

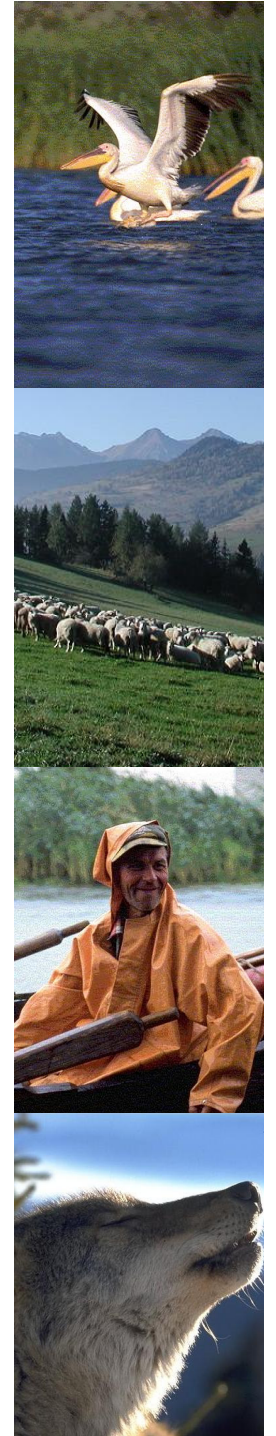


High Nature Value Farmlands – Recognizing the European Importance of SEE landscapes

Introduction to project sites

Part II : Nature values

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High Nature Value farming: Typology

Type 1: Farmland with a high proportion of semi-natural vegetation

Type 2: Farmland dominated by low intensity agriculture or a mosaic of semi-natural and cultivated land and small-scale features

Type 3: Farmland that supports rare species or a high proportion of the European or World population of a species





High Nature Value farming

- Always low-intensity
- Always high proportion of semi-natural vegetation
- Often a mosaic of habitats

