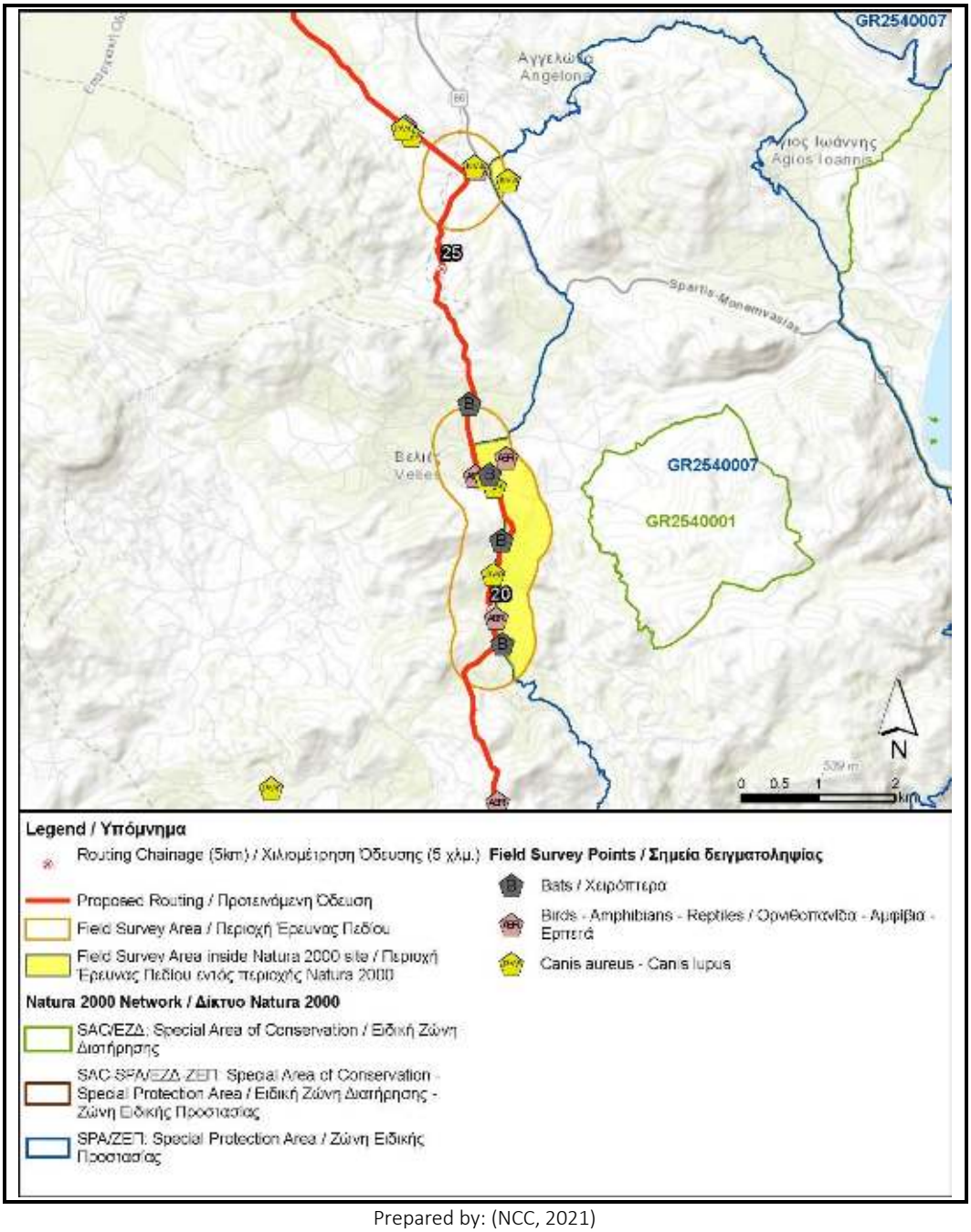
In Table 3-5 the species of interest observed during field work at the FSA are presented.

Table 3-5 Species of interest observed during field work

| IP | Species of interest |
|---|---|
| 0117-0118 | *Buteo buteo, Hirundo rustica, Tachymarptis melba* |
| 0129-0130 | *Buteo buteo, Athene noctua, Apus apus, Delichon urbicum (urbica), Hirundo rustica* |
| 0155-0156 | *Buteo buteo, Lullula arborea, Delichon urbicum (urbica), Hirundo rustica, Tachymarptis melbA* |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

The map of the field survey plots at the FSA is provided in ANNEX E.




Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Figure 3-6 Field Survey locations for the survey of avifauna of Article 6 (Directive 2009/147/EC) and other fauna species, carried out within the FSA

## 3.4 Status of natural environment

### *3.4.1 Conservation objectives of bird species*

The Conservation objectives have been specified through the project "Assessment of the conservation status of species and habitat types in Greece" (Ministry of Environment, 2015). The overall Conservation objectives proposed for each trigger species are directly related to the assessment of the conservation status at the Natura 2000 site as reflected in the current version of the country's descriptive Natura 2000 database. Therefore:

- For each trigger species for which the Degree of Conservation has been rated as A the Conservation Objective is proposed to be the maintenance of Degree of Conservation A.
- For each trigger species for which the Degree of Conservation has been rated B, the Conservation Objective is proposed to be the achievement of the Degree of Conservation A.
- For each trigger species for which the Degree of Conservation has been assessed as C, the Conservation Objective is proposed to be the achievement of Degree of Conservation B in the short term (2 6-year periods) and the A Degree of Conservation in the long term (4 6-year periods, in accordance with EU standards for long-term/short-term national reference reports under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive).
- For species for which the Degree of Conservation has been identified as unknown, a prerequisite for setting up conservation targets is to collect more data through survey and monitoring programs.

The specific Conservation objectives for the trigger species are as follows:

- No significant reduction of the breeding population below Favourable Reference Value (FRV) for residents and summer visitors: *Circaetus gallicus* (4 ind.), *Emberiza caesia*, *Hieraetus fasciatus* (4 ind.), *Hippolais olivetorum*, *Sylvia rueppelli*.
- Avoidance of significant reduction of the habitats' area and no significant reduction of habitats' area under FRVr for all trigger species *Circaetus gallicus* (310km$^2$/376km$^2$), *Emberiza caesia* (346km$^2$/376km$^2$), *Hieraetus fasciatus* (312km$^2$/312km$^2$), *Hippolais olivetorum* (330km$^2$/376km$^2$), *Sylvia rueppelli* (360km$^2$/376km$^2$), as well as the number of areas for *Hieraetus fasciatus* utilizes.
- Avoidance of significant reduction of available food for residents and summer visitors.
- Avoidance of significant reduction of the distribution range below Favourable Reference Value range (FRVr) for all trigger species.
- Anthropogenic activities should take place at a level that does not adversely affect the population of the species within the Natura 2000 site.

### 3.4.2 Conservation status of bird species

According to the SDF of the Study Area the SPA hosts a 2%-15% percentage of the total national population for the species *Circaetus gallicus Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata)* and *Pernis apivorus*, whereas the population of the other species that the area hosts is a small only percentage of the national or even non-significant

The degree of conservation is excellent for 4 species and for all other species good. There are three species that are on margins of their area of distribution, namely *Sylvia rueppelli, Lanius nubicus* and *Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata).*

The overall value of the site for the conservation of the species is assessed as good for almost all SDF species.

Detailed information is provided in ANNEX A.

### 3.4.3 Threats/Pressures

According to the SDF of the site the main threats are of high or medium magnitude. Threats of high magnitude in the area include intensive grazing in the area, intensive annual crops for food production and the use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, as well as wind energy production. Furthermore, of high magnitude is discontinuous urbanization around the area. Of medium magnitude are the construction and operation of roads and paths which increase the erosion risk and accessibility to remote areas, as well as trapping, poisoning and poaching of bird species, noise pollution, predation of species as well as the presence of problematic species. In addition, of medium magnitude is outdoor sports and leisure and recreational activities around the area. Lastly, forestry clearance in the area is of low magnitude.

### 3.4.4 Ecological functions

The Study Area consists of a diverse ecosystem with discrete structural, functional and life sustaining different habitats, and therefore offers a great variety of ecological niches. The protected area consists of bare or sparsely forested mountains and scrub in many places. The coastal line often ends with steep sea-cliffs and rocky shores. At lower altitudes vegetation includes *Juniperus phoenicea* arborescent matorals, while Thermo-Mediterranean brush vegetation, thickets and heath-garrigues mixed with *Sarcopoterium spinosum* phrygana predominate in the area. Whereas at higher altitudes the vegetation consists of coniferous forests with *Abies cephallonica* and *Pinus nigra ssp. pallasiana*. Scattered spots of *Platanus orientalis*, *Nerium oleander* and *Tamarix galleries* are also present while

some thickets of *Castanea sativa* exist. Many physical, chemical, and biological long-term processes have contributed to the maintenance of these different habitats and vegetation types within the SPA and further establish the site's current status and special ecological value. These habitats further support significant bird species and their needs based on their biological cycle (e.g. feeding, nesting, migration, etc). Therefore the SPA in terms of its ecological value for significant bird species found in the area, is playing an important role as a corridor for migratory passerines and breeding and migrant raptors. Species of concern include *Circaetus gallicus, Hieraaetus fasciatus, Hippolais olivetorum, Sylvia rueppelli* and *Emberiza caesia*. Overall, the SPA forms a very interesting area for resting and nesting of migratory birds, while the fauna of this site is at the same time considerably diverse.

### *3.4.5 Site development trends*

Site development trends refer to the evolution trends of the site's natural environmental elements which are present and recorded within the Study Area, under the assumption that no construction for the project would take place in the site.

For the Study Area, human activities (e.g. land uses) have been smoothly included and incorporated in the site, while other natural elements of the biotic and abiotic environment (e.g. morphology, climate, topology, species, habitats, vegetation cover, etc.), have in combination formed the existing dynamics of the site. These natural environmental elements have shaped current development trends, which mainly involves the touristic development, since the site is of unique natural beauty. Very important possibilities exist as well in the region for environmental education and ecotourism such as birdwatching and nature photography. Finally, very important development trends also deal with the production of local products.

# 4 PROJECT OVERVIEW

## 4.1 Introduction

This section provides an overview of the proposed project and its associated components, as well as it further outlines the project's constructional and operational requirements.

Apart from this general project description, Section 4.5 provides a more detailed description of the project interfaces with the specific Natura 2000 site.

The EastMed Pipeline Project aims to transport gas directly from the eastern Mediterranean fields to the European Natural Gas System via Greece.

EastMed consists of a Southern Line and a Northern Line to deliver gas from Israeli and Cypriot sources, respectively, through Peloponnese and Western Greece, to the Poseidon Pipeline Project in north-west Greece. Upstream of Crete these two lines are designed to work complementarily as well as independently, foreseeing infrastructure in Cyprus dedicated to each line. Thanks to this, the system is highly flexible, contributing to security of supply. The EastMed Pipeline Project comprises the following main components:

A. Southern Line of EastMed (Israel → Cyprus/Crete → SE Peloponnese):

- Transports gas from Israeli sources directly from the EastMed Compression Platform (ECP) in Israeli waters to a compression and metering station in Crete (CS2/MS2) and from there to the mainland Greece and the Poseidon Pipeline Project,
- Delivers gas to Cyprus for domestic consumption through a subsea Inline Tee Assembly (ITA) and a branch pipeline from the subsea ITA to Cyprus (OSS1 comes from Israeli platform to ITA, OSS1a from ITA to a Metering and Pressure Reduction Station (MS1a/PRS) in Cyprus and OSS2 from ITA to Crete);

B. Northern Line of EastMed (Cyprus → Crete → SE Peloponnese):

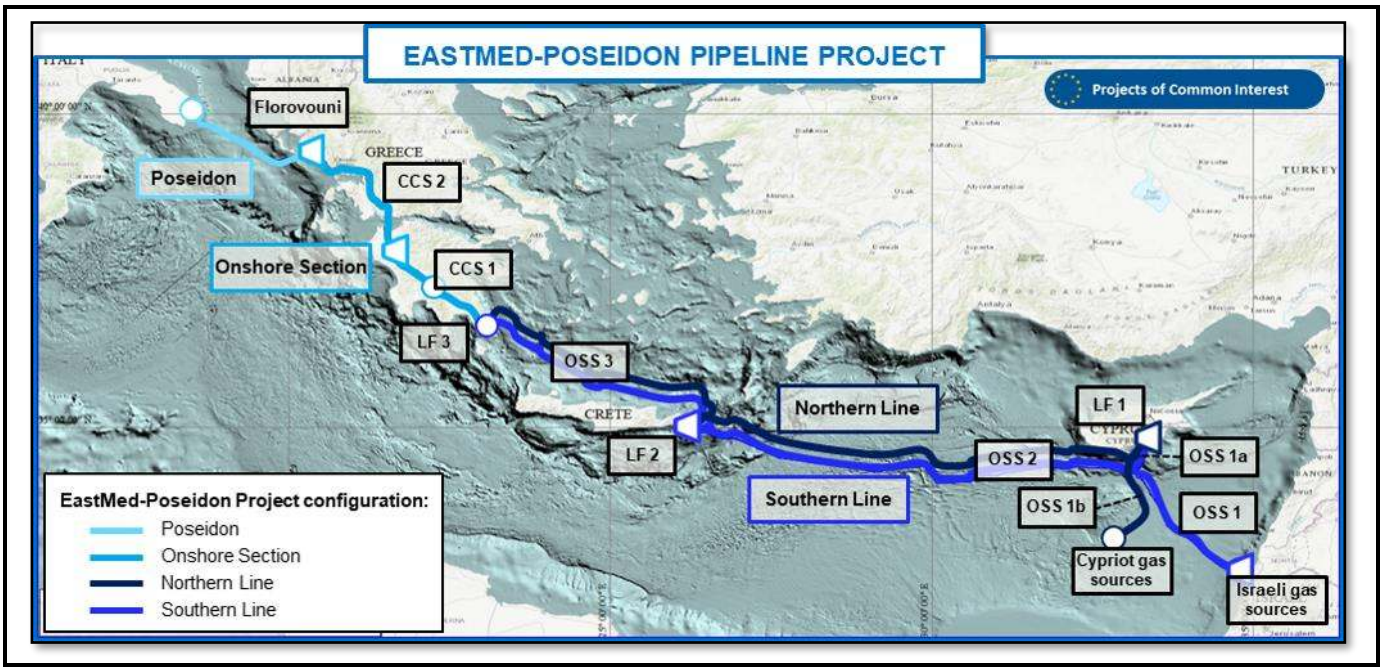
- Delivers dry gas originating from one or more of the Cypriot offshore gas discoveries to the compression and metering stations in Cyprus (CS1/MS1) first, through OSS1b and then in Crete (CS2/MS2N), through OSS2N and from there to the mainland Greece and Poseidon Pipeline Project, as referred in the next paragraph;

C. Combined System of EastMed (Crete & mainland Greece → Poseidon Pipeline Project):

- At LF3 the gas flow streams from two pipelines will be combined into a single large-diameter pipeline (CCS1-OSS4-CCS2) for transportation to the Poseidon Pipeline Project Compressor Station at Florovouni[1] in north-west Greece,
- Combination of the Southern and Northern flow streams will require additional compression along the CCS1 section in Peloponnese (CS3).

The 'Northern and Southern Lines' are shown in Figure 4-1 where the 'Southern Line' and 'Northern Line' are indicated in blue and dark blue, respectively. The onshore single large diameter pipeline of the 'Combined System' (i.e., CCS1 and CCS2) is shown in light blue[2].

A more comprehensive visualization of the crossing with the Natura 2000 sites is provided in Map 1 of ANNEX E.




Prepared by: (EastMed, 2020)

Figure 4-1 EastMed Onshore and Offshore sections - overview

[1]Compressor Station of the Poseidon Pipeline Project system at Florovouni in north-west Greece belongs to another project with the same owner and has received environmental permitting through a separate procedure (ETA: ΥΠΕΝ/ΔΙΠΑ/35872/2373/07-06-2019, ΑΔΑ: ΩΠΝ34653Π8-4Ι9)

[2] Light blue line also includes the small offshore section of the Combined System that crosses Patraikos Gulf, i.e., OSS4.

The **EastMed Onshore Section in Greece** includes the following:

- The Compressor and Metering Stations in Crete (CS2/MS2 and CS2/MS2N) together with the relevant small onshore sections to and from landfall site LF2;
- The onshore section of the 48" pipeline that crosses Peloponnese (CCS1) from landfall site LF3 (SE of R.U. Laconia) to landfall site LF4 (NW of R.U. Achaia on the south coast of the Patraikos Gulf);
- The Megalopoli's Branch line that is foreseen to connect CCS1 with the National System at Megalopoli's area (Perivolia area). The pipeline will have a diameter of 16";
- LF4 (Landfall site in the NW of R.U. of Achaia, close to Lakopetra beach, NW Peloponnese area)
- The offshore section of the 46'' pipeline that crosses the Patraikos Gulf (OSS4) from landfall site LF4 to landfall site LF5 (SW of R.U. Etoloakarnania);
- LF5 (Landfall site in the SW of R.U. of Elotoakarnania, close to Evinochori settlement, SW Sterea Ellada)
- The onshore section of the 48" pipeline that crosses Western Greece (CCS2) from landfall site LF5 (south-west of R.U. Etoloakarnania) to the installation site of the Poseidon Pipeline Project compressor station at Florovouni , in R.U. Thesprotia;
- The Metering and Pressure Reduction Station (MS4/PRS4) in Megalopoli (start of Megalopoli's Branch);
- The Heating Station in Megalopoli in the same plot as MS4/PRS4;
- The compressor station CS3 at R.U. Achaia in Peloponnese; and
- The Dispatching and Operation and Maintenance Centre (O&M) in the R.U. of Achaia.

Along the onshore section, Scraper Stations – SS (in total seven[3]) and Block Valve Stations - BVS (fifteen in total) will be installed as per the current Project design. BVSs will be placed at distances of approximately 30 km. A Landfall Station (LS) (four in total) will be installed near each landfall site.

For the section starting at landfall site LF3 in south-east Peloponnese to the Poseidon Pipeline Project's compressor station at Florovouni (sections CCS1, OSS4 and CCS2), the design pressure of

[3] It is clarified that 1 Scraper station will be located within the MS4/PRS4 and Heating Station at Megalopoli area, 1 Scraper station will be located within the future CS3, in the R.U. of Achaia, and 4 Scraper Stations will be located within the same plot as the Landfall Stations, bundling permanent facilities of the project as much as possible. The seventh SS concerns the Megalopoli's Branch.

the Project is 100 barg while the maximum operating pressure (MOP) is considered equal to 95 barg. For the Megalopoli's Branch line, the design pressure is 80 barg while the MOP is equal to 75 barg.

The **EastMed Offshore Section in Greece**, includes the following:

- OSS2 and OSS2N (the part of the Offshore Section from Cyprus to Crete under Greek jurisdiction): Subsea trunk lines from the start of the Greek Offshore Section to Crete;
- LF2 (Landfall site in Crete): the nearshore and coastal crossing section in the area of Crete;
- OSS3 and OSS3N (Crete to Peloponnese): Subsea trunk lines from Crete to Peloponnese; and
- LF3 (Landfall site in Peloponnese): the nearshore and coastal crossing section in the area of Peloponnese.

