

# THE STATE OF KOSOVO BIODIVERSITY 2006 - 2011

International Symposium on "Evolution of Balkan Biodiversity", 28-29 July 2012, Zagreb, CROATIA

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## Introduction

Kosovo even a small country, it is distinguished with rich biodiversity. Its geographical position, geological factors, hydrology and climate are some of factors that enabled Kosovo to have rich biological diversity, rich flora, fauna and vegetation as well as presence relict, endemic and other important species.



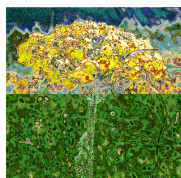
The position of Kosovo in Balkan region

## Flora and vegetation

Based on up-to-date floristic research, over 1800 species of vascular plant flora have been identified. Within explored species, about 200 of them are endemic, endemic-relict and sub-endemic. Especially important is the local endemic group, whose number is still not fully defined, some of which have quite limited spread. Kosovo vegetation is represented by 139 plant associations grouped in 63 alliances, 35 orders and 20 classes.



*Aconitum pentheri*



*Achilleo Aleksandri Regis*

## Fauna

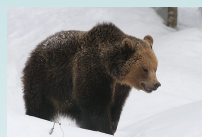
In terms of fauna Kosovo is characterized by a large variety of species, although research in this aspect has not been completed. It is estimated that about 250 vertebrate species live in Kosovo, 200 species of butterflies and over 500 macrozoobenthos water taxon.



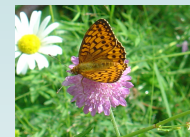
*Aquila chrysaetos*



*Lynx lynx*

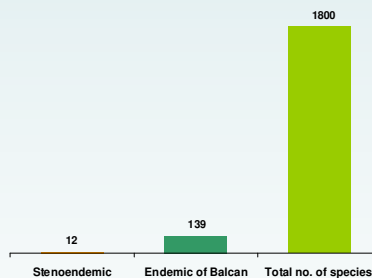


*Ursus arctos*

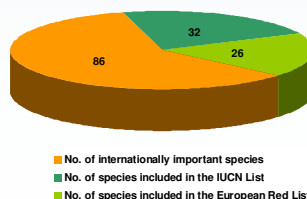


*Boloria titania*

The number of endemic species of Kosovo vascular flora within the total number of identified species



Floristic specter of species in Sharri Mountain within international protection status

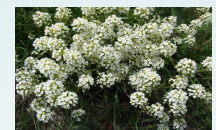


## Threaten

Kosovo like many countries is facing with the problem of loss of biodiversity. The main factor that has caused serious threat to the existence of many plant and animal species undoubtedly is anthropogenic factor, meanwhile the massive deforestation, intensive exploitation of land, air and water pollution and uncontrolled hunting are just some of the other factors that continue to threaten biodiversity.



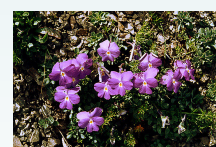
*Gentiana lutea*



*Borrmullera dieckii*



*Convolvulus cochlearis*



*Viola grisebachiana*

## References

- MESP/ KEPA (2008) State of Nature Report, 2006-2007
- MESP/ KEPA (2010) State of Nature Report, 2008-2009
- MESP/ KINP (2005) Vlerat e trashegimise natyrore te Kosoves
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