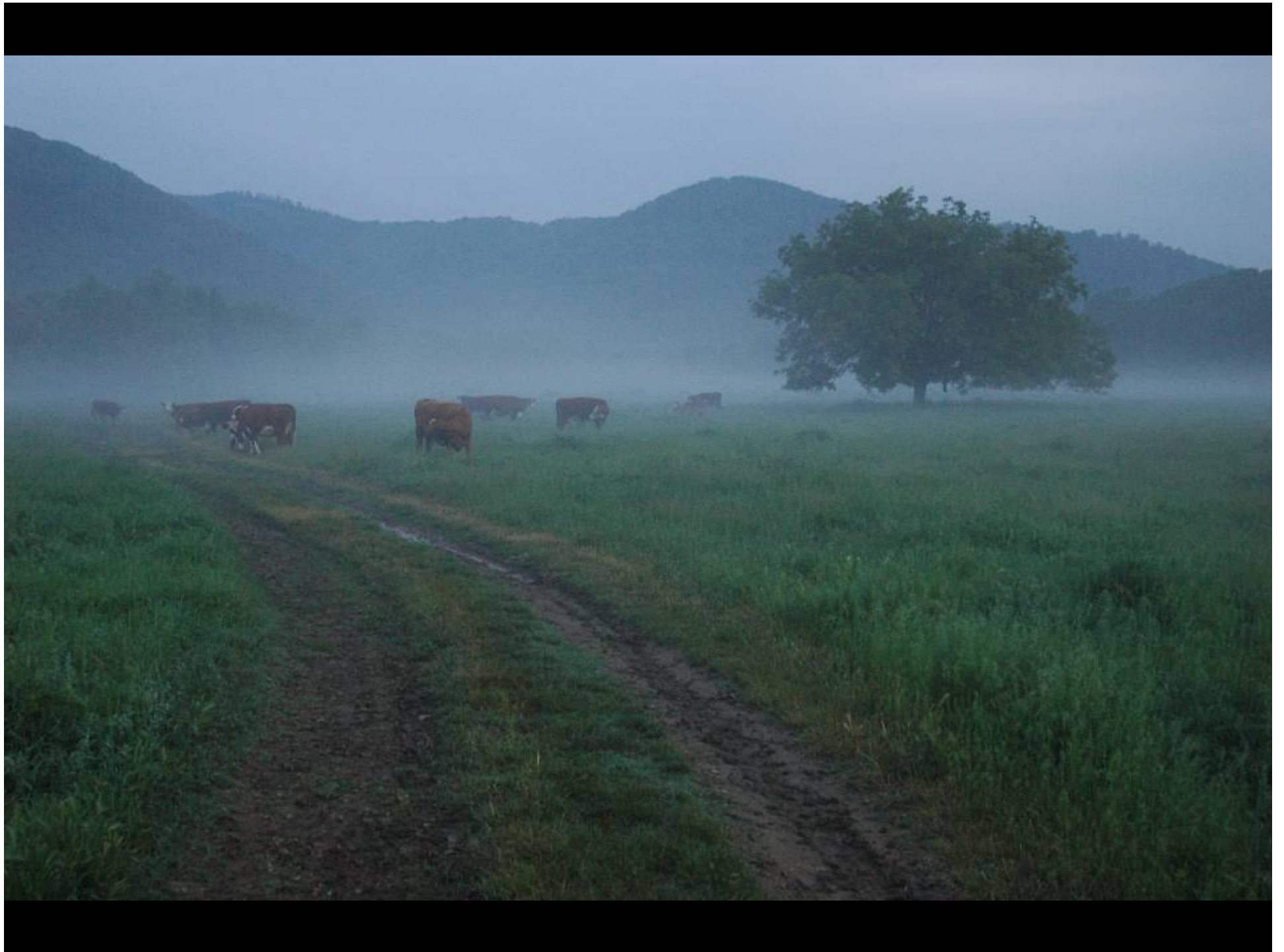


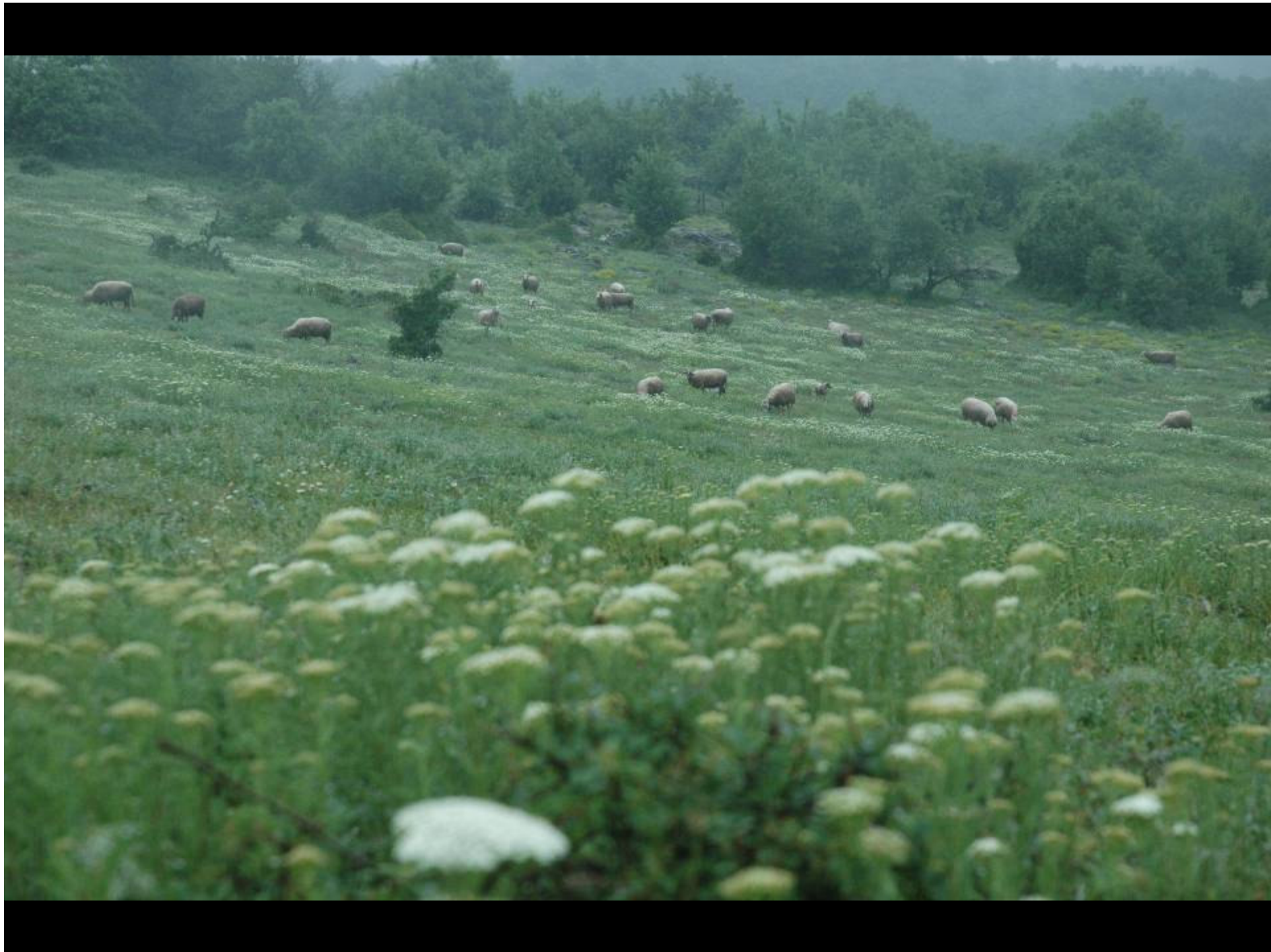


Strandja, BG

- Hilly, low mountainous region
- Land use: up to 80% forests, about 20% farmland
- Strandja Nature Park: 116 000 ha
- Natura 2000: SPA and pSCI













Strandja, BG

- Species *directly* connected to farmland: 25
 - European marbled polecat (*Vormela peregusna peregusna*)
 - Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*), Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*), Corncrake (*Crex crex*), Sky Lark (*Alauda arvensis*)
- Species *depending* on extensive grassland management: 104 in- and 60 vertebrates
- Farmland provides food for 90-95 species inhabitants of forests, rocks and caves

Sky Lark (*Alauda arvensis*)



Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*)



Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)