The Greek Offshore Section of the Project includes two (i.e., twin) pipelines at an average distance of approximately 100 m. Near the landfall site, the two pipelines approach each other to enter the same shore crossing cofferdam. Up to the landfall site, pipelines will be simply laid on the seabed with the pipelines gradually buried only near the coast.

In more detail:

- OSS2 (in Greece) will have an approximate length of 390 km, a diameter of 26''and a transfer capacity of 11 BSCM/yr;
- OSS2N (in Greece) will have an approximate length of 390 km, a diameter of 26'' and a transfer capacity of 10 BSCM/yr; and
- OSS3 and OSS3N will have a diameter of 28'' and transfer capacity of 10.5 BSCM/yr each, along an approximate length of 430 km.

Once both lines become operational, the EastMed project will transport a combined total flow rate of 21 BSCM/yr to the EastMed Onshore Section.

The design pressure of the OSS2 and OSS2N sections is 363 barg, while the MOP is considered equal to 345 barg. The design pressure of the OSS3 and OSS3N sections is 231 barg, while the MOP is equal to 220 barg. From a technical point of view, the two pipelines (Southern and Northern) are independent but also parts of a unique project system, and from an environmental point of view, they should be considered as one for most environmental and social parameters. Therefore, unless a clear distinction is necessary, the term "**Line OSS2/OSS2N**" is introduced to describe pipelines OSS2 and OSS2N as one integrated pipeline system across the south Cretan Sea (from the middle of the sea straits between Greece and Cyprus to the designated landfall in Crete); similarly, the term "**Line OSS3/OSS3N**" is used for the OSS3 and OSS3N pipelines across the South Aegean Sea from the landfall in Crete (LF2) to the designated landfall in SE Peloponnese (LF3).

## 4.2 Pipeline Construction and Pre-commissioning

### *4.2.1 Construction Overview*

The basic method of constructing gas onshore pipelines is generally known as the spread technique, which is an "open cut" method and is widely used throughout the world. A typical sequence for onshore pipeline construction is illustrated in Figure 4-2.


Prepared by: (ASPROFOS, 2021)

Figure 4-2 Typical Pipeline Construction Sequence

This method can be broken down into several phases:

- Route survey and layout;
- Working strip preparation (clearing, grading, topsoil stripping);
- Trench excavation;
- Pipeline handling, Hauling and stringing;
- Pipeline bending;
- Pipeline welding and weld testing, applying field joint coating;
- Pipeline laying;
- Backfilling;
- Hydrotest and

- Reinstatement.

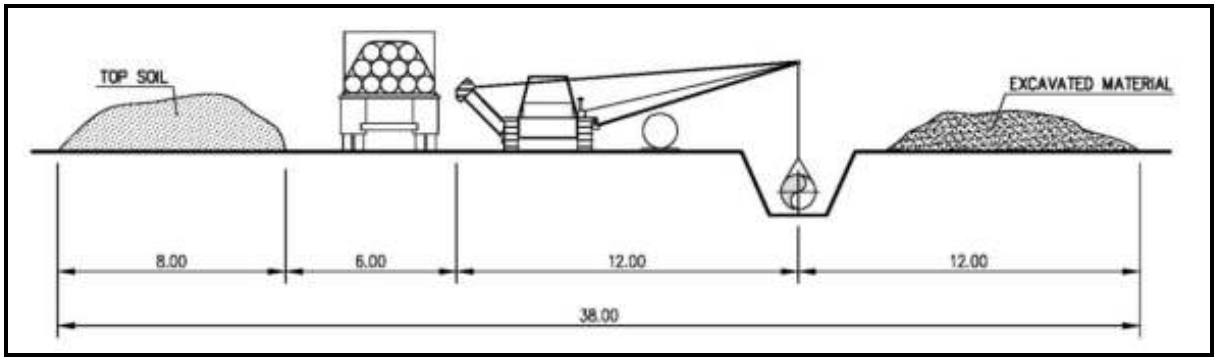
A survey control system in the form of permanent ground markers (PGM) will be installed. A subcontractor will tie all survey works into this control system and confirm the accuracy of the PGM control system.

The work includes removal of all trees, bushes, hedges and other obstacles from the construction working strip. A restricted working strip shall apply where there are physical constraints or where contractor chooses to reduce the working strip to benefit particular operations. A larger working strip may be necessary where a particular operation may benefit from additional space. The working strip should be set up before work commences.

### *4.2.2 Onshore Construction Methods*

#### *4.2.2.1 Marking and Clearance of Working Strip*

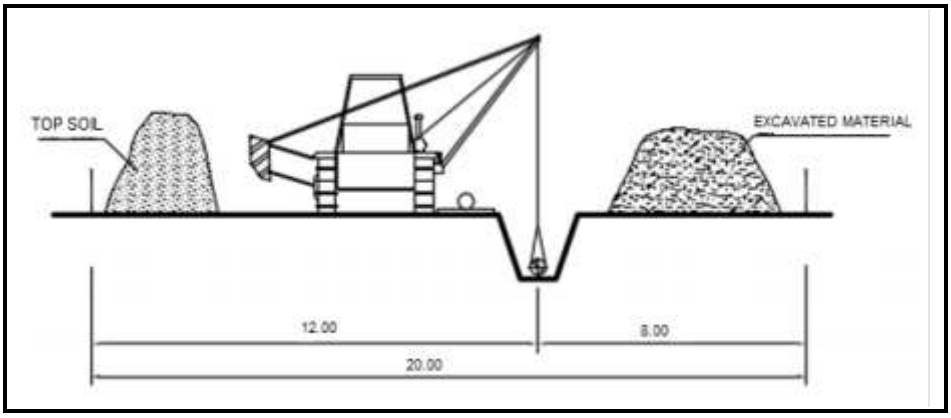
The working strip is the temporary corridor along the pipeline where construction takes place. It must be wide enough to allow all activities to be carried out safely whilst providing sufficient room to store topsoil and trench material separately and keeping crop loss to the farmer to a minimum. The width of the working strip is proportional to the diameter of the pipeline to be installed. It follows that the greater the pipe diameter, the greater the extracted trench material that has to be stored. The width of the working strip is also determined by the size of the heavy machinery needed to safely lift and lower pipe into the trench and dig the trench. The width of the working strip in open country for pipelines with nominal diameter (ND) 48'' and 46'' will be 38 m.




Source: (Design Basis Memorandum – Pipeline and Facilities)

Figure 4-3 Regular Working Strip in Open Country for Pipeline ND 48" and 46"

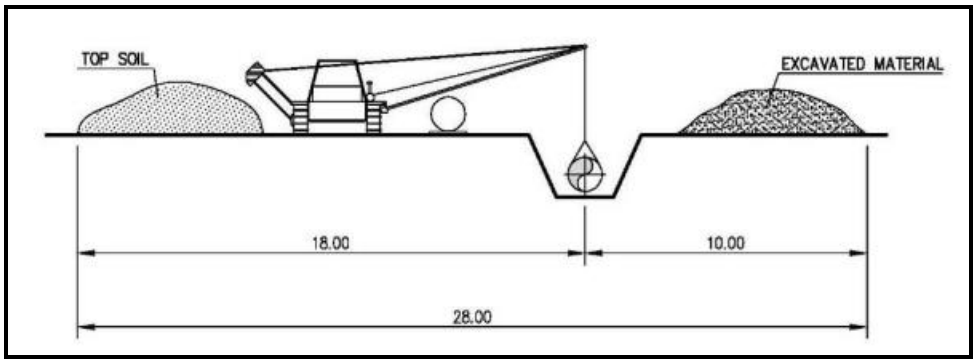
The width of the working strip in open country for pipeline of ND 16'' will be 20 m.




Source: (Design Basis Memorandum – Pipeline and Facilities)

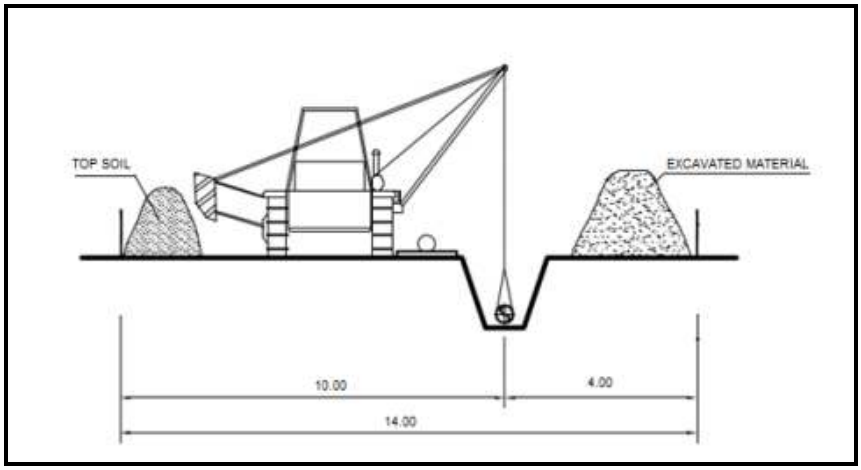
Figure 4-4 Regular Working Strip in Open Country for Pipeline ND 16”

The width of the spread zone along areas planted with permanent crops (e.g., vineyards, olive trees, etc.) for pipeline with ND 48’’ and 46’’ will be reduced to 28 m and for pipeline with ND 16’’ will be reduced to 14 m in order to minimise impacts on the plantations.




Source: (Design Basis Memorandum – Pipeline and Facilities)

Figure 4-5 Reduced Working Strip (with Topsoil Stripping) for Pipeline ND 48” and 46”

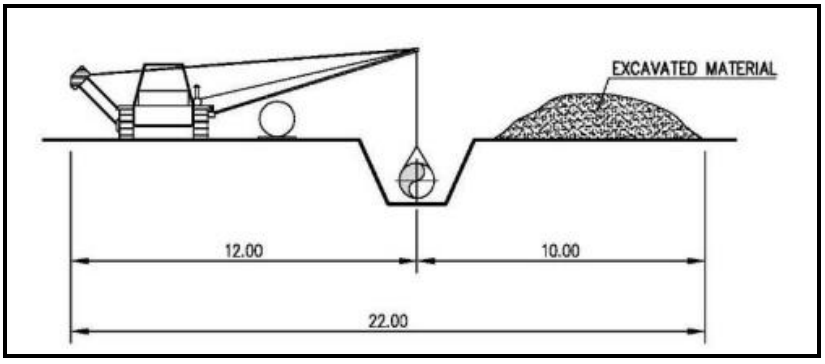



Source: (Design Basis Memorandum – Pipeline and Facilities)

Figure 4-6 Reduced Working Strip (with Topsoil Stripping) for Pipeline ND 16”

The width of the working strip for construction of pipelines with ND 48” and 46” inches can be reduced to 22 m in forest and mountainous areas where there is usually no need for top soil storage and to 28 m in areas with permanent plantations (with topsoil stripping).

For pipelines with ND 16’’ the regular working strip (in open country and agricultural areas planted with annual crops) is 20 m which is reduced to 14 m in areas planted by permanent plantations and without topsoil stripping (forest areas).




Source: (Design Basis Memorandum – Pipeline and Facilities)

Figure 4-7 Reduced Working Strip (without Topsoil Stripping) for Pipeline ND 48” and 46”

The areas where this reduced working strip will be applied will be carefully defined in order to reduce the impacts of the pipeline construction along these areas as much as possible, as well as to minimise impacts on the construction progress (e.g., delays) and to ensure that all activities along the reduced zone will be safely executed.

Furthermore, the width of the working strip will be increased when a trenchless construction method is applied at crossings of major infrastructure or rivers in order to accommodate relevant equipment for construction works (e.g., horizontal directional drilling (HDD), direct pipe, microtunnel, boring method).

Table 4-1 Summary of Working Strip width

| Diameter of the pipelines (inches) | Regular Working Strip (m) | Reduced Working Strip (m) | Reduced Working Strip without Topsoil Stripping (m) | Boring methods (Area Required) ($m^2$) | HDD (Area Required) ($m^2$) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 48 and 46 | 38 | 28 | 22 | 45 x 50 and 45 x 30 (each side) | 100 x 100 |
| 16 | 20 | 14 | 14 | 40 x 40 and 40 x 20 (each side) | 100 x 100 |

Source: IGI Poseidon, 2021

#### *4.2.2.2 Topsoil Stripping*

Topsoil will be removed by means of suitable earth moving equipment (such as excavators and loaders) from the entire surface of the area, with the only exception being the areas designated for topsoil storage. The average depth of the topsoil strip to be removed is 0.2 m but this will be adapted to local soil conditions. The topsoil removed will be stockpiled within the area for temporary storage until site reinstatement.

#### *4.2.2.3 Grading*

As described above the working strip must provide sufficient working space for pipeline fabrication and for simultaneous vehicle movements. Therefore, the delineated strip will be graded by specified equipment such as bulldozers and graders to the required width.

#### *4.2.2.4 Trenching*

The pipeline will be buried underground within a trench for its entire length and protected against corrosion by a cathodic protection system. The required trenching works will be mainly undertaken by excavators or jack-hammers. The standard soil covers of the buried onshore pipeline (measured from top of pipe) shall be at least 1 m.

#### *4.2.2.5 Blasting*

The use of explosives might be considered necessary at the following Natura 2000 areas. They could speed up the construction, decreasing construction duration and consequently nuisance to sensitive receptors.

Table 4-2 Indicative locations where explosives might be used during construction within protected areas

| Pipeline Segment | From KP | To KP | Length (m) | Engaged Natura 2000 site |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CCS1 | 21.348 | 21.845 | 497 | SPA - GR2540007 |
| CCS2 | 211.308 | 213.142 | 1,834 | SPA – GR2120006 |

Prepared by: (ASPROFOS, 2021). Based on ESIA baseline soil classification

#### *4.2.2.6 Backfill*

The assembling of the pipeline will be carried out in a standard way with a construction spread that moves along the pipeline corridor. Most of the excavated soil will be used to backfill the pipeline trench. Excess soil will likely be spread out and contoured along the route in agreement with competent authorities and landowners/ users and according to further engineering studies.

#### *4.2.2.7 Clean Up and Restoration*

The clean up and restoration will be carried out in a specified way with a construction spread that moves along the pipeline corridor.

The removed topsoil will be placed back on the working strip so as the area to be restored as closely as possible to its original condition. Land will be stabilized where necessary and progressively restored with native vegetation, where possible. All machinery, equipment, tools, etc will be removed.

#### *4.2.2.8 Indicative Schedule*

The estimated total duration of the Onshore pipeline construction activities is 36 months.

On top of that, duration of the construction depends on the difficulties imposed by the baseline conditions, e.g., morphology, geotechnical issues, land uses, etc. Based on experience from other

similar projects in dimensions constructed in Greece (i.e., with similar baseline conditions) the indicative construction rates (in terms of project progress, per construction activity) are:

- 400 m/day, in agricultural areas (in plain areas, 600 m/ day may be achieved)
- 200 m/day, in hilly or intense relief areas, of tree crops or natural vegetation
- 100 m/day, in mountainous areas, more often than not covered with natural vegetation (in rocky areas, 75 m/day or even smaller may be constructed).

### *4.2.3 Pressure Testing during Construction (Hydrotesting)*

The condition of the pipeline at the start of pre-commissioning is determined by performing a system pressure test (SPT). SPT options include:

- Conventional SPT using water (e.g., hydrotesting); and
- Replacement of the SPT with other means that ensure that the overall safety level of the pipeline system for which the test is to be replaced is equal to or better than that of an equivalent system that implements the SPT - this option is applicable only to the offshore pipeline sections and under specific conditions.

The above ground facilities of the project (e.g., compressor, metering, pressure regulating, heating stations) are not subject to this procedure since these facilities include equipment that has been pre-tested during its manufacturing.

#### *4.2.3.1 Hydrotest Concept*

Hydrotesting (or hydrostatic testing) is the most common method for testing pipeline integrity and checking for any potential leaks prior to commissioning. The test involves placing water inside the pipeline at a certain pressure for a certain time to confirm pipeline strength and tightness.

The activities to be carried out before and after the hydrotest are repeated here:

- Before hydrotest:
  - Flooding and cleaning,
  - Gauging;
- During hydrotest:
  - Leak detection;

- After hydrotest:
  - Dewatering,
  - Drying,
  - Purging.

Pressurisation is achieved during a hydrotest by pumping water into the pipeline section being tested. According to DNV-OS-F101, the system pressure test should be 1.15 times the design pressure with a hold period of 24 hrs. Pressurisation is then carried out with a high pressure pump.

After the pipeline has been filled and pressurised, and all the necessary parameters have been measured, the pipeline is dewatered and dried.

- Flooding, Cleaning and Gauging. After the pipeline is initially flooded, it will be cleaned and gauged. Typically, cleaning and gauging are performed as a single operation together with flooding. Cleaning involves sending a series of pigs through the pipe section to remove any debris (typically weld slag and pipe mill scale, where the latter is expected only in a very limited amount due to the internal coating) from inside the pipeline. One pig bounds the air and water, and another series of pigs can be used to clean the internal pipe-wall. Clean water is pumped in front of the pig train to moisten the debris. Pipeline internal gauging is used to ensure the inner diameter of the pipeline is free from obstructions and excessive ovality. A gauging pig is equipped with a device to determine its location in case it does not reach the pig receiver. If a gauging pig becomes stuck in the pipeline it is freed, the pipe defect is located and eliminated, and the gauging operation is repeated. An alternative gauging method could be used that will pinpoint any defect. Gauging can be performed with an electronic calliper tool for this purpose, optionally combined with a geometry pig to confirm the pipeline geometry as built. The gauging and geometry pigs may be run in the same train as the flooding and flushing pigs; pig speed for this operation should be between 0.3 m/s and 1 m/s. The pipeline system configuration should be designed to allow for pigging in forward or reverse direction. This is achieved by barred tees, lock-open check valves, eliminating non-piggable wye pieces, and designing the pig receivers so that they can also be used as launchers. This philosophy provides benefits during pre-commissioning and possible future repair scenarios;
- Dewatering. The recommended method for dewatering is to use compressed air. This method uses compressed air to drive a pig train through the pipeline while displacing the hydrotest water. The pig train consists of multiple compartments separated by pigs. Some are filled with fresh water to flush the salt from the pipe wall, and some are filled with air. The air is oil free and dry with a dewpoint of at least -65°C at atmospheric pressure and an oil content no greater than 0.01 ppmW;

- Drying and Purging. The dewatering pig train leaves a small film of water, approximately 0.05 mm thick, in the pipe. The absence of water in the pipeline is necessary in order to prevent the possible formation of methane hydrate. The drying method is air drying which usually employs swabbing pigs to help spread out the water so that it has a larger surface area in order to be more easily collected; and
- Discharge/Disposal Options. Following successful testing, the used water is discharged back into a receiving water body after having passed a sedimentation pool, through which the water will flow very slowly. These pools are sized to provide a retention time of 5 minutes, which is considered enough time to allow the solid particles to be cleaned out of the pipe, to settle and remain in the bottom of the pond. The discharge rate after finalisation of hydrotests will follow the same rules as applicable for abstraction. Hence the same water bodies will be taken into consideration for discharge. Environmental effects are expected to be minimal or negligible when discharge rates are under 10% of the receiving river flow. Discharged water will be free of any chemicals. The contractor for hydrotesting will obtain written approvals from the local authorities and landowner(s) where the hydrotest water will be discharged; water will not be returned to any watercourse without permission of the appropriate local authorities.

#### *4.2.3.2 Pre-Commissioning with SPT Replacement (only applicable to offshore sections under specific conditions)*

The aim of the REPLACE methodology is to provide a robust basis for replacing the SPT with other means that ensure that the overall safety level of the pipeline system for which the test is to be replaced is equal to or better than that of an equivalent system that implements the SPT.

Consideration of SPT replacement starts early in the design timeline and continues through the offshore pipeline installation phase. The methodology describes the REPLACE activities to be undertaken in each phase of the project.

##### *4.2.3.2.1 REPLACE plan*

The REPLACE plan describes the actions required to ensure that all prerequisites, requisites and additional safeguards identified in the FMECA are implemented and documented to demonstrate compliance to stakeholders and authorities. The REPLACE plan is maintained throughout the Project lifecycle and is updated as the technical definition and execution plans develop.

Should the SPT be replaced (i.e., from REPLACE option), the pre-commissioning procedure changes. Certain steps can be omitted, and additional safeguards will be taken on board. In that case, the typical pre-commissioning procedure consists of the following (sequential) activities:

- Pressurising. The pipeline will be pressurised using dry air to create back pressure ahead of the cleaning and gauging pig train, which will be introduced in the system in the next step. Back pressure is necessary to ensure the pig-train speed can be controlled on steep slopes. The required back pressure will be assessed in detailed design. The size of the compressor spread determines the time needed for the pressurisation phase. Upon completion of the pressurising step, the pipeline is filled with dry air at elevated pressure;
- Cleaning and gauging. Cleaning and gauging activities are, ideally, conducted using a single pig run—a second run may be necessary if too much debris is found in the pig train's last slug after the first run. The pig train will consist of a series of pigs with clearing and gauging (CG) functionalities. The series of pigs will be separated by slugs of monoethylene glycol (MEG), not by slugs of water. MEG is hygroscopic and will absorb condensed water in the pipeline. For this reason, MEG inhibits against hydrates and is a so-called "hydrate-control fluid". The pig train will be propelled by a large slug of nitrogen (with a high purity of, for instance, 95%) of several tens of kilometres followed by ultra-dry air. Now the pipeline is chemically conditioned and a drying step is no longer needed. Upon completion of the pig run, the system is filled with dry air at elevated pressure;
- Depressurisation. After successful receipt of all pigs (see the above CG step), the pipeline system will be depressurised by venting to atmospheric pressure from both ends of the pipeline. Upon completion of the depressurisation, the system is filled with dry air at ambient pressure; and
- Nitrogen purging. Next, the system will be purged with a nitrogen-rich gas mixture of very high purity (e.g., 98%) to avoid an explosive gas–air interface. The mixture is pumped into the pipeline at low pressure to displace the air contents. Once the oxygen level measured at the outlet is sufficiently low, nitrogen purging is halted. Upon completion of nitrogen purging, the pipeline system is filled with inert gas, slightly above ambient pressure. This means that pre-commissioning has been completed and the system is ready to receive hydrocarbon gas.

This REPLACE Methodology was successfully used in TurkStream and Nord Stream 2 Pipeline projects, removes the need for seawater and the risk associated with lateral buckling concerning the conventional method. This procedure can be amended if necessary, depending on specific project requirements.

#### *4.2.3.3 EastMed System Pressure Test Response*

Each offshore pipeline, the pig train in Step 2 was propelled segments comprising the Greek section of the EastMed Pipeline Project has been assessed individually in accordance with the REPLACE methodology.

Based on the System Pressure Test Replacement Study (E780-00225-Ev32A-TDR-00055, Rev.02), it has been concluded that, for OSS2, OSS2N, OSS3 and OSS3N project components, it is beneficial not to pressure test the system applying the conventional hydrotesting SPT because of the risk associated with lateral buckling. For the remaining Project components, conventional SPT is applied.

Hydrotest sections will have a length varying between 3 km to 9 km each. It is estimated that approximately 50 hydrotests will be carried out for CCS1, 38 for CCS2 and 2 for Megalopoli Branch.

Each hydrotest will be completed in 7-10 days.

Pre-commissioning of the offshore OSS4 section is expected to require a total of 11 days. Similarly, the pre-commissioning of the other offshore project components is expected to require a total of 57 to 84 days. Pre-commissioning will be finished before commissioning activities.

#### *4.2.3.4 Water Abstraction Sources for Conventional SPT*

As far as the onshore pipeline segment, inland water sources with larger amounts of water flow have been considered for water abstraction and discharge. Water reservoirs will not be used as a source for testing water. For the offshore and nearshore segments, the most likely option is the use of sea water.

Table 4-3 shows the potential water sources identified along the pipeline route and the volumes required for hydrotesting for each main section.

The timing for hydrostatic testing activities will consider the seasonal changes of river flows and the reduced flows during the summer months.

The quantity of water used for hydrotest, considering the complete onshore section, is approximately 600,490 $m^3$. This volume of water is the maximum that could be used. However, it is best international practice to transfer water between hydraulic test sections and re-use it as much as possible so the final volume is expected to be much smaller.

The contractor for the hydrotest will obtain written approvals from local authorities and landowner(s) or users regarding hydrotest water abstraction and disposal.

Table 4-3 Water Requirements for Hydrotest Sections

| Pipeline Spread | | Water Source | Approx. Volume Required ($m^3$) | Pipeline Section |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| From KP | To KP | | | |
| | | | | Short Onshore Section at Crete |
| 0 | 50 | Evrotas | 54,900 | CCS1 |
| 50 | 100 | Evrotas | 54,900 | CCS1 |
| 100 | 130 | Evrotas | 32,940 | CCS1 |
| 130 | 150 | Alfeios | 21,960 | CCS1 |
| 150 | 200 | Alfeios | 54,900 | CCS1 |
| 200 | 250 | Pineiakos Ladonas | 54,900 | CCS1 |
| 250 | 300 | Pineiakos Ladonas - Pineios | 50,500 | CCS1 |
| | | | 18,451 | OSS4 |
| 0 | 35 | Evinos | 38,430 | CCS2 |
| 35 | 55 | Water Canal of Trichonida | 21,960 | CCS2 |
| 55 | 70 | Acheloos | 16,470 | CCS2 |
| 70 | 135 | Arachthos & Louros | 71,370 | CCS2 |
| 135 | 200 | Louros | 71,370 | CCS2 |
| 200 | 233 | Louros & Acherontas | 36,234 | CCS2 |
| 0 | 4 | Alfeios | 492 | Megalopolis Branch |
| 4 | 9.8 | Alfeios | 713.4 | Megalopolis Branch |

Source: (IGI Poseidon, 2021)

As the conventional SPT approach involves the use of water (either inland or sea), it should be noted that inland water providing the compliance of its physicochemical characteristics with what was described earlier does not pose any risk to pipeline integrity. The water used needs to be free of contaminants and not aggressive (pH between 5 and 8), and no additives, corrosion inhibitors or chemicals are envisaged to be used.

This is not the case with sea water due to its corrosive behavior. The following options exist regarding seawater composition for hydrotesting purposes:

Filtered seawater (50 micron) + UV sterilisation. Use of chemicals is not envisaged considering that the water residence time should be fewer than 30 days. If the use of chemicals or other additives is deemed unavoidable, these substances will be included in the PLONOR list. The PLONOR list is a list of substances that are deemed to pose little or NO risk (PLONOR) to the environment. The list has been developed by the OSPAR committee (known as Oslo – Paris committee) for protection of the marine environment. All chemicals or mixtures on the PLONOR list are allowed to be discharged into the sea in accordance with international industry standards.

#### *4.2.3.4.1 Discharge and Disposal of SPT Mediums*

Conventional SPT includes discharge and disposal of large quantities of hydrotesting water.

Water for the onshore sections will be discharged back into a receiving water body after having passed a sedimentation pool, through which the water will flow very slowly. These pools are sized to provide a retention time of 5 minutes, which is considered enough time to allow cleaning the solid particles out of the pipe to settle and remain in the bottom of the pond. The discharge rate after finalisation of hydrotests follow the same rules as applicable for abstraction. Hence the same water bodies will be taken into consideration for discharge. Environmental effects are expected to be minimal or negligible when discharge rates are under 10% of the receiving river flow. Discharged water will be free of any chemicals.

In any case:

- The discharge is performed in a controlled manner according to local environmental approvals. An assessment of the likely dispersion rate and extent should be evaluated as part of the pre-commissioning design activities during the EPIC stage of the project; and
- Prior to discharging the hydrotest fluids, samples are collected and analysed on-site to ensure compliance with permits and other regulations before being discharged to the open sea.
- The discharge point will be selected based on:
- Results of dispersion analysis;
- Application of diffuser; and
- Assurance of efficient dispersion into environment.

Continuous discharge is considered possible by developing a discharge plan taking into account the spread capacity of the entire discharge system.

## 4.3 Operation maintenance

Detailed operating procedures for the pipeline system will be developed. These procedures will precede the operation of the pipeline. A system for collecting information from third party activities will be operational.

The pipeline is monitored and controlled from the control room. The monitoring system is SCADA (System Control and Data Acquisition). During operation, leak detection is performed through continuous measurements of pressure and flow rate at the inlet and outlet of the stations and the pipeline. If a leak is detected, the deactivation system is activated. In order to be able to carry out an internal inspection, scrapper stations will be installed.

### *4.3.1 Maintenance*

#### *4.3.1.1 Pipeline Maintenance*

The pipeline system will be monitored and maintained to ensure that it shall remain adequate and operational as designed, constructed and tested throughout its life-time and also in order to minimize environmental and human hazards. In general, pipeline monitoring, operational inspections and monitoring of operating conditions shall be performed in order to address any problems and to enable their repair in a short period of time. Maintenance planning shall be performed through a combination of modern management techniques, information systems and innovative technical analyzes in order to minimize any risk associated with the operation of the installation and equipment in the long run. The integration of scheduled maintenance will be a major component of the project development and will be implemented throughout the operation of the pipeline system.

Pipeline inspection and maintenance work during operation include the following parameters:

- Pipeline monitoring
- Supervision of the alignment possibly with road vehicles
- Inspections of special intersections
- Monitoring the population and activities of third parties adjacent to the pipeline
- Installation of the cathodic protection system
- Control and monitoring investigations
- Functional inspections and accreditation of the installation and equipment
- Maintenance of installation and equipment at predetermined intervals

The pipeline will be cleaned on a regular basis to confirm the geometry of the pipeline as well as after possible damage or after seismic phenomena.

#### *4.3.1.2 Maintenance of Compressor Stations and Metering Stations*

The maintenance strategy is based on the preventive maintenance, the program defined in the Maintenance Plan and the inspection / testing program. In the subsequent operation, the maintenance program follows the Reliability Centered Maintenance (RCM) principle where maintenance activities are based on the recorded reliability and fault database of the plant equipment.

No significant gas leaks occur during the maintenance of the metering stations.

## 4.4 Decommissioning of the Project

The expected service lifetime of the two pipeline systems is 50 years. It may be possible that life expectancy of the Project is increased as technology further develops during its operation. Nevertheless, it is expected that at some point the pipelines and the facilities will be decommissioned.

Any decommissioning activities will be subject to permitting requirements applicable at that time and subject to consultation with affected owners and stakeholders of affected properties and structures. A plan covering all relevant items will be prepared and approved before any decommissioning works. The plan will also include an assessment of the environmental impacts of the proposed decommissioning technique and proper mitigation measures.

The Project is designed for a lifetime up to 50 years. Project components may be modified and upgraded over the years, and various measures may be taken to increase the life expectancy of the Project. However, at some time in the future the maintenance of the project will become economically unfavourable and the technology obsolete; consequently, the Project will be demobilised.

The plant and equipment will be dismantled or cut into manageable sections, wiring and electronic boxes removed and handled in accordance with national legislation. Steel sections will be carted away for reuse or reprocessing. Building structures, including pits and culverts, and paved surfaces on the site are demolished, and the used building materials are transported to an approved waste disposal site if they cannot be recycled.

Finally, the area is reinstated by contouring the site to its original slope and undulation, and any scrub and vegetation are planted. The reinstatement will be planned and drafted in co-operation with the relevant authorities, whose approval shall be in hand prior to commencement of any fieldwork. A few years thereafter, the site should appear to be mingling in with the general landscape, and any traces from Project operations would not be detectable.

More specifically, a detailed plan for the decommissioning phase will be submitted to competent authorities for approval in advance of the planned date of end of operation activities, providing details of all necessary activities, in compliance with international best available dismantling practices and technologies available at the time of the execution of the plan.

The current approach foresees that the decommissioning procedure will consist of removal of the pipeline. In specific sections where the removal operation would not be technically feasible or would cause a more adverse impact on the natural or socioeconomic environment than the abandonment underground, the pipeline will be left buried (e.g., OSS4 or other sections of the onshore components of the Project). Nevertheless, regarding the offshore sections, it is expected that at some point the offshore pipeline should be decommissioned. At that point activities will be undertaken in accordance with prevailing legislation, in liaison with the relevant regulatory authorities and taking into account international best practices. This can be expected, for instance, in trenchless crossing sections. In these cases, the section will be made inert by filling up the pipe with appropriate concrete conglomerates or benthonic mixtures (in order to prevent collapse of empty pipeline), provided that the section is welded with caps.

Pipeline decommissioning, like the commissioning of a new pipeline, will be performed through a number of sequential phases that will allow occupation of limited areas at a time, progressively forwarding through the route. The impacts are expected to be similar to the ones evaluated for the construction phase (in a reverse chronological order).

In line with the principles concerning the permanent above-ground facilities, the decommissioning procedure will consist of removal of the structures and reinstatement of the area in a reasonable time frame in order to the return to the previous conditions of the area where this is possible. Of course, the first priority is to reuse materials; some components, though, cannot be reused and they are recycled to the extent possible. Other components are managed as excavation, demolition, construction waste.

## 4.5 Description of the project interferences with the Natura 2000 site

The current Appropriate Assessment concerns the part of the project that overlaps with the Study Area (Natura 2000 site: GR2540007). The total length of the project crossing the Study Area is 2km at the section IP 0114-0130.

During construction

- The working strip within the Study Area will be of 28m or 38m width covering an area of 7.4 ha.
- It is estimated that a few weeks will be required for the completion of the work in the area.
- Blasting may be used during the construction at KP: 19.840-20.322 and 21.348-21.845 for a total length of 979m.
- Regarding precommisioning activities, for the System Pressure Test no water abstraction and discharge will take place in the specific Natura 2000 site.
- It should be noted that no construction activities will take place during night.

### During operation/maintenance

- An 8m wide pipeline protection strip will be maintained along the pipeline of 1.6 ha.

Table 4-4 Pipeline Working Strips

| Project phase | Working Strip | Width (m) |
|---|---|---|
| Construction and pre-commissioning | General working strip | 38 |
| | Working strip with construction/environmental constraints | 28 |
| Operation and maintenance | Pipeline protection strip | 8 |

Reference: (ESIA Project Description)

# 5 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

According to the requirements of Article 6 of the Directive 92/43/EEC, the guidelines of the European Commission for the Appropriate Assessment and the MD 170225/2014, a series of procedural and substantive safeguards are set out, that must be applied to plans and projects that are likely to significantly affect a Natura 2000 site. In this framework the procedure of the AA is designed to:

- Fully assess the impacts of plans and projects that are likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site.
- Ascertain whether an adverse effect on the integrity of the site can be ruled out. If such is not the case, the plan or project can only be approved if mitigation measures or planning conditions can be introduced that remove or minimize the adverse effects on the site so that its integrity is not affected.
- Provide a mechanism for approving - in exceptional circumstances - plans or projects for which it cannot be ascertained that they will not adversely affect a Natura 2000 site even after the introduction of mitigation measures, when these plans of projects in the absence of alternative solutions are judged to be of overriding public interest.

## 5.1 Appropriate Assessment Methodology

This section describes the appropriate assessment methodology that will be applied so as to assess in an appropriate manner the potential significant impacts that may be determined by the project to the qualifying features and integrity of Natura 2000 sites. To this aim the methodology was based on the provisions and criteria of MD 170225/2014 with slight modifications so as to fullfill the purpose of the assessment and be in line with the directions derived from the methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

The significance of the potential impacts has been assessed considering the following characteristics:

- Duration,
- Spatial extent of the impact,
- Frequency of occurrence or timing with significant ecological periods,
- Intensity of the expected impact on ecological functions of habitats, species and ecosystems,
- Reversibility, either naturally or through implementation of measures to prevent and mitigate impacts.

Furthermore, the vulnerability/sensitivity of the habitat or species (receptor) to changes caused by the project and its capability to recover are taken into account, always considering how tolerant and

fragile the habitat or species is and the value, in terms of environmental conservation and ecology, of the receptor affected including species, populations, communities, habitats and ecosystems.

The significance of the impact was assessed in two steps: (a) taking into consideration the value and sensitivity of habitats and species, and the intensity of the impact on them; and (b) incorporating the frequency of occurrence or timing with important ecological periods.

In cases where a site supports habitats or species for which the potential impact differs, the scoring system uses a "weakest link" approach. This means that scores are based on the "worst" case.

Table 5-1 Assessment of impact Intensity towards the recipient of Habitats/Species of interest

| Impact Intensity | Recipient: Habitats/Species of interest |
|---|---|
| High | • The project (either alone or in combination with other projects) may adversely affect the integrity of a habitat, by substantially changing in the long term its ecological features, structures and functions, across all or most of the area, that enable it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the population levels of species that makes it important.<br>• Affects an entire population or species in sufficient magnitude to cause a decline in abundance and/or change in distribution beyond which natural recruitment (reproduction, immigration from unaffected areas) will not return that population or species, or any other population or species depending on it, to its former level within several generations*. A large magnitude impact affecting the species may also adversely affect the integrity of the site, habitat or ecosystem. A secondary impact of large magnitude may also affect a subsistence or commercial resource use (e.g. fisheries) to the degree that the well-being of the user is affected over a long term. |
| Medium | • The habitat's integrity will not be adversely affected in the long term, but the effect is likely to be significant in the short or medium term to some, if not all, of its ecological features, structures and functions. The habitat may be able to recover, through natural regeneration and restoration, to its state at the time of the baseline study.<br>• Affects a portion of a population and may bring about a change in abundance and / or distribution over one or more generations*, but does not threaten the integrity of that population or any population dependent on it. A medium magnitude impact may also affect the ecological functioning of a site, habitat or ecosystem but without adversely affecting its overall integrity. The size of the consequence is also important. A medium magnitude impact multiplied over a wide area will be regarded as large. A short term effect upon the well-being of resource users may also constitute a secondary medium impact. |
| Low | • Neither of the above applies, but some minor impacts of limited extent, or to some elements of the habitat, are predicted but the habitat will readily recover through natural regeneration.<br>• Affects a specific group of localized individuals within a population over a short time period (one generation* or less), but does not affect other trophic levels or the population itself. |

*Note: Generations of the animal/plant species under consideration.

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Table 5-2 Assessment of impact Intensity towards value and sensitivity of resource/recipient, frequency of occurrence and reversibility.

| Impact Intensity | Value and sensitivity of resource/recipient | Frequency | Reversibility |
|---|---|---|---|
| High | The receptor has little capacity to balance the changes without substantially altering its current state or is important at national or international level. For the classification the value of the species habitat affected is also taken into consideration. | The activity is continuous or/and takes place during critical life-stages or seasons for wildlife, e.g. bird nesting season. | The implementation of mitigation measures will reverse the effect by 100%. |
| Medium | The receptor has moderate ability to balance changes without significantly altering its current state or is of high importance. For the classification the value of the species habitat affected is also taken into consideration. | The activity is expected to be carried out for long periods of time during construction and will continue during operation or/and takes place during early or late breeding stages. | The implementation of mitigation measures will reverse the effect only partially and over 50%. |
| Low | The receptor is tolerant to change without harming its features, is of low or local importance. For the classification the value of the species habitat affected is also taken into consideration. | The activity will occur sporadically at irregular intervals or/and outside critical life-stages or seasons for wildlife. | The implementation of mitigation measures will reverse the effect only partially and up to 50%. |
| Negligible | | The activity will occur once and outside critical life-stages or seasons for wildlife. | |
| Irreversible | | | There is no reasonable chance of action being taken to reverse it. |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Table 5-3 Assessment of the impact's magnitude towards the value of the resource and the intensity of the impact

| Magnitude of impact | | Intensity | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Low | Medium | High |
| Value/ sensitivity of receptor | Low | Negligible | Low | Medium |
| | Medium | Low | Medium | High |
| | High | Medium | High | High |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Table 5-4 Assessment of the overall significance of the impact, with the frequency taken into account

| Overall significance of impact | | Impact's magnitude with regard to the value of the receptor and intensity | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Negligible | Low | Medium | High |
| Frequency | Negligible | Negligible | Negligible | Negligible | Low |
| | Low | Negligible | Negligible | Low | Medium |
| | Medium | Low | Low | Medium | High |
| | High | Low | Low | High | High |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

An assessment of the residual impact (impact that can not be mitigated and thus irreversible) has also taken into account the reversibility that may arise from the implementation of measures to prevent or mitigate the impacts of the project on habitats and species.

Table 5-5 Assessment of the residual impact, with the reversibility of the impact taken into account

| Residual impact | | Overall significance of impact | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Negligible | Low | Medium | High |
| Reversibility | High | Negligible | Negligible | Low | Low |
| | Medium | Negligible | Negligible | Low | Medium |
| | Low | Negligible | Low | Medium | High |
| | Irreversible | Negligible | Medium | High | Critical |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Table 5-6 Impact significance definitions

| Significance | Definition |
|---|---|
| Critical | Unacceptable. It is not subject to mitigation, alternatives should be identified. |
| High | Significant. Impacts with a "High" significance are likely to disrupt the function and value of the resource/receptor, and may have broader systemic consequences (e.g. ecosystem or social well-being). These impacts are a priority for mitigation in order to avoid or reduce the significance of the impact. |
| Medium | Significant. Impacts with a "Moderate" significance are likely to be noticeable and result in lasting changes to baseline conditions, which may cause hardship to or degradation of the resource or receptor, although the overall function and value of the resource or receptor is not disrupted. These impacts are a priority for mitigation in order to avoid or reduce the significance of the impact. |
| Low | Detectable but not significant. Impacts with a "Low" significance are expected to be noticeable changes to baseline conditions, beyond natural variation, but are not expected to cause hardship, degradation, or impair the function and value of the resource or receptor. However, these impacts warrant the attention of decision-makers, and should be avoided or mitigated where practicable. |
| Negligible | Not Significant. Any impacts are expected to be indistinguishable from the baseline or within the natural level of variation. These impacts do not require mitigation and are not a concern of the decision-making process. |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

## 5.2 Assessment of Impacts

The present impact assessment evaluated impacts, taking into consideration the implementation of adequate mitigation measures and environmental planning aimed at reducing and where possible preventing environmental impacts as presented in Section 6. Final residual impact is also estimated. A typical example is the selection of the trenchless underground passage of the pipeline at some sites, in order to minimize impact on sensitive habitats and species. Mitigations measures are therefore presented alongside the assessment and presented in detail in Section 6.

In this framework, the potential impacts concerning the construction and operation of the project were assessed with regards to the technical characteristics, the special natural characteristics and the current environmental conditions of the Study Area, with emphasis on the protected elements, the ecological integrity of the Study Area and the overall consistency of the Natura 2000 network.

For the section of the project under assessment, given the characterization of the area of interest as SPA for the Natura 2000 network, as the following evaluation indicators were used:

(a) loss and fragmentation of habitat areas of bird species,

(b) disturbance/displacement of species of interest, as well as

(c) direct loss of individuals of species of interest.

The examination of those indicators can provide information on the impact of the project and on whether it may:

- Cause delay or disrupt the progress in meeting the conservation objectives of the Natura area concerned;
- Reduce the size of the species population or affect the conservation status of their habitats or fragment them or affect the balance between species or affect their degree of isolation;
- Cause changes to vital parameters within the Natura 2000 site;
- Interact with anticipated or expected physical changes.

as required by the MD 170225/2014.

The chapter includes an initial screening of species and habitat types, followed by the estimation of the impacts of the project on the selected species related to (a) the pipeline construction and pre-commissioning, (b) the pipeline operation, (c) cumulative impacts, while possible impacts to other important species are also presented. Finally, the alternative scenarios are examined.

### *5.2.1 Species screening*

A screening was carried out concerning the species included in Table 3.2. of the SDF that could be potentially affected by the project, based on field observations and bibliographic data. The main species for which the site has been designated as a Natura 2000 site (trigger species) and other species considered as important for the site and could potentially be affected by the project were selected based on experts' judgment. The rest of the species was decided to be grouped in main ecological groups and assessed based on the ecological requirements of their group (see below).

The ecological requirements of the individual species and the groups are presented in ANNEX C, based on the studies of Dimalexis et al. (2009).

Table 5-7 Species of interest expected or observed within the FSA

| Code | Species | Presence | Observed during field work | Annex of Birds Directive / IUCN / Greek Red List |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trigger species - Annex I (2009/147/EC) species of the Study Area | | | | |

| Code | Species | Presence | Observed during field work | Annex of Birds Directive / IUCN / Greek Red List |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Reported in chapter 3.2 of the site's SDF* | | | | |
| A440 | *Sylvia rueppelli* | p,r | | I\|LC\|NT |
| A439 | *Hippolais olivetorum* | r | | I\|LC\|NT |
| A447 | *Emberiza caesia* | r | | I\|LC\|- |
| A080 | *Circaetus gallicus* | c,r | | I\|LC\|NT |
| A707 | *Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata)* | r | | I\|LC\|VU |
| Other species of the Study Area<br>*Reported in chapter 3.2 of the site's SDF* | | | | |
| A246 | *Lullula arborea* | p | X | I\|LC\|- |
| A878 | *Alectoris graeca all others* | p | | I\|NT\|VU |
| Groups of bird species of the Study Area<br>*Reported in chapter 3.2 of the site's SDF* | | | | |
| Gulls | | | | |
| Passerines of agricultural areas | | | | |
| Raptors | | | | |
| Seabirds | | | | |
| Waterfowl | | | | |

Note: p: permanent, r: reproducing, c: concentration, w: wintering (source: SDF), I: Annex of Birds Directive, LC: Least Concern, VU: Vulnerable, NT: Near Threatened

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Gulls: *Larus canus, Larus melanocephalus*

Passerines of agricultural areas: *Tachymarptis melba, Apus apus, Caprimulgus europaeus, Crex crex, Delichon urbicum (urbica), Emberiza hortulana, Hirundo rustica, Lanius collurio, Lanius nubicus, Oriolus oriolus, Streptopelia turtur*

Raptors: *Bubo bubo, Buteo buteo, Circaetus gallicus, Circus aeruginosus, Falco peregrinus, Falco vespertinus, Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata), Pernis apivorus*

Seabirds: *Calonectris diomedea s. str., Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii*

Waterfowl: *Podiceps cristatus*

Furthermore, the sensitivities of the species of concern, namely species of the Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive that are not among the qualifying features for the site, but were considered to

probably be present in the area or were observed during fieldwork, are taken into consideration for the proposal of good practices also for their protection and are presented in Table 5-8.

Table 5-8 Other species expected or observed within the FSA

| Group | Code | Species | Presence | Observed during fieldwork | Annex of Habitats Directive / IUCN / Greek Red List |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | 1353 | *Canis aureus* | | | -\|LC\|EN |
| M | 5365 | *Hypsugo savii* | p | X | IV\|LC\|LC |
| M | 5009 | *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* | p | X | IV\|LC\|DD |
| M | 1312 | *Nyctalus noctula* | p | X | IV\|LC\|DD |
| M | 1317 | *Pipistrellus nathusii* | p | X | IV\|LC\|DD |
| M | 1309 | *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* | p | X | IV\|LC\|DD |
| M | 1306 | *Rhinolophus blasii* | p | X | II;IV\|LC\|NT |
| M | 1304 | *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* | p | X | II; IV\|LC\|LC |
| M | 1333 | *Tadarida teniotis* | p | X | IV\|LC\|LC |

Note: p: permanent, X: presence, II, IV: Annexes of Habitats Directive, LC: Least Concern, EN, Engangered, NT: Near Threatened, DD: Data Deficient

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

### *5.2.2 Pipeline Construction and Pre-commissioning*

The project will cross the Study Area at its western edge. The construction is expected not to exceed a few weeks at the Natura 2000 site and its adjacent area.

During the preliminary design phase special care was taken in order:

- to minimize the overlap of the project with the Study Area in an attempt to minimize any potential impact of the project to the site and the Natura 2000 network in general. As a result, the project crosses the site at its western edge and special care has been taken to avoid important habitats.
- to prevent or minimize any potential impact during project construction. More specifically, a series of measures have been taken to minimize the potential impact to biodiversity, including (a) minimization of construction works during night and (b) application of reduced working strip when environmental constraints apply.

The potential impacts have been assessed taking into consideration measures adopted during preliminary design phase and the pre-condition that the construction works in the vicinity of the

Study Area will take place outside the main breeding period (March-July), following the provisions of the EU Habitats Directive and of national legislation.

Species habitat loss, deterioration, fragmentation: **Negligible**

Bird species of interest observed within the FSA are mainly passerines of agricultural areas and some characteristic of those habitats raptors. As the Study Area is an important area for migratory birds, it is estimated that the area is also used by them. Among them are some species of interest and important features for those are mainly the existing hedgerows and the olive groves. However, the intervention at the area is small and linear.

Table 5-9 General impact characteristics for avifauna species habitat loss

| Receptor | Nature | Extent | Duration |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Passerines of agricultural areas* | Negative. Destruction of hedgerows | Local, exclusively the working strip. | Short-term. The impact is expected only during the construction period (few weeks). |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

The value of the receptor is medium, as it concerns habitats that are used by Annexes I species of the Birds Directive, but not critical habitats for them. The intensity of the impact is low, as it could potentially affect only localized individuals within a population over a short time period and the frequency is also negligible, as the construction period will last a few weeks outside the sensitive period. Based on the above the impact is estimated to be negligible.

For the species habitats, for the trigger species the Site Specific Conservation Objective is to avoid reduction of its area and no significant reduction under the FRV, while for all species' habitat quality, the general objectives apply. Thus for the majority of the species, the objective is to maintain the Degree of Conservation B in the short term, while for *Circaetus gallicus, Calonectris diomedea, Caprimulgus europaeus* and *Lullula arborea* is to maintain the Degree of Conservation A. The Degree of Conservation is directly related to the conservation of the features of the habitat important for the species, as well as the restoration possibility of the species. Based on the above, as the important for the species features of the habitat are maintained, the Conservation Status and the Conservation Objective for the species are not expected to be affected.

Loss of Individuals: **Negligible.**

Loss of individuals is envisaged only in the case of destruction of active nests, since the project does not entail any other perceivable causes of bird mortality (e.g. overhead wires). As construction works will take place outside the breeding season, roadkills of juveniles or nestlings are not expected.

Table 5-10 General impact characteristics for loss of individuals of avifauna

| Receptor | Nature | Extent | Duration |
|---|---|---|---|
| *All ground nesting species and passerines of agricultural areas* | Negative. Destruction of nests, loss of eggs/nestlings | Local, exclusively the working strip. | Short-term. The impact is expected only during the construction period. |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

The value of the receptor is high as it concerns many species of interest included in Annex I of Birds Directive. The intensity of the impact is low, as it could potentially affect only localized individuals within a population over a short time period and the frequency is also negligible, as the construction period will last a few weeks outside sensitive periods. As a result, the overall impact is low.

As appropriate mitigation measures can be applied to mitigate the extent and intensity of the impact, the reversibility of the impact is medium and the residual impact negligible. The main measure to achieve this mitigation is to avoid construction during the breeding season.

The Conservation Objectives for the species is no significant reduction of the breeding population below FRV for residents and summer visitors. The Conservation Objectives, concerning their population, are not expected to be affected.

The Conservation Status and the Conservation Objectives, concerning their population, for the bird species included in the SDF are not expected to be affected.

Disturbance: **Low.**

The project will pass through agricultural areas. Main sources of disturbance are expected to be machinery operation, vehicle movements and workers physical presence. It should be mentioned that the area is regularly used by farmers and heavy machinery is used for the cultivation or harvesting of crops and a disturbance already exists and a relevant adaptation is expected by the species during day. However, blasting will take place. As a result, the species are expected to be disturbed during blasting.

Furthermore, light pollution at the working strip during night disturb bird species, especially during migration and bird movements between areas.

Table 5-11 General impact characteristics for disturbance of avifauna

| Receptor | Nature | Extent | Duration |
|---|---|---|---|
| Passerines of agricultural areas, Raptors | Negative. Disturbance | Local, exclusively the working strip. | Short-term. The impact is expected only during the construction period. |
| Nocturnal birds, migratory birds | Negative. Light pollution during night | Local, exclusively the working strip. | Short-term. The impact is expected only during the construction period. |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

The value of the receptor is high, as it concerns species included in Annex I of the Birds Directive. The intensity of the impact is low, as it could potentially affect only localized individuals within a population over a short time period and the frequency is low, as the construction period will last a few weeks outside the sensitive period. Based on the above the impact is estimated to be low.

As appropriate mitigation measures can be applied to mitigate the extent and intensity of the impact, the reversibility of the impact is medium, however the impact of blasting can not be reversed, thus the residual impact will remain low. The main measure to achieve this mitigation is to avoid construction during the breeding season.

No Conservation Objectives exist for the disturbance of bird species for the site or their distribution.

Changes in the general ecosystem of the Study Area: Not applicable

The project is crossing the Study Area at its western edge. It is expected that the project will not cause changes to the vital defining aspects that determine how the site functions as a habitat or ecosystem.

The above in combination with the negligible impact to species and habitats leads to the estimation that no change to the dynamics of the relationships that define the structure and/or function of the site are expected. Furthermore, the project does not interfere with predicted or expected natural changes to the site.

The project is not expected to change the balance between key species or reduce the diversity of the site.

### *5.2.3 Operation and Maintenance*

During operation and maintenance phase of the pipeline, no regular human or vehicle presence is anticipated, apart from what is necessary for the safe operation of the pipeline. The PPS will be maintained free of ligneous vegetation and will affect 0.05% of the arboreal crops of the site.

Species habitat loss, deterioration, fragmentation: **Not applicable.**

No loss, deterioration, fragmentation of species habitat is expected during operation.

Loss of Individuals: **Not applicable**.

No loss of individuals is expected during operation.

Disturbance: **Not applicable.**

No disturbance is expected during operation.

Table 5-12 Assessment of impacts

| Phase | Threat | Receptor | Nature | Extend | Duration | Intensity | Value of the receptor | Frequency | Overall importance | Reversibility | Residual impact |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Construction | Species habitat loss, deterioration, fragmentation | Birds (see relevant table) | Negative | Local | Short term | Low | Medium | Low | Negligible | - | Negligible |
| | Loss of individuals | Birds (see relevant table) | Negative | Local | Short term | Low | High | Low | Low | Medium | Negligible |
| | Disturbance | Birds (see relevant table) | Negative | Local | Short term | Low | High | Low | Low | Low | Low |
| Operation | Species habitat loss, deterioration, fragmentation | Birds | Negative | *No impact expected* | | | | | | | |
| | Loss of individuals | Birds | Negative | *No impact expected* | | | | | | | |
| | Disturbance | Birds | Negative | *No impact expected* | | | | | | | |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

### 5.2.4 Sensitivities of other species

As presented in Table 5-8, other species included in the Annex II and IV of the Habitats Directive were also observed in the FSA. Although mammal species observed in the area are not included in those for which site has been designated, it should be mentioned that:

- Blasting will disturb *Canis aureus*, especially during its breeding period.
- Light pollution is expected to disturb all mammal species of interest.
- Increase of road traffic could lead to roadkill of *Canis aureus* individuals.

### 5.2.5 Cumulative impacts

It is well established that pipelines, power lines and roads can form a linear intrusion in natural areas leading to habitat loss, fragmentation, and to the creation of barriers to movement of terrestrial species. As mentioned above the site has some significant existing and planned projects and infrastructures except from the existing road network (EO 86) crossing at the site, in close proximity to the pipeline. There is one operating wind park and 7 under permitting planned wind park projects, which are located at a considerable distance (>4,5km) from the FSA and the axis of the pipeline.

The routing of the EastMed pipeline crosses the site for some hundred meters, in areas where no other projects exist, just the local road network. Planned and existing wind parks are located within the Natura 2000 site. The project is expected to have negligible contribution to the cumulative impact of the projects in the site.

### 5.2.6 Alternative scenarios

Detailed description of alternative scenarios is given in the relevant chapter (Chapter 7) of the ESIA. Concerning the assessment of alternative routings of the project, to avoid the specific SPA site, this is not considered as a viable scenario due to the fact that the routing is only passing for a few hundred meters the outer borders of this particular SPA. This routing forms practically the optimum scenario from the ecological point of view for the routing of pipeline, as it also follows at some points the existing local road network.

Scenario 1: Current routing.

The construction works for the current routing are estimated to have no impact on the avifauna of the SPA. By respecting the construction time-constraints and by taking appropriate pre-construction

mitigation measures such as ornithological surveys for spotting nesting trees and tree stands, to avoid the destruction of nest sites through micro-siting, the impact is expected to be negligible.

Scenario 2: Do-nothing Scenario.

In the case of the do-nothing scenario, there would be no pipeline construction, which would have the effect of negligible effects for all types of impacts. However, the implementation of the project would result in a number of significant positive impacts, namely: enhancement of competition in the energy market and of EU security of supply, broadening of the Southern Gas Corridor, developing of natural gas resources within the EU or close border sources, ensurance of supply of natural gas to areas of Greece that do not have access to the National Network, support of the transitory phase to renewable sources.

## 5.3 Conclusions of Impact Assessment on conservation objects and ecological integrity of Natura 2000 site

Taking into consideration the above assessment and the current status of the ecological characteristics of the Study Area and the construction and functional requirements of the Project, it is concluded that the implementation of the proposed project is not expected to:

- Cause delay or disrupt the progress in meeting the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 area concerned.
- Reduce the size of the population of protected species or affect the conservation status of their habitats or fragment or affect the balance between species or affect their degree of isolation.
- Cause changes to vital parameters (e.g. terrain, water surface network) that contribute to the function of the Natura 2000 site.
- Interact with anticipated or expected physical changes.

Given the above and considering the implementation of the aforementioned management and mitigation measures preventing/reducing potential impacts, it is concluded that the implementation and operation of the proposed project will induce low impact on the protected species, on the ecological functions they perform regarding the ecological integrity of the Study Area and on its role towards the coherence of the Natura 2000 network.

# 6 MITIGATION MEASURES OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Mitigation measures are proposed as precaution for the avoidance or reduction of potential adverse impacts. In this context the aim is to prevent, minimize and neutralize any negative impacts of the project and they are an integral part of its implementation specifications.

In this context the most vulnerable points and sections of the pipeline routing were highlighted and the areas where measures should be implemented to prevent/minimize impacts are presented in the following Table (Table 6-1).

It is noted the impact assessment presented in the above section, assessed residual impacts after the implementation of the management and mitigation measures listed below.

Table 6-1 Impact, mitigation measures proposed and significance of residual impact

| Mitigation Commitments to Address the Impact / Risk | Efficiency | | | | IP | Significance of Residual Impact / Risk |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Prevention/ avoidance | Reduction of intensity | Reduction of extent | Restoration | | |
| **Construction Phase** | | | | | | |
| **Implement time-constraints and undertake construction works outside the breeding period between 1st March and the 31st July.** | X | | | | 0110-0130, 0153-0156 | Negligible |
| Habitat types loss / Species habitat loss, degradation or fragmentation | | | | | | |
| Already foreseen by the project: The topsoil will be carefully stored and no construction materials will be taken from the surrounding environment unless approved by the responsible authority. | X | | | | 0110-0130, 0153-0156 | Negligible |
| Already foreseen by the project: Establishment and marking of working strip and use of existing infrastructure and roads. | X | | | | | |
| Loss of individuals | | | | | | |
| Collection of injured individuals and transfer to wildlife rehabilitation centres. | | X | | | | Negligible |
| Disturbance | | | | | | |
| Avoidance of dusk-dawn work. | | X | | | | Negligible |

| Mitigation Commitments to Address the Impact / Risk | Efficiency | | | | IP | Significance of Residual Impact / Risk |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Prevention/ avoidance | Reduction of intensity | Reduction of extent | Restoration | | |
| Usage of lights to minimum, for safety reasons, and directional lighting. | X | | X | | 0110-0130, 0153-0156 | |
| In case of blasting, use of modern explosives and techniques to reduce noise | | X | | | | |
| Access to the works area will only be allowed to site staff. | X | | | | | |
| All impacts | | | | | | |
| Ecological awareness/behaviour training should be provided to all personnel. | X | X | X | | 0110-0130, 0153-0156 | Negligible |
| Establishment of a Fire Risk Prevention Plan. | X | | | | | |
| Construction work must be supervised by an ornithologist and monitoring of birds will take place immediately before and during construction period, to carry out preventive conservation measures by the pipeline environmental team, if required. The Management Body will be timely informed for the specific ecological work. | X | | | | | |
| A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) will be implemented for the Natura 2000 site. The BAP should foresee direct collaboration with the local Management Body of the protected site. | X | X | X | | | |
| **Operation Phase** | | | | | | |
| A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) will be implemented for the Natura 2000 site, ensuring a close collaboration of the ecological monitoring team with the management Body of the protected area especially concerning the foraging habitats of *Aquila fasciata*. | | | | X | 0110-0130, 0153-0156 | Negligible |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

The majority of the aforementioned mitigation measures are expected to benefit also the other species observed in the area. In the following table good practices are presented which along with the mitigation measures would benefit *Canus aureus* in the area.

Table 6-2 Good practices proposed for other species and areas outside the Study Area

| Good practices | Efficiency | | | | IP |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Prevention/ avoidance | Reduction of intensity | Reduction of extent | Restoration | |
| **Construction Phase** | | | | | |
| Disturbance | | | | | |
| Avoidance of working during the period of mid-March to end of July. | X | | | | 0153-0157 |
| No garbage or food remains will be left at the working strip. | X | | | | 0153-0157 |
| Limiting of vehicle speed (limits will be established at the Traffic Management Plan) | X | X | X | | 0153-0157 |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

Information concerning monitoring of the efficiency of the mitigation measures is provided in Section 8.

# 7 COMPENSATORY MEASURES

Compensatory measures, as described in Article 6 (4) of the EU Habitats Directive and incorporated into the Greek Law 4014/2011, are the "last resort" and are only used when a decision has been taken to proceed with a project or plan that could have negative impacts on the integrity of Natura 2000, because there are no alternatives and the project has been judged to be of overriding public interest.

Based on the guidelines for the interpretation of the European Directive 92/43/EEC, compensatory measures have to be considered only when a significant negative impact on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site is found.

Since no significant negative impact on the integrity and conservation objectives of the investigated Natura 2000 site is assessed in the present Appropriate Assessment, no compensatory measures are proposed.

# 8 MONITORING PROGRAM

The implementation of a monitoring program is considered particularly important, during both (a) the construction phase of the pipeline, as well as (b) the operation and maintenance phase. It consists of two parts (a) monitoring the state of the species and habitats of interest and (b) monitoring the implementation of the mitigation measures.

## 8.1 General Monitoring Criteria

During construction

During construction phase, a "pre-construction" team composed by specialized field experts-scientists will monitor/survey (walkover) before construction initiation. Main goal for the team is to survey potential presence of important species, features and parameters that may need specific handlings (e.g. breeding species, important species, injured individuals, young individuals, important sites, etc.). This will ensure that any site-specific issues will be highlighted before construction and appropriate measures will be taken before construction activities initiation.

Post construction

After construction has been finalized, a monitoring program during the operation of the project must be conducted for at least 3 years. Given the scale of the project, it is necessary to implement such monitoring follow-up in order to establish the effectiveness of the applied mitigation measures and record any possible changes/impacts to the natural environment and its components due to the project function. During the operation phase, monitoring actually has an ancillary role to observe the follow-up situation, and record some meta-status that may need attention.

Main goal of monitoring activities

The main aim of these two monitoring stages is to be able to record the actual stage and status of fauna species, in-situ, with a pre-construction preceding team, then in real-time during the construction process and eventually once the construction is over ,to record the post-construction situation, impact and effect of mitigation measures, and natural environment elements' status in the recovery phase.

Basic axis for monitoring implementation

There are four basic axes upon which the monitoring will be designed and carried out: (a) Important species of concern that must be studied in each respective protected area, (b) Period (season-month and time of the day) of the monitoring implementation, (c) Guidelines for monitoring implementation

depending on each biological group which is studied, and (d) Biological and environmental parameters recorded during monitoring process.

All four axes are analytically described in the paragraphs below.

## 8.2 Monitoring Program for the Study Area

The implementation and monitoring of the mitigation measures proposed will be foreseen and included in the Environmental Management System of the project and their details will be defined by the Environmental Management Plan. An Environmental Monitoring Plan will be prepared, while a Biodiversity Management Plan will be included as an integral part of it. The Environmental Monitoring Plan shall be submitted to the competent authorities that will monitor its implementation by the contractor.

The monitoring will focus on (a) the presence of the species in the area and its use during construction in order to estimate the actual impact of the activities to the species in terms of loss of habitat, loss of individuals and disturbance and the efficiency of the mitigation measures in order to provide information for the assessment of the need for modifications in the construction timing or finetuning of mitigation measures etc. and (b) the presence of the species and the use of the area after the construction in order to estimate the long-term impacts of the project to the Natura 2000 site.

Furthermore, the monitoring will also focus on the collection of all necessary information on (a) the confirmation of the mitigation measures' implementation and (b) the effectiveness of the mitigation. A series of indicators representative of the effectiveness of the mitigation measures (Key Performance Indicators - KPIs) will be defined and monitored. The effectiveness of the one-off measures will be measured once, i.e. after their implementation.

All above information will feed the procedure of the periodic adjustment of the mitigation program, while annual reports of the monitoring program should be submitted to central, regional and local authorities responsible for environmental supervision.

Species for which monitoring should focus on, during construction and in post-construction surveys.

Based on the site's recorded avifauna, attention during monitoring should be given in trigger, migrating, Directive Annex I species, as well as rare and important avian species as they are demonstrated analytically within Annexes of the present AA.

Monitoring during construction period

In the case of eagles and falcons, Road-Foot-survey Line Transects will be used. Monitoring will be mainly performed with binoculars preferably 10x42, and an additional spotting scope 20x60. The team will be following specific line transects. Foot line transects can be realized in parallel by the avian experts field crew, and recording may take place preferably early in the morning (1 hour after dawn) but may last even until late in the afternoon. Nonetheless, the best time of the day for monitoring is between 8.00-9.00 up to 14.00-15.00. Each member of the avian survey team, should have along a hand-gps loaded with the transect lines that will be followed, and the project routing Before direct observation and monitoring will take place, the field team must have already complete basic parameters within specific protocols such as name of surveyor, temperature, date, local geographical names, percentage of cloud-cover, wind direction, wind power on Beaufort scale. Whenever eagle, vultures and falcon species are observed, or else raptors in general, the following parameters will be recorded: Latin name of the species, number of individuals, age of individuals, sex of individual, description of habitat at site of observation, direction flight, distance of flight from the project, and the following eight ethological parameters must also be recorded based on raptors' behavior: flying-gliding, roosting, prey foraging – feeding, territory marking & defending, courtship, nest construction, egg-laying and incubation, feeding nestlings.

In the case of passerines – songbirds - small birds, a group which actually includes Passeriformes, Coraciiformes, Piciformes, Apodiformes, Cuculiformes, Columbiformes, Road-Foot-survey Line Transects will be realized. Monitoring will be mainly realized with binoculars preferably 10x42, whereas the additional spotting scope 20x60 will be much less needed, since due to high activity of the species, quick reflexes require an easy spotting tool such as hand binoculars. The team will be following specific line transects. Foot line transects can be realized in parallel by the avian expert field crew, and recording may take place preferably very early in the morning (1 hour before dawn) and must not be realized after 11.00-12.00. Each member of the avian survey team, should have along a hand-gps loaded with the transect lines that will be followed, and the project routing. Before direct observation and monitoring will take place, the field team must have already complete basic parameters within specific protocols such as name of surveyor, temperature, date, local geographical names, percentage of cloud-cover, wind direction, wind power on Beaufort scale. Whenever representative species of the group will be located (it must be noted that more than half of this group's observations are realized through acoustic identification and not visual contact), the following parameters will be recorded: Latin name of the species, number of individuals, age of individuals, sex of individual, description of habitat at site of observation, direction flight, distance of flight from project, and the following eight ethological parameters must also be recorded based on species' behaviour: flying-gliding, roosting, prey foraging – feeding, territory marking & defending, courtship, nest construction, egg-laying and incubation, feeding nestlings. Furthermore, for this group we record mainly species which are within the vicinity of 100m around us, and in case the

species fly above the site as passing by visitors, it is noted in the protocols as “fly over flight”, which does not relate the individuals with the site.

In all cases and all possible observations of the above two general avian groups, and once all observations’ recording is realized, the following main variables must be treated with high priority once recorded:

- Possible early initiation of courtship (early February)
- Possible early establishment of foraging and breeding territories (early February-March)
- Destruction of small-extension important habitats for roosting, nesting and breeding.
- After main breeding season, species with late breeding season, nestlings not fully fledged yet, active nests.
- After main breeding season, freshly fledged younglings, occupying new territories during dispersal and meta-population process.

Depending on the timing of construction, the appropriate variables have to be selected and monitored.

Monitoring during operation and maintenance phase

After the construction is finalized, the monitoring phase of the “post-construction” period will be conducted for a total of 3 years, except if during monitoring and assessment it is estimated that a shorter period can be sufficient. The main axis of its implementation is the same as presented in the above section of construction monitoring phase.

# 9 CONCLUSIONS

The present Appropriate Assessment concerns the onshore section of the EastMed pipeline, which crosses the Special Protection Area (SPA) "Ori Anatolikis Lakonias", GR2540007. It has been prepared as a necessary and integral part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment of the project.

The present AA followed the specifications described in Annex 3.2.1 of the MD 170225/2014, concerning the AA of projects and activities located within Natura 2000 sites that are not subject to specific conditions. Bibliographical data were collected and field surveys of a total duration of 20 days were carried out in 2021, to cover all the annual cycle.

The present AA provided a detailed ecological description of the Study Area with special emphasis in the Field Survey Area (a strip of 500 m either side of the proposed routing). In particular, the AA assessed the potential impacts of the project to the populations and distribution of protected species and the ecological functions of the site, and identified suitable mitigation measures to ensure that the proposed project will not harm the ecological integrity of the site and the connectivity of the Natura 2000 network.

The project will cross the Study Area at its western edge. The construction is expected not to exceed a few weeks. As a result, the expected residual impacts to habitats and species of the Study Area are estimated as negligible for potential habitat degradation due to limited loss of existing hedgerows between fields and trees of olive groves and low for potential disturbance of birds due to construction works and increase of noise level, mainly due to blasting, light pollution (i.e. passerines of agricultural areas, raptors, nocturnal birds, migratory birds).

The present AA proposes a key measure for mitigation of the impacts on the local biodiversity, in order to minimize project impacts to the site: the construction works within the site and its vicinity will take place outside the main breeding period, March-July, following the provisions of the EU Habitat Directive and of the national legislation. By applying this measure and other mitigation measures proposed in the relevant Section 6 of the AA, the impact of the project to the ecological integrity of the SAC site are assessed to be negligible. Furthermore, good practice measures are also proposed for the benefit of other species of interest, i.e. *Canis aureus*, present in the area.

Concerning cumulative impacts, the main infrastructures are in distance from the routing (>4.5 km) and are not expected to act cumulatively. The scenario of the current routing is estimated as the optimal one.

The present AA also provided guidelines on the monitoring program to be carried out during construction alongside the executions of construction works, and during the pipeline operation for at least three years.

Provided that the described above precautions are taken into consideration, it is well beyond doubt that the impacts of the crossing of the project to the ecological integrity of the Special Protection Area (SPA) "Ori Anatolikis Lakonias", GR2540007, of the Natura 2000 network, will be low.

# 10 STUDY TEAM

| Name | | Role |
|---|---|---|
| Tasos Dimalexis | Dr. Biologist | Project Coordinator<br>Site assessment |
| Margarita Tzali | Environmental Engineer, MSc | Project Manager<br>AA compilation |
| Alexandra Kontou | Environmentalist, MSc | AA compilation |
| Vassilis Goritsas | Environmentalist, MSc | Data management/Map production |
| Jakob Fric | Physicist | Development of databases/Data management |
| Giorgos Fotiadis | Dr. Forester | Habitat expert<br>Field survey, Preparation of texts, Mapping |
| Apostolos Christopoulos | Environmentalist MSc, Phd candidate in Biology | Avifauna/Herpetofauna expert<br>Field survey, Preparation of texts |
| Thanos Kastritis | Dr. Oceanographer | Field worker: Avifauna field survey |
| Irini Antoniadi | Biologist, MSc | Wolf/Jackal expert<br>Field survey, Preparation of texts |
| Ioanna Salvarina | Dr. Biologist | Bat/Otter expert<br>Field survey, Preparation of texts |

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# ANNEX A SDF DATA

Table ANNEX-11-1 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them

| Code | Species Name | Population | | | | | | Assessment | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Type | Min | Max | Unit | Abund. | Data Quality | Pop. | Cons. | Isol. | Global |
| Trigger species | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A080 | *Circaetus gallicus* | c | | | | C | DD | B | A | C | B |
| A080 | *Circaetus gallicus* | r | 4 | 4 | i | | G | B | B | C | B |
| A447 | *Emberiza caesia* | r | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A707 | *Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata)* | p | 3 | 3 | i | | G | B | B | B | B |
| A439 | *Hippolais olivetorum* | r | | | | P | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A440 | *Sylvia rueppelli* | r | | | | P | DD | C | B | B | B |
| Bird Directive \| Annex I species | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A878 | *Alectoris graeca* all others | p | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A215 | *Bubo bubo* | p | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A850 | *Calonectris diomedea* s. str. | r | | | | P | DD | D | A | | |
| A224 | *Caprimulgus europaeus* | r | | | | C | DD | C | A | C | B |
| A081 | *Circus aeruginosus* | c | | | | P | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A122 | *Crex crex* | c | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A379 | *Emberiza hortulana* | r | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A103 | *Falco peregrinus* | p | | | | P | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A097 | *Falco vespertinus* | c | | | | P | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A338 | *Lanius collurio* | c | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A433 | *Lanius nubicus* | c | | | | P | DD | C | B | B | B |
| A176 | *Larus melanocephalus* | w | | | | C | DD | D | B | | |
| A246 | *Lullula arborea* | p | | | | P | DD | C | A | C | B |
| A072 | *Pernis apivorus* | c | | | | P | DD | B | B | C | B |
| A072 | *Pernis apivorus* | r | | | | P | DD | B | B | C | B |
| A392 | *Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii* | p | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| Migratory species with regular presence | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A228 | *Tachymarptis melba* | c | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A228 | *Tachymarptis melba* | r | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A226 | *Apus apus* | c | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |

| Code | Species Name | Population | | | | | | Assessment | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Type | Min | Max | Unit | Abund. | Data Quality | Pop. | Cons. | Isol. | Global |
| A087 | *Buteo buteo* | c | 1 | 1 | i | | M | C | B | C | B |
| A087 | *Buteo buteo* | r | | | | P | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A738 | *Delichon urbicum (urbica)* | r | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A251 | *Hirundo rustica* | r | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A182 | *Larus canus* | w | | | | C | DD | D | B | | |
| A337 | *Oriolus oriolus* | c | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A005 | *Podiceps cristatus* | w | | | | C | DD | D | B | | |
| A210 | *Streptopelia turtur* | c | | | | C | DD | C | B | C | B |
| A210 | *Streptopelia turtur* | r | 12 | 12 | p | | M | C | B | C | B |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

**Definitions:**

Type: p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering

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

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'

Size and density of the population of the species present on the site in relation to the populations present within national territory (Population): the ratio of the population in the site / population in the national territory: A: 15%-100%, B=2%-15%, C=0%-2%, D=non-significant population

Degree of conservation of the features of the habitat which are important for the species concerned and possibilities for restoration (Conservation). This criterion comprises two sub-criteria: i) degree of conservation of the features of the habitat important for the species, ii) restoration possibilities. A = conservation excellent (= elements in an excellent condition, independent of the grading of the possibility of restoration), B = good conservation (= elements well conserved independent of the grading of the possibility of restoration), C = average or reduced conservation (= all other combinations)

Degree of isolation of the population present on the site in relation to the natural range of the species (Isolation). A: population (almost) isolated, B: population not-isolated, but on margins of area of distribution, C: population not-isolated within extended distribution range

Global assessment of the value of the site for conservation of the species concerned. A: excellent value, B: good value, C: significant value.

## Other species

There is 1 other species of importance for the area included in the SDF, which is a bird and included in the National Red Data Lists and in International Conventions. For further detail please refer to the SDF.

# ANNEX B THREAT STATUS

Table ANNEX-11-2 Threat and Protection status of Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC

| Code | Species Name | IUCN (2020) | Greek Red Data Book (2008) | Birds Directive | Bern Convention | Bonn Convention | AEWA | CITES | Observed during field work |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trigger species | | | | | | | | | |
| A080 | *Circaetus gallicus* | LC | NT | I | II | II | | II | |
| A447 | *Emberiza caesia* | LC | | I | II | | | | |
| A707 | *Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata)* | LC | VU | I | II | II | | II | |
| A439 | *Hippolais olivetorum* | LC | NT | I | II | II | | | |
| A440 | *Sylvia rueppelli* | LC | NT | I | II | II | | | |
| Bird Directive \| Annex I species | | | | | | | | | |
| A878 | *Alectoris graeca* all others | NT | VU | I | III | | | | |
| A215 | *Bubo bubo* | LC | | I | II | | | II | |
| A850 | *Calonectris diomedea* s. str. | LC | | I | II | | | | |
| A224 | *Caprimulgus europaeus* | LC | | I | II | | | | |
| A081 | *Circus aeruginosus* | LC | VU | I | II | II | | II | |
| A122 | *Crex crex* | LC | DD | I | II | II | √ | | |
| A379 | *Emberiza hortulana* | LC | | I | III | | | | |

| Code | Species Name | IUCN (2020) | Greek Red Data Book (2008) | Birds Directive | Bern Convention | Bonn Convention | AEWA | CITES | Observed during field work |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A103 | *Falco peregrinus* | LC | | I | II | II | | I | |
| A097 | *Falco vespertinus* | NT | DD | I | II | II | | II | |
| A338 | *Lanius collurio* | LC | | I | II | | | | |
| A433 | *Lanius nubicus* | LC | NT | I | II | | | | |
| A176 | *Larus melanocephalus* | LC | EN | I | II | II | √ | | |
| A246 | *Lullula arborea* | LC | | I | III | | | | X |
| A072 | *Pernis apivorus* | LC | | I | II | II | | II | |
| A392 | *Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii* | LC | NT | I*** | II | | | | |
| Migratory species with regular presence | | | | | | | | | |
| A228 | *Tachymarptis melba* | LC | | | II | | | | X |
| A226 | *Apus apus* | LC | | | III | | | | X |
| A087 | *Buteo buteo* | LC | | | II | II | | II | X |
| A738 | *Delichon urbicum (urbica)* | LC | | | II | | | | X |
| A251 | *Hirundo rustica* | LC | | | II | | | | X |
| A182 | *Larus canus* | LC | | II/2 | III | | √ | | |
| A337 | *Oriolus oriolus* | LC | | | II | | | | |
| A005 | *Podiceps cristatus* | LC | | | III | | √ | | |

| Code | Species Name | IUCN (2020) | Greek Red Data Book (2008) | Birds Directive | Bern Convention | Bonn Convention | AEWA | CITES | Observed during field work |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A210 | *Streptopelia turtur* | VU | | II/2 | III | II | | | |
| A210 | *Streptopelia turtur* | VU | | II/2 | III | II | | | |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

**Definitions:**

Threat categories according to IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species (2020) (http://www.iucnredlist.org/): CR: Critically Endangered, EN: Endangered, VU: Vulnerable, NT: Near Threatened, LC: Least Concern, DD: Data Deficient, NE: Not Estimated

Threat categories according to the Red Data Book for Endangered Animals of Greece (2009): Threat categories according to IUCN European Threat Categories, BirdLife International (2004a): CR: Critically Endangered, EN: Endangered, VU: Vulnerable, NT: Near Threatened, LC: Least Concern, DD: Data Deficient, NE: Not Estimated

Birds Directive (2009/147/EC): I: Annex I - Species subject to special management measures for their biotope, II/1: Annex II/1 - Species that may be hunted in the geographical area where the Directive applies, II/2: Annex II/2 - Species that may be hunted only in the Member State in respect of which they are indicated, III/1: Annex III/1- Member States shall not prohibit their exploitation, III/ 2: Annex III/2 - Member States may prohibit the exploitation of these species

Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention): II: Annex II - Strictly Protected Species - Vertebrates, III: Annex III - Protected Species - Vertebrates

Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS, Bonn Convention). Appendix I: Endangered migratory species, Appendix II: Migratory species conserved through Agreements

Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA, CMS).

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). I: Annex I - endangered species of animals and plants, which CITES generally prohibits international trade of their specimens, II: Annex II - species of animals and plants which are not directly threatened with extinction, but may be listed in Annex I if their trade is not controlled.

# ANNEX C ECOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS

Table ANNEX-11-3 Ecological requirements, threats and state in Greece and the Study Area of Species assessed by the AA ([1]: Dimalexis et al., 2009, [2]: species population according to BirdLife International (2015), [3]: SDF)

| Code | Species Name | Habitat[1] | | Threats[1] | Presence Status in Greece[2] | Significant Presence Status in the Study Area[3] | Population in the Study Area[3] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Reproduction | Foraging | | | | |
| Trigger species | | | | | | | |
| A080 | *Circaetus gallicus* | mature trees in intact clusters of deciduous or coniferous forests | open areas with low vegetation, openings | afforestation of open areas, use of pesticides, poaching, collision at power lines | summer visitor (350-500 pairs) and passage visitor | passage visitor, summer visitor | B |
| A447 | *Emberiza caesia* | phryganic areas or areas with low and sparse maquis vegetation, meadows | open rocky slopes with sparse vegetation (mainly phrygana or low maquis) | residential development, forests, overgrazing | summer visitor (5,000-20,000 pairs) | summer visitor | B |
| A707 | *Hieraaetus fasciatus (Aquila fasciata)* | on rocks or on internal cliffs or in coastal areas above the sea | scrubland with maquis but also young sparse forests close to crops or wetlands, dry heaths | disturbance from human activities, tourism infrastructure, residential development, mining activities | Resident species (100-140 pairs) | resident species | B |
| A439 | *Hippolais olivetorum* | cultivated land, deciduous broadleaf trees, scrubland | cultivated land, deciduous broadleaf trees, scrubland | degradation/destruction of critical habitats, use of agrochemicals | summer visitor (3,000-5,000 pairs) | summer visitor | B |

| Code | Species Name | Habitat[1] | | Threats[1] | Presence Status in Greece[2] | Significant Presence Status in the Study Area[3] | Population in the Study Area[3] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Reproduction | Foraging | | | | |
| A440 | *Sylvia rueppelli* | evergreen broadleaf shrubs and low maquis vegetation | evergreen broadleaf shrubs and low maquis vegetation | recurrent and large-scale fires in shrubs or maquis vegetation, cutting or removal of shrubs | Summer visitor (3,000-10,000 pairs) | summer visitor | B |
| *Other species of the Study Area Reported in chapter 3.2 of the site's SDF* | | | | | | | |
| A878 | *Alectoris graeca all others* | open, rocky areas with shrubs, phrygana, sparse maquis, alpine meadows, rocky slopes with cliffs, etc. (Cramp, 1980, Handrinos & Akriotis, 1997) | open, rocky areas with shrubs, phrygana, sparse maquis, alpine meadows, rocky slopes with cliffs, etc. (Cramp, 1980, Handrinos & Akriotis, 1997) | Continuous interventions in the mountain ecosystems (road opening, skiing center construction, etc.), intense hunting, poaching and hybridization with *Alectoris chukar* | Resident species, 7,000-13,0000 pairs | resident species | B |
| A246 | *Lullula arborea* | open forests, mainly conifers, but also broadleaves, in openings, shrubs with scattered clusters of trees. | | | Resident (5,000-20,000 pairs) | resident species | B |
| *Groups of bird species of the Study Area Reported in chapter 3.2 of the site's SDF* | | | | | | | |
| Gulls | | | coastal lagoons and wetlands, fields, freshwater lakes | wetland habitat interventions and modern coastal fishing practices | | | |

| Code | Species Name | Habitat[1] | | Threats[1] | Presence Status in Greece[2] | Significant Presence Status in the Study Area[3] | Population in the Study Area[3] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Reproduction | Foraging | | | | |
| Passerines of agricultural areas | | open areas that combine low Mediterranean vegetation (mainly macchia and phrygana), crops with scattered trees, hedges, etc. | open areas that combine low Mediterranean vegetation (mainly macchia and phrygana), crops with scattered trees, hedges, etc. | Use of fertilizers, pesticides, residential and tourist development | Resident species, summer visitors, winter visitors, passage visitors | | |
| Raptors | | inland or coastal vertical cliffs and slopes, as well as deciduous and coniferous forests | open areas with low vegetation | Residential and tourist development, disturbance from human activities, operation of wind farms | Resident species, summer visitors, winter visitors, passage visitors | | |
| Seabirds | | coastal cliffs, often in inaccessible, steep locations both on the coasts of the mainland and on large islands as well as on small uninhabited islets | open sea or coastal waters | by catch, marine pollution, overfishing, introduction of predators or increase of existing natural predators or competitors such as rats | Resident species, summer visitors, passage visitors | | |
| Waterfowl | | inland and coastal wetlands with a mosaic of wetland vegetation but also open areas without vegetation with deeper waters | inland and coastal wetlands with a mosaic of wetland vegetation | Degradation - destruction of wetlands (encroachment, expansion of settlements and leisure infrastructure, water and soil | Resident species, summer visitors, winter | | |

| Code | Species Name | Habitat[1] | | Threats[1] | Presence Status in Greece[2] | Significant Presence Status in the Study Area[3] | Population in the Study Area[3] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Reproduction | Foraging | | | | |
| | | | | pollution, waste disposal, water management), poaching, disturbance from human activities | visitors, passage visitors | | |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

# ANNEX D PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

## Study Area

Note: The photographs provide an overview of the Natura 2000 site and come from the photographical archive of NCC Ltd.

| Photographs | |
|---|---|
|  |  |
|  |  |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

## Field Survey Area

Note: Photographs of the FSA have been taken from the referred sampling plot corresponding to the IPs mentioned in the table and are illustrated in ANNEX E, Map 6.

| IP | Photograph | Sampling Plot | Filename / Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 117-118 |  | ABR02 | JPEG_20210327152458410.jpg |
| 117-118 |  | ABR02 | JPEG_20210327152416309.jpg |

| IP | Photograph | Sampling Plot | Filename / Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 129-130 |  | ABR04 | JPEG_20210327144203764.jpg |
| 129-130 |  | ABR04 | JPEG_20210327144136296.jpg |
| 129-130 |  | ABR04 | JPEG_20210327144113313.jpg |

| IP | Photograph | Sampling Plot | Filename / Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 155-156 |  | ABR05 | JPEG_20210328072018346.jpg |
| 155-156 |  | ABR05 | JPEG_20210328072006961.jpg |
| 155-156 |  | ABR07 | JPEG_20210328070536970.jpg |

| IP | Photograph | Sampling Plot | Filename / Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 155-156 |  | ABR07 | JPEG_20210328070528270.jpg |

Prepared by: (NCC, 2021)

# ANNEX E MAPS

SPA - GR2120006
SAC - GR2120002
SPA - GR2110004
SAC - GR2110001
SAC - GR2310009
SPA - GR2310013
SAC - GR2310010
SPA - GR2310015
SAC - GR2310001
SAC/SPA - GR2330002
SPA - GR2540007
SPA - GR2540007
SAC - GR2540001
SPA - GR2540007
SAC - GR4320006

Ioannina
EPIRUS
Trikala
THESSALY
Larisa
THESSALY
Volos
Aegean Sea
NORTH AEGEAN
Mytilene
Preveza
Lamia
CENTRAL GREECE
Ethnikos Drymos Oitis
2489 m
Agrinio
CENTRAL GREECE
Livadeia
Chalkida
Iliki Limni
Chios
Argostoli
Gulf of Patras
Patra
Gulf of Corinth
Gulf of Corinth
Ethnikos Drymos Parnithas
ATTICA
1381 m
Athens
995 m
2192 m
WESTERN GREECE
Zakynthos
Pyrgos
PELOPONNESE
Argos
Ermoupoli
PELOPONNESE
Mirtoan Sea
Kalamata
2388 m
Sea of Crete
Chania
Rethymno
2122 m
2447 m
CRETE
Heraklion
Sitia
N
0 50 100 200
km

Bari
Tirana
ALBANIA
Thessaloniki
Istanbul
Bursa
GREECE
Ionian Sea
Athens
Izmir
Sea of Crete
Mediterranean Sea

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS**
**ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ**

| DOCUMENT / ΑΡ. ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ | |
|---|---|
| | |

**LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ**

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Proposed Routing (offshore) / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση (θαλάσσιο τμήμα)
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 9/1/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PiM | Client |

Contract No:
Αρ. Συμβολαίου: project code

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 Web Mercator Auxiliary Sphere
Projection: Mercator Auxiliary Sphere
Datum: WGS 1984
WKID: 3857 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ
IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/CONSULTANT
ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΟΣ/ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΤΗΣ
Asprofos engineering
ERM

PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ
**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
**ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ**

DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ
**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA - GR2540007" /**
**ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "ΖΕΠ - GR2540007"**

| Map n°: | *STUDY AREA: NATURA 2000 SITES CROSSED BY ONSHORE EASTMED PIPELINE / ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΣ: ΠΕΡΙΟΧΕΣ NATURA 2000 ΠΟΥ ΤΕΜΝΕΙ Ο ΑΓΩΓΟΣ EASTMED* | |
|---|---|---|
| M1-N01 S03 | | |
| Scale/ Κλίμακα: 1:2.500.000 | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | Rev/ Αναθ 0A |
| Size/ Μέγεθος A3 | Company's DWG No/Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας: - | Engineer's DWG No/Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή: AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/Section 11.1.1 |

Sheet/ Φύλλο

Document Name: Map1_PROJECT_ver3.1_2022.01.09

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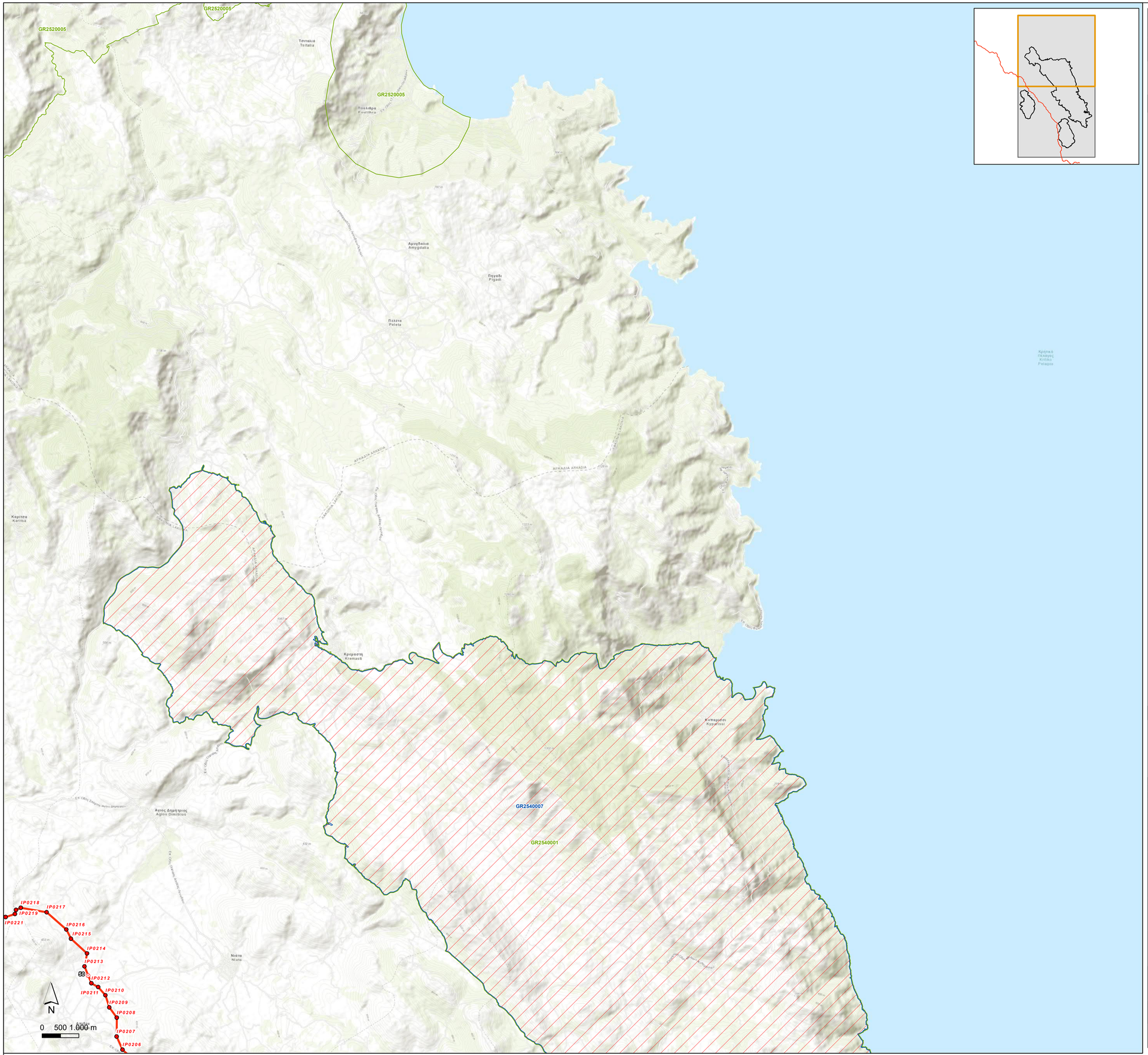





# REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS
# ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ

| DOCUMENT / ΑΡ. ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ | DOCUMENT TITLE / ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ |
|---|---|
| M2-N01<br>S03A01 | APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA GR2540007"<br>FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT<br>ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "SPA GR2540007"<br>ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΧΕΡΣΑΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΣΥΝΔΕΤΗΡΙΟΥ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED |

## LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Routing Chainage (5km) / Χιλιομέτρηση Όδευσης (5 χλμ.)
- Route IP / Κορυφή Όδευσης
- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης
- Field Survey Area / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου
- Field Survey Area inside Natura 2000 site / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου εντός περιοχής Natura 2000

**Natura 2000 Network / Δίκτυο Natura 2000**

- SAC/ΕΖΔ: Special Area of Conservation / Ειδική Ζώνη Διατήρησης
- SAC-SPA/ΕΖΔ-ΖΕΠ: Special Area of Conservation - Special Protection Area / Ειδική Ζώνη Διατήρησης - Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας
- SPA/ΖΕΠ: Special Protection Area / Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας

## NOTES/ ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΕΙΣ

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 28/2/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PJM | Client |

Contract No.
Αρ. Συμβολαίου:

Coord. Syst.: Greek Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GGRS 1987
WKID: 2100 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ: IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/ CONSULTANT: Asprofos engineering, ERM

PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ

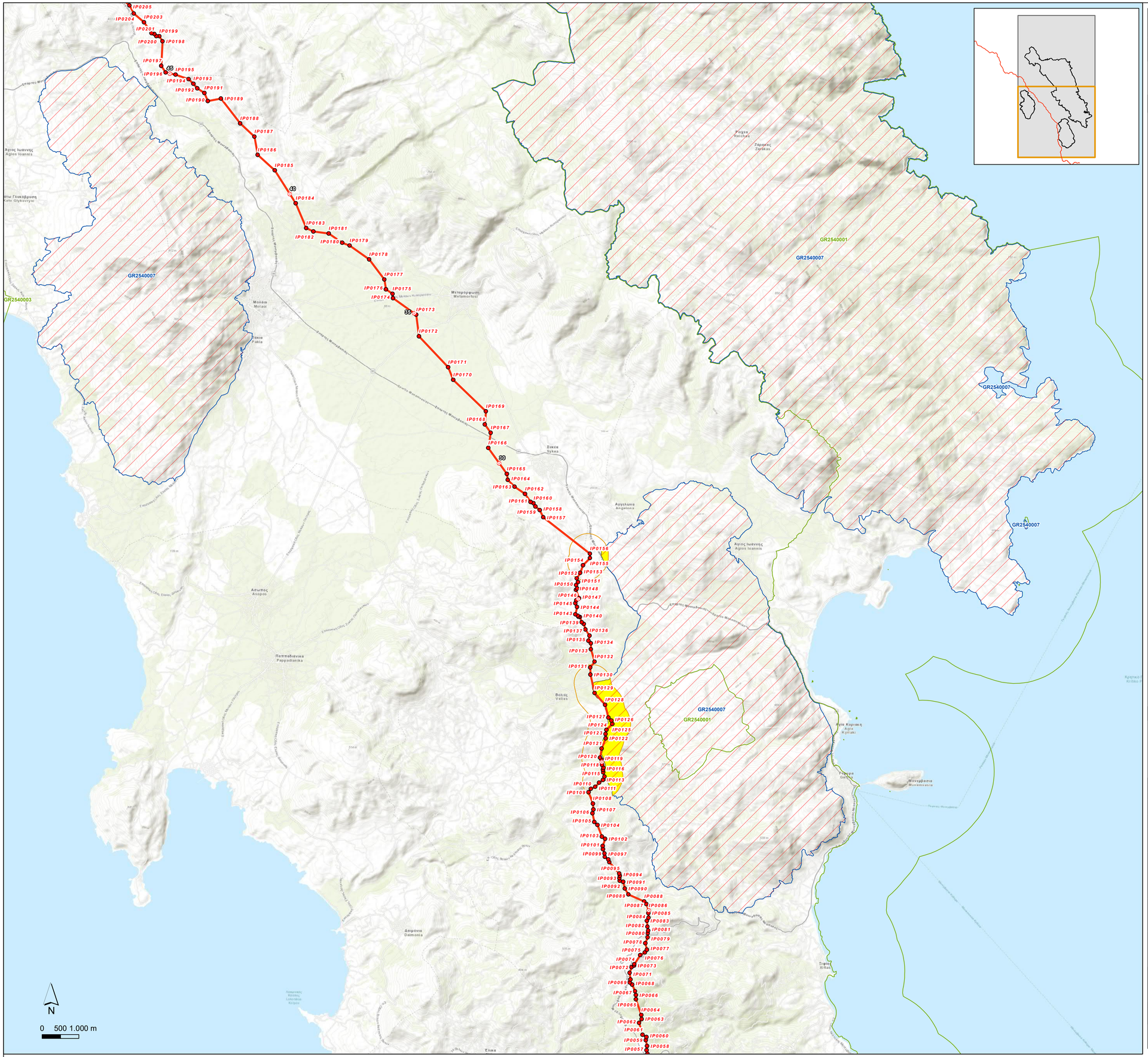
**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
***ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ***

DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA - GR2540007" /**
***ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "ΖΕΠ - GR2540007"***

| Map n°: | | |
|---|---|---|
| M2-N01<br>S03A01 | *STUDY AREA / ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΣ* | |
| Scale/Κλίμακα<br>1:50.000 | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | Rev/Αναθ<br>0A |
| Size/Μέγεθος<br>A1 | Company's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας<br>- | Engineer's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή:<br>AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/ Section 11.1.1 |
| | | Sheet/Φύλλο<br>1 of 2 |

Document Name: Map2_STUDY_AREA_ver3.2_2022.02.28_A1_onshore




## REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS
## ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ

| DOCUMENT / ΑΡ. ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ | DOCUMENT TITLE / ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ |
|---|---|
| M2-N02<br>S03A02 | APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA GR2540007"<br>FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT<br>ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "SPA GR2540007"<br>ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΧΕΡΣΑΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΣΥΝΔΕΤΗΡΙΟΥ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED |

## LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Routing Chainage (5km) / Χιλιομέτρηση Όδευσης (5 χλμ.)
- Route IP / Κορυφή Όδευσης
- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης
- Field Survey Area / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου
- Field Survey Area inside Natura 2000 site / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου εντός περιοχής Natura 2000

**Natura 2000 Network / Δίκτυο Natura 2000**

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- SAC-SPA/ΕΖΔ-ΖΕΠ: Special Area of Conservation - Special Protection Area / Ειδική Ζώνη Διατήρησης - Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας
- SPA/ΖΕΠ: Special Protection Area / Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας

## NOTES/ ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΕΙΣ

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 28/2/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PIM | Client |

Contract No:
Αρ. Συμβολαίου:

Coord. Syst.: Greek Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GGRS 1987
WKID: 2100 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ: IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/ CONSULTANT: Asprofos engineering, ERM

PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ

**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
***ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ***

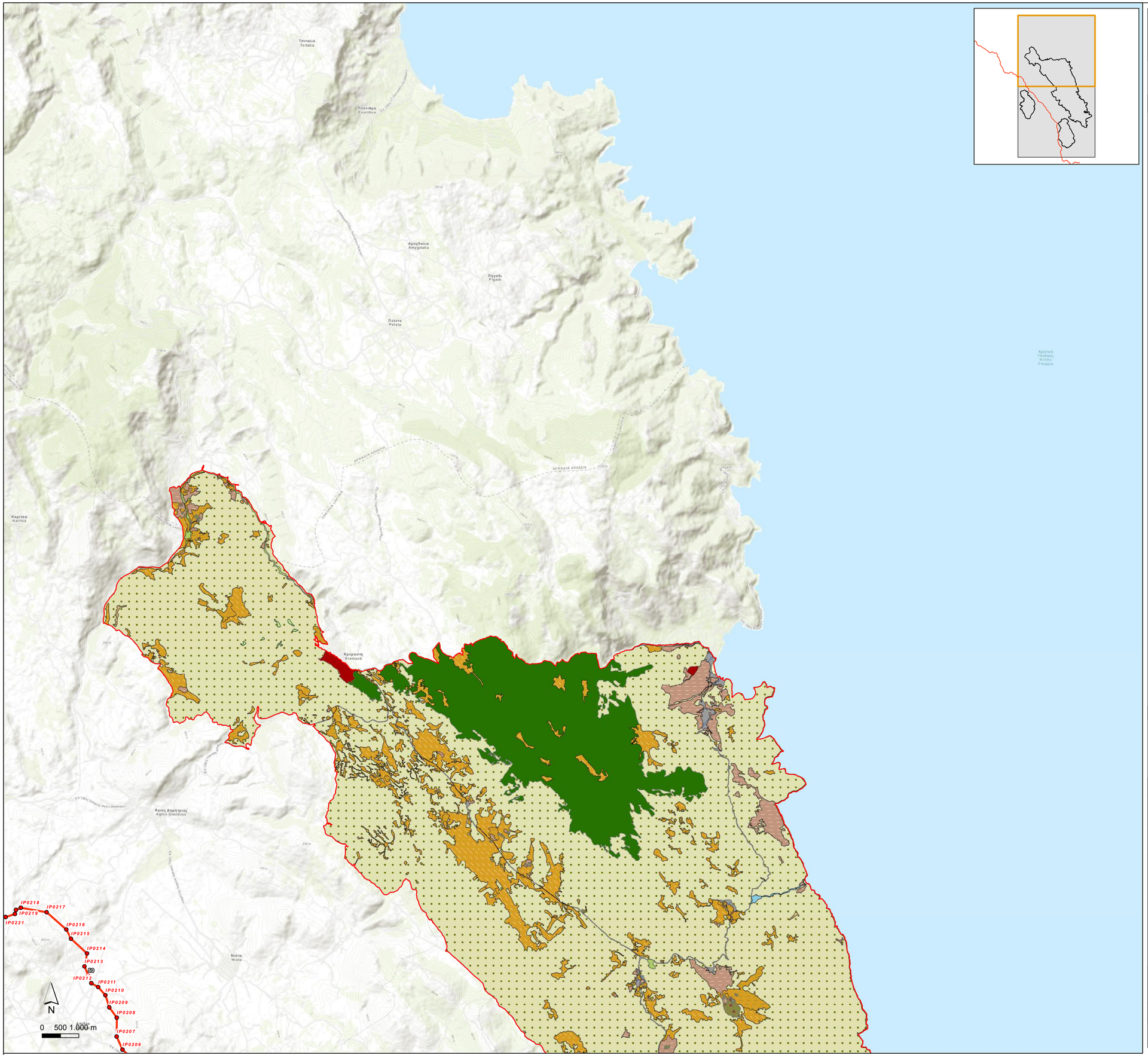
DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA - GR2540007" /**
***ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "ΖΕΠ - GR2540007"***

| Map n°: | | |
|---|---|---|
| M2-N02<br>S03A02 | *STUDY AREA / ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΣ* | |
| Scale/Κλίμακα<br>1:50.000 | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | Rev/Αναθ<br>0A |
| Size/Μέγεθος<br>A1 | Company's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας<br>- | Engineer's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή:<br>AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/ Section 11.1.1 |

Sheet/Φύλλο 2 of 2

Document Name: Map2_STUDY_AREA_ver3.2_2022.02.28_A1_onshore






# REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS
# ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ

| DOCUMENT / ΑΡ. ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ | DOCUMENT TITLE / ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ |
|---|---|
| M3-N01<br>S03A01 | APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA GR2540007"<br>FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT<br>ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "SPA GR2540007"<br>ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΧΕΡΣΑΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΣΥΝΔΕΤΗΡΙΟΥ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED |

## LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Routing Chainage (5km) / Χιλιομέτρηση Όδευσης (5 χλμ.)
- Route IP / Κορυφή Όδευσης
- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Field Survey Area / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης

**Ecological Spatial Units / Οικολογικές Χωρικές Ενότητες**

- Abandoned cultivation / Εγκατελειμμένες καλλιέργειες
- Annual crops / Μονοετείς καλλιέργειες
- Broad-leaved forests / Δάση πλατύφυλλων
- Coniferous forests / Δάση κωνοφόρων
- Forest plantations (reforestation) / Αναδασώσεις
- Grasslands / Ποολίβαδα
- Multiannual - tree plantations / Πολυετείς - δενδρώδεις καλλιέργειες
- Multiannual - arboreal crops / Πολυετείς - δενδρώδεις καλλιέργειες
- Phrygana / Φρυγανικές εκτασεις
- Rivers / Ποτάμια
- Sandy beaches and dunes / Αμμώδεις παραλίες και αμμοθίνες
- Shrubland / Θαμνώδεις εκτάσεις
- Steep cliffs / Χερσαίες απόκρημνες βραχώδεις εκτάσεις
- Urban ecosystems / Αστικά οικοσυστήματα
- Water reservoirs / Υδατοσυλλογές
- Wetlands / Υγρότοποι
- Wind farms / Ανεμογεννήτριες

## NOTES/ ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΕΙΣ

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 28/2/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PjM | Client |

Contract No:
Αρ. Συμβολαίου:

Coord. Syst.: Greek Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GGRS 1987
WKID: 2100 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ: IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/ CONSULTANT: Asprofos engineering, ERM

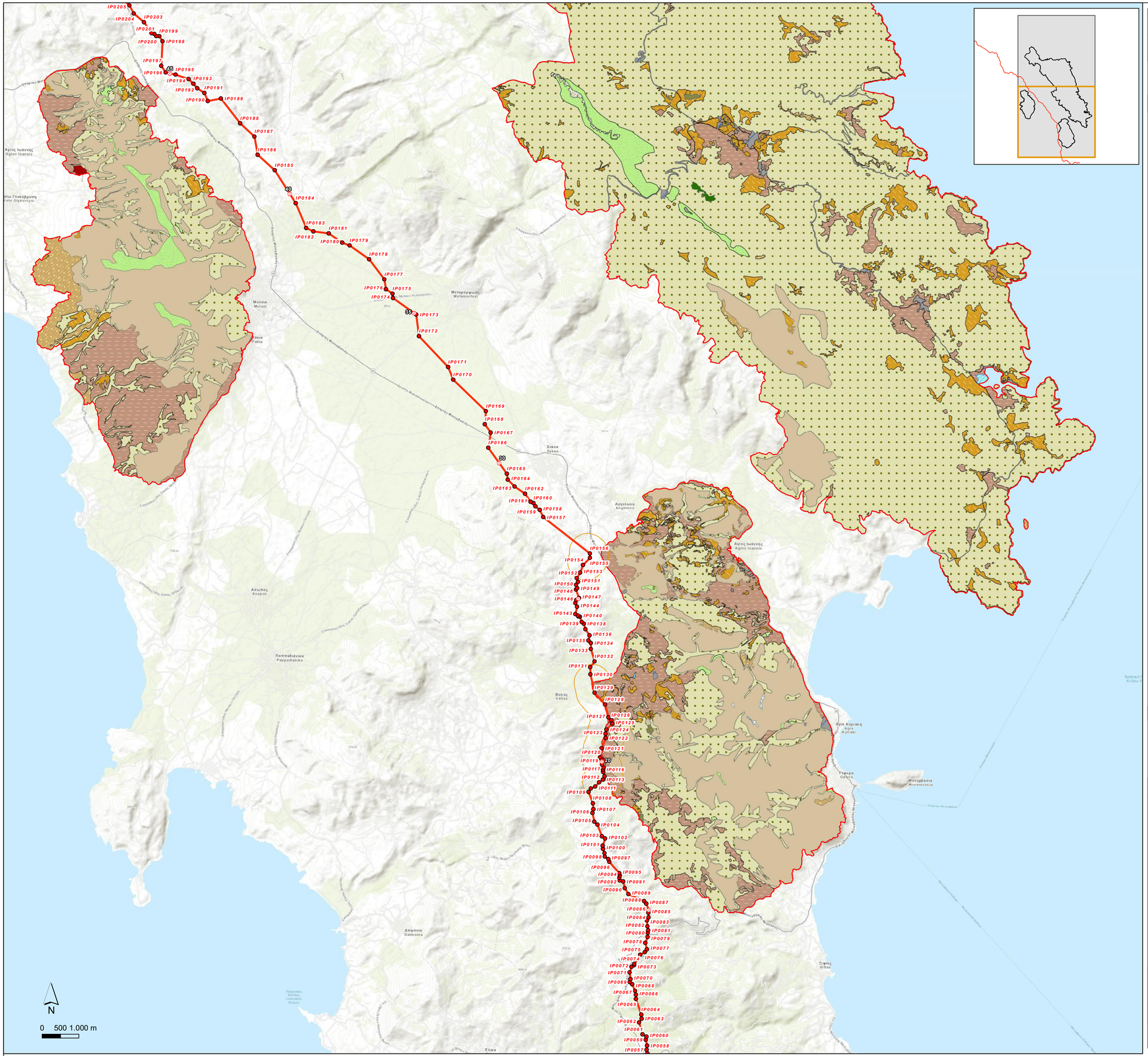
PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ
**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
***ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ***

DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ
**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA - GR2540007" /**
***ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 " - GR2540007"***

| Map n°: | |
|---|---|
| M3-N01<br>S03A01 | *HABITAT TYPES - ECOLOGICAL SPATIAL UNITS INSIDE STUDY AREA /*<br>*ΤΥΠΟΙ ΟΙΚΟΤΟΠΩΝ - ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΕΣ ΧΩΡΙΚΕΣ ΕΝΟΤΗΤΕΣ*<br>*ΣΤΗΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΣ* |

| Scale/Κλίμακα | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | | Rev/Αναθ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1:50.000 | | | 0A |
| Size/Μέγεθος: A1 | Company's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας: - | Engineer's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή: AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/ Section 11.1.1 | Sheet/Φύλλο 1 of 2 |

Document Name: Map3_HABITATS-OKE_ver3.1_2022.02.14_A1_onshore




## REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS
## ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ

| DOCUMENT / ΑΡ. ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ | DOCUMENT TITLE / ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ |
|---|---|
| M3-N02<br>S03A02 | APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA GR2540007"<br>FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT<br>ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "SPA GR2540007"<br>ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΧΕΡΣΑΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΣΥΝΔΕΤΗΡΙΟΥ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED |

## LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Routing Chainage (5km) / Χιλιομέτρηση Όδευσης (5 χλμ.)
- Route IP / Κορυφή Όδευσης
- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Field Survey Area / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης

**Ecological Spatial Units / Οικολογικές Χωρικές Ενότητες**

- Abandoned cultivation / Εγκατελειμμένες καλλιέργειες
- Annual crops / Μονοετείς καλλιέργειες
- Broad-leaved forests / Δάση πλατύφυλλων
- Coniferous forests / Δάση κωνοφόρων
- Forest plantations (reforestation) / Αναδασώσεις
- Grasslands / Ποολίβαδα
- Multiannual - tree plantations / Πολυετείς - δενδρώδεις καλλιέργειες
- Multiannual - arboreal crops / Πολυετείς - δενδρώδεις καλλιέργειες
- Phrygana / Φρυγανικές εκτασεις
- Rivers / Ποτάμια
- Sandy beaches and dunes / Αμμώδεις παραλίες και αμμοθίνες
- Shrubland / Θαμνώδεις εκτάσεις
- Steep cliffs / Χερσαίες απόκρημνες βραχώδεις εκτάσεις
- Urban ecosystems / Αστικά οικοσυστήματα
- Water reservoirs / Υδατοσυλλογές
- Wetlands / Υγρότοποι
- Wind farms / Ανεμογεννήτριες

## NOTES/ ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΕΙΣ

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 28/2/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PJM | Client |

Contract No:
Αρ. Συμβολαίου:

Coord. Syst.: Greek Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GGRS 1987
WKID: 2100 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ: IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/ CONSULTANT: Asprofos engineering, ERM

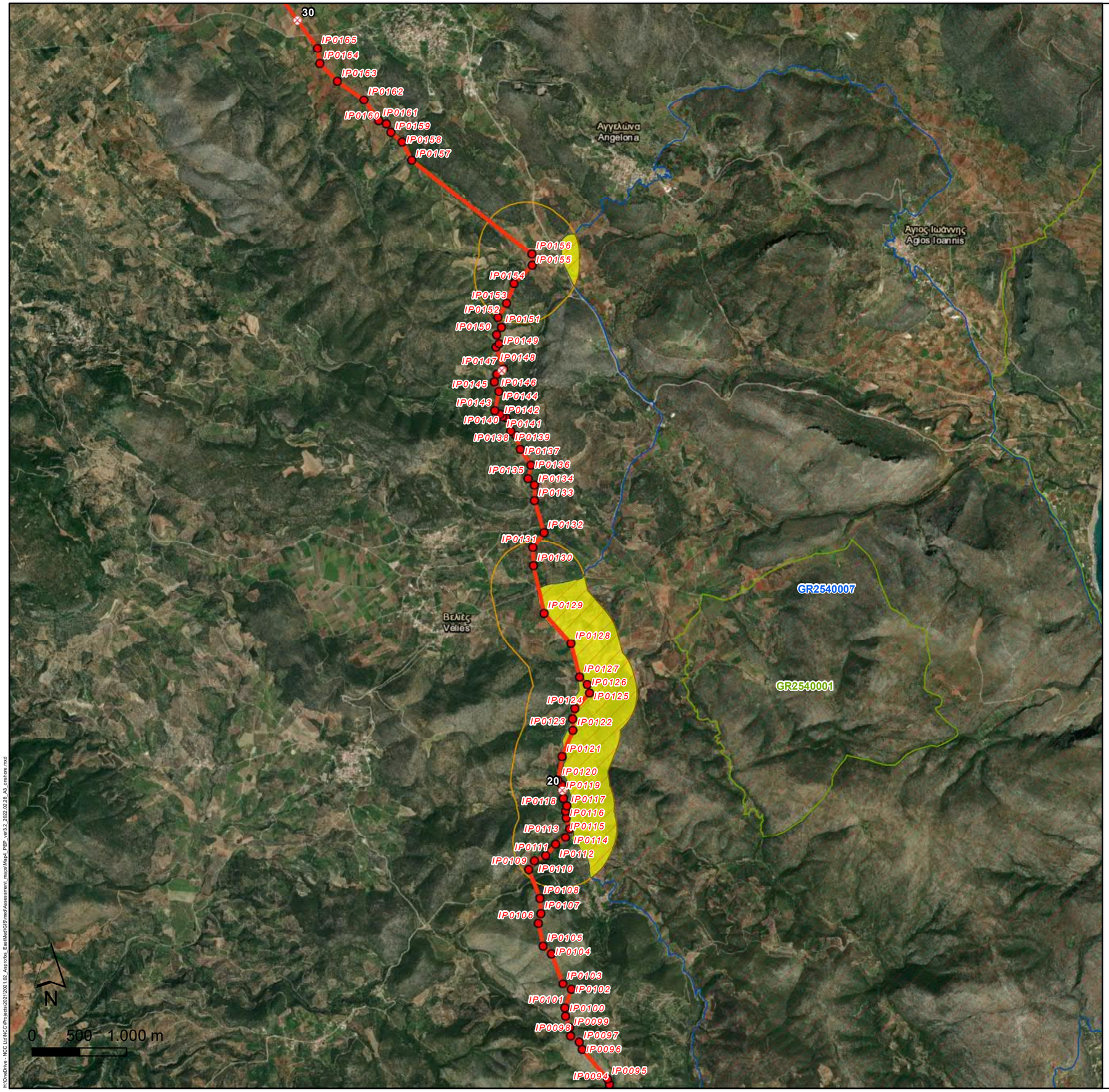
PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ
**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
***ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ***

DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΙΤΓΡΑΦΟΥ
**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA - GR2540007" /**
***ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 " - GR2540007"***

| Map n°: | |
|---|---|
| M3-N02<br>S03A02 | *HABITAT TYPES - ECOLOGICAL SPATIAL UNITS INSIDE STUDY AREA /*<br>*ΤΥΠΟΙ ΟΙΚΟΤΟΠΩΝ - ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΕΣ ΧΩΡΙΚΕΣ ΕΝΟΤΗΤΕΣ*<br>*ΣΤΗΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΣ* |

| Scale/Κλίμακα | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | | Rev/Αναθ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1:50.000 | | | 0A |
| Size/Μέγεθος A1 | Company's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας: - | Engineer's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή: AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/ Section 11.1.1 | Sheet/Φύλλο 2 of 2 |

Document Name: Map3_HABITATS-OXE_ver3.1_2022.02.14_A1_onshore




H:\OneDrive - NCC Ltd\NCC\Projects\20210201.02_Asprofos_EastMed\GIS\mxd\Assessment_maps\Map4_PEP_ver3.2_2022.02.28_A3_onshore.mxd

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS**
**ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ**

DOCUMENT TITLE / ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE " GR2540007"
FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT
ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 " GR2540007"
ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΧΕΡΣΑΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΣΥΝΔΕΤΗΡΙΟΥ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED

**LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ**

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Routing Chainage (5km) / Χιλιομέτρηση Όδευσης (5 χλμ.)
- Route IP / Κορυφή Όδευσης
- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης
- Field Survey Area inside Natura 2000 site / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου εντός περιοχής Natura 2000
- Field Survey Area / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου

**Natura 2000 Network / Δίκτυο Natura 2000**

- SAC/ΕΖΔ: Special Area of Conservation / Ειδική Ζώνη Διατήρησης
- SAC-SPA/ΕΖΔ-ΖΕΠ: Special Area of Conservation - Special Protection Area / Ειδική Ζώνη Διατήρησης - Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας
- SPA/ΖΕΠ: Special Protection Area / Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας

**NOTES/ ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΕΙΣ**

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 28/2/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PiM | Client |

Contract No:
Αρ. Συμβολαίου:

Coordinate System: Greek Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GGRS 1987
WKID: 3857 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ: IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/CONSULTANT ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΟΣ/ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΤΗΣ: Asprofos engineering, ERM

PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ

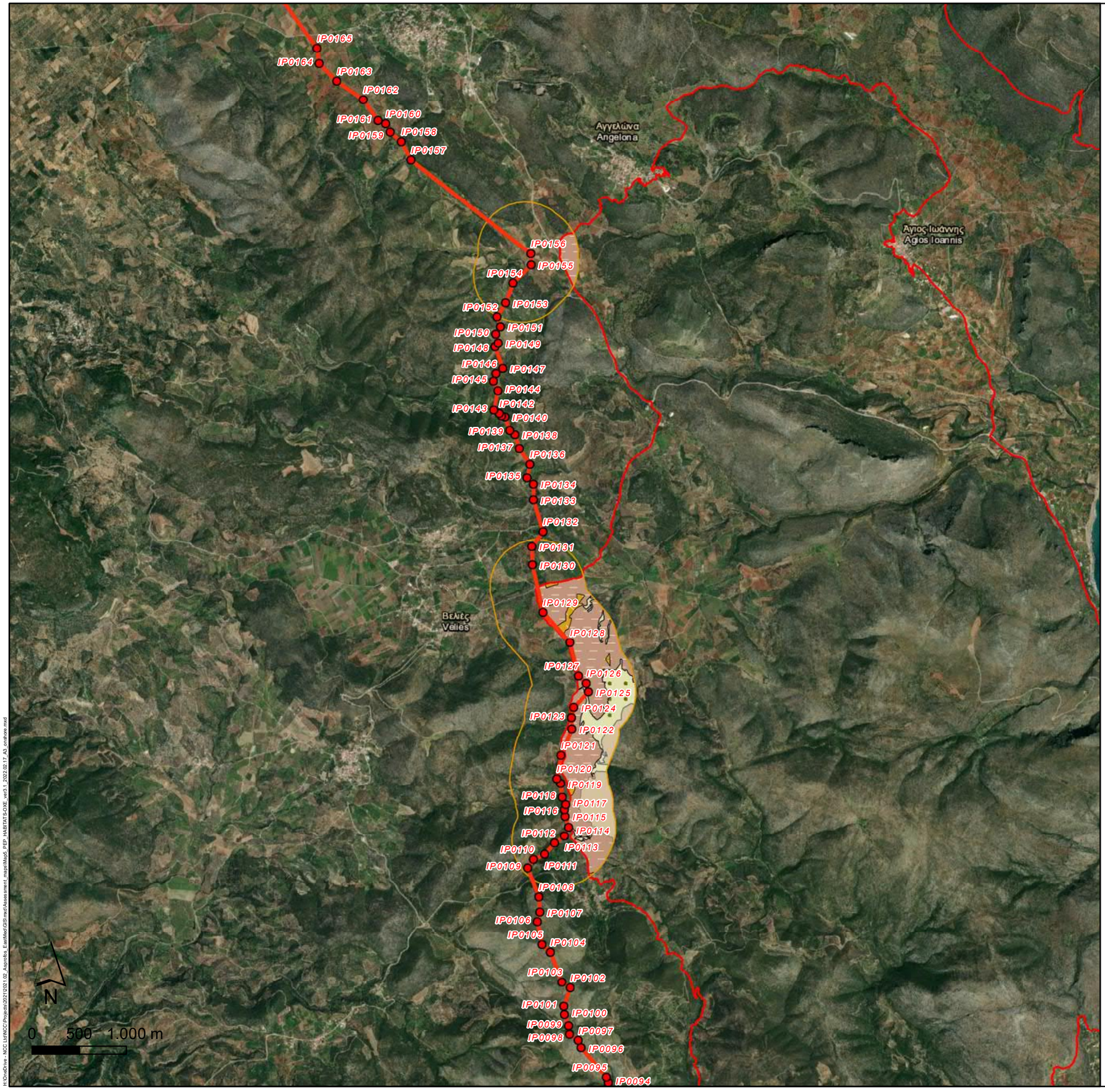
**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
**ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ**

DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE " - GR2540007" /**
***ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 " - GR2540007"***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Map n°: M4-N01 S03A01 | *FIELD SURVEY AREA / ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ ΕΡΕΥΝΑΣ ΠΕΔΙΟΥ* | |
| Scale/ Κλίμακα 1:40.000 | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | Rev/ Αναθ 0A |
| Size/ Μέγεθος A3 | Company's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας: - | Engineer's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή: AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/ Section 11.1.1 / Sheet/ Φύλλο 1 of 1 |

Document Name: Map4_PEP_ver3.2_2022.02.28_A3_onshore

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**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS**
**ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ**

DOCUMENT TITLE / ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA GR2540007"
FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT
ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 "SPA GR2540007"
ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΧΕΡΣΑΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΣΥΝΔΕΤΗΡΙΟΥ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED

**LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ**

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Route IP / Κορυφή Όδευσης
- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Field Survey Area / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης

**Ecological Spatial Units / Οικολογικές Χωρικές Ενότητες**

- Abandoned cultivation / Εγκατελειμμένες καλλιέργειες
- Annual crops / Μονοετείς καλλιέργειες
- Multiannual - tree plantations / Πολυετείς - δενδρώδεις καλλιέργειες
- Phrygana / Φρυγανικές εκτασεις
- Shrubland / Θαμνώδεις εκτάσεις
- Urban ecosystems / Αστικά οικοσυστήματα

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 28/2/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PiM | Client |

Contract No:
Αρ. Συμβολαίου:

Coordinate System: Greek Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GGRS 1987
WKID: 3857 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ: IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/CONSULTANT ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΟΣ/ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΤΗΣ: Asprofos engineering, ERM

PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ

**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
**ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ**

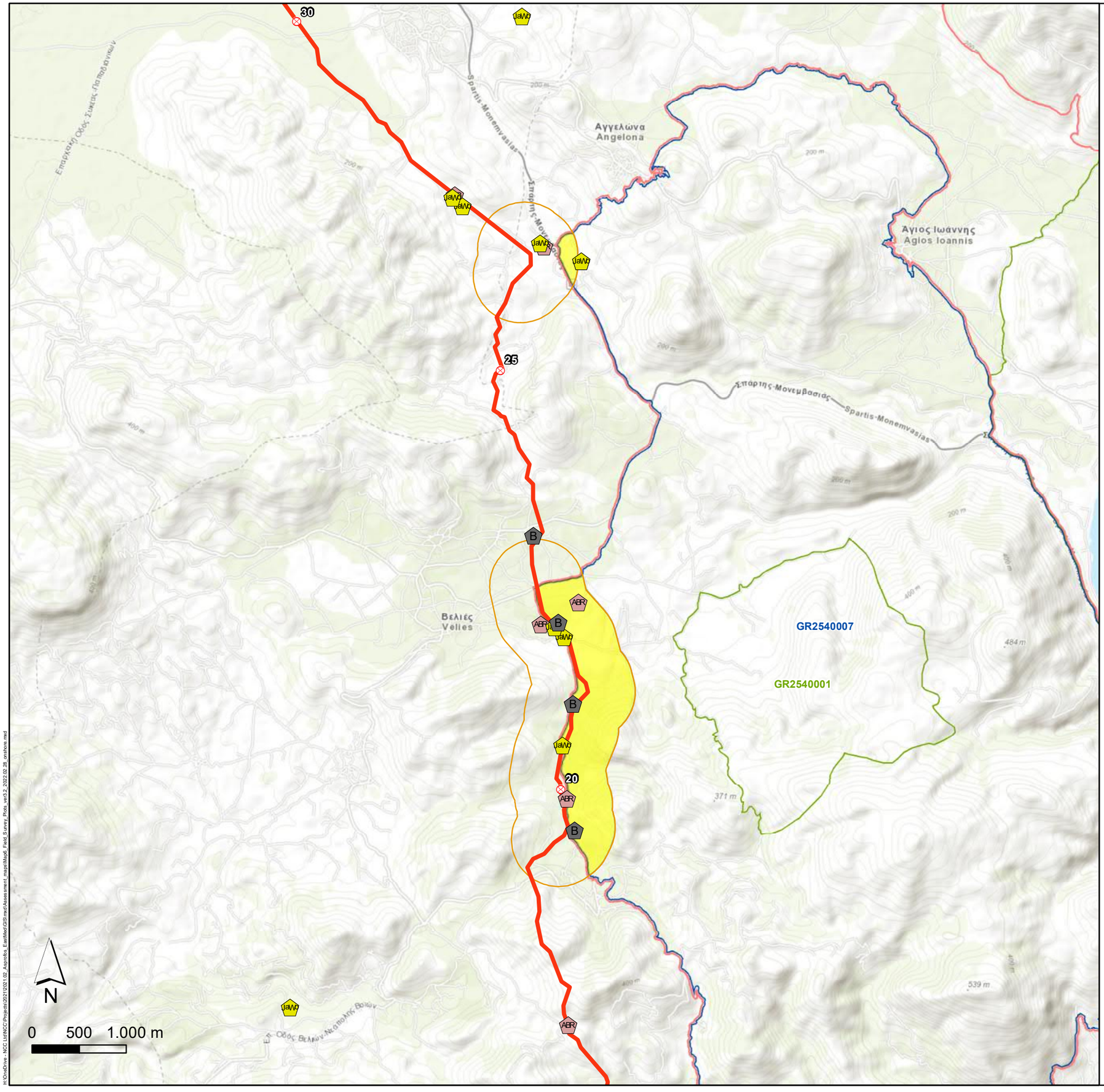
DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE "SPA - GR2540007" /**
***ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 " - GR2540007"***

| Map n°: | |
|---|---|
| M5-N01 S03A01 | *HABITAT TYPES - ECOLOGICAL SPATIAL UNITS INSIDE FIELD SURVEY AREA /ΤΥΠΟΙ ΟΙΚΟΤΟΠΩΝ - ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΕΣ ΧΩΡΙΚΕΣ ΕΝΟΤΗΤΕΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ ΕΡΕΥΝΑΣ ΠΕΔΙΟΥ* |

| Scale/ Κλίμακα | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | | Rev/ Αναθ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1:40.000 | | | 0A |
| Size/ Μέγεθος | Company's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας: | Engineer's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή: | Sheet/ Φύλλο |
| A3 | - | AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/ Section 11.1.1 | 1 of 1 |

Document Name: Map5_PEP_HABITATS-OXE_ver3.1_2022.02.17_A3_onshore




**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS / DRAWINGS**
**ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΑ / ΣΧΕΔΙΑ**

DOCUMENT TITLE / ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE " GR2540007"
FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT
ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 " GR2540007"
ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΧΕΡΣΑΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΣΥΝΔΕΤΗΡΙΟΥ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED

**LEGEND/ ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ**

***Project Components / Στοιχεία του Έργου***

- Routing Chainage (5km) / Χιλιομέτρηση Όδευσης (5 χλμ.)
- Proposed Routing / Προτεινόμενη Όδευση
- Field Survey Area / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου
- Field Survey Area inside Natura 2000 site / Περιοχή Έρευνας Πεδίου εντός περιοχής Natura 2000
- Study Area / Περιοχή Μελέτης

**Natura 2000 Network / Δίκτυο Natura 2000**

- SAC/ΕΖΔ: Special Area of Conservation / Ειδική Ζώνη Διατήρησης
- SAC-SPA/ΕΖΔ-ΖΕΠ: Special Area of Conservation - Special Protection Area / Ειδική Ζώνη Διατήρησης - Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας
- SPA/ΖΕΠ: Special Protection Area / Ζώνη Ειδικής Προστασίας

**Field Survey Points / Σημεία δειγματοληψίας**

- B — Bats / Χειρόπτερα
- ABR — Birds - Amphibians - Reptiles / Ορνιθοπανίδα - Αμφίβια - Ερπετά
- JaWo — Canis aureus - Canis lupus

**NOTES/ ΣΗΜΕΙΩΣΕΙΣ**

| Rev. Αναθ. | Date Ημερομ. | Description Περιγραφή | Drawn Σχεδίαση | Checked Έλεγχος | Approved Έγκριση |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0A | 28/2/2022 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW | NCC Ltd | PiM | Client |

Contract No:
Αρ. Συμβολαίου:

Coordinate System: Greek Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GGRS 1987
WKID: 3857 Authority: EPSG

COMPANY / ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ: IGI Poseidon

ENGINEER/CONSULTANT ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΟΣ/ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΤΗΣ: Asprofos engineering, ERM

PROJECT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΟΥ

**EASTMED PIPELINE PROJECT - GREEK SECTION/**
**ΕΡΓΟ ΑΓΩΓΟΥ ΦΥΣΙΚΟΥ ΑΕΡΙΟΥ EASTMED - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ**

DOCUMENT TITLE - ΤΙΤΛΟΣ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΥ

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE " - GR2540007" /**
***ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΟΙΚΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ NATURA 2000 " - GR2540007"***

| Map n°: | *FIELD SURVEY POINTS / ΣΗΜΕΙΑ ΔΕΙΓΜΑΤΟΛΗΨΙΑΣ* | |
|---|---|---|
| M6-N01 S03A01 | | |
| Scale/ Κλίμακα: 1:40.000 | Project DWG No./ Αρ. Σχ. Έργου: | Rev/ Αναθ 0A |
| Size/ Μέγεθος: A3 | Company's DWG No/Αρ. Σχ. Εταιρείας: - | Engineer's DWG No/ Αρ. Σχ. Μελετητή: AUT-11727500-STU-XXX/ Section 11.1.1 |
| | | Sheet/ Φύλλο 1 of 1 |

Document Name: Map6_Field_Survey_Plots_ver3.2_2022.02.28_onshore

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