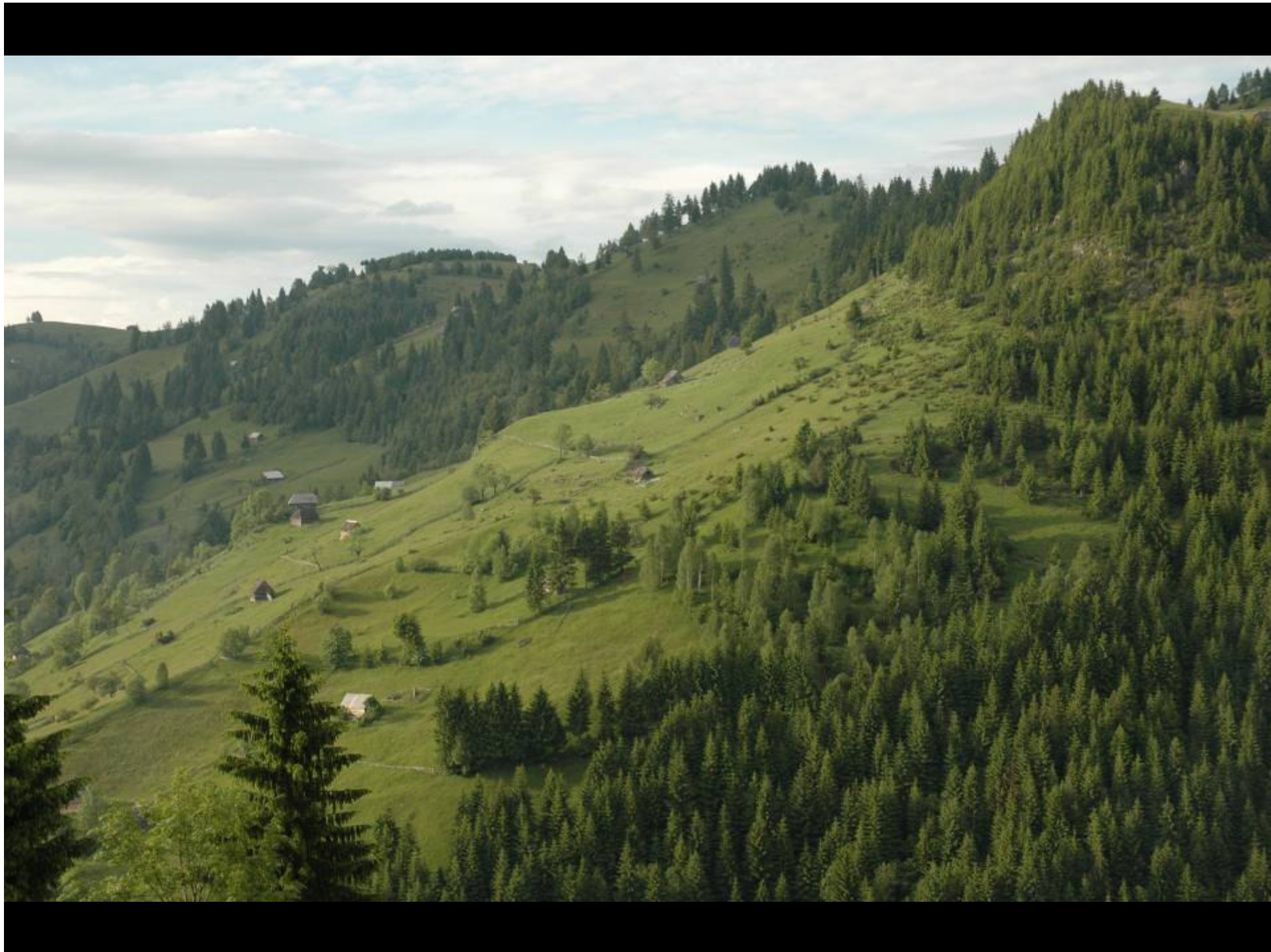


Strandja, BG

- Species *directly* connected to farmland: 25
- Species *depending* on extensive grassland management: 104 in- and 60 vertebrates
 - European souslik (*Spermophilus citellus*)
 - 6 eagle species, White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), Little Owl (*Athena noctua*), Hoopoe (*Upupa epos*)
- Farmland provides food for 90-95 species inhabitants of forests, rocks and caves



- Upland, mountainous region
- Open, semi-natural grasslands habitats
- Natura 2000









Western Stara Planina, BG

- Upland, mountainous region
- Land use: up to 80% forests, about 20% farmland
- Natura 2000: SPA and pSCI
- Proposed Nature Park













Western Stara Planina, BG

- Outstandingly rich biodiversity
- Eight Annex I Habitats that depend on extensive farming practices
 - Semi-natural dry grasslands on calcareous substrates: orchids
 - Species-rich nardus grasslands, mountain hay meadows: six raptor species, European Marbled Polecat (*Vormela peregusna p.*), European Souslik (*Spermophilus citellus*)

A large photograph of two European Sousliks (Spermophilus citellus) in a field of tall green grass. One squirrel is in the foreground, standing on its hind legs and looking upwards. Another squirrel is visible in the background, also standing on its hind legs.

European Souslik (*Spermophilus citellus*)

A close-up photograph of a Butterfly-blossom Orchid (Orchis papilionacea). The plant features a dense cluster of bright magenta flowers with white centers and fringed petals, growing from green foliage.

Butterfly-blossom Orchid
(*Orchis papilionacea*)

A photograph of a European Marbled Polecat (Vormela peregusna peregusna) nestled in a bed of dry straw and grass. The animal has a brown body with a prominent white stripe running from its forehead down its back.

European Marbled Polecat (*Vormela peregusna peregusna*)



Western Stara Planina, BG

- Rich biodiversity reflected in rich cultural heritage
 - Chiprovtsi carpets





Mehedinți, RO

- Upland region
- Semi-natural grasslands and mosaics prevail
- Iron Gates National Park
- Natura 2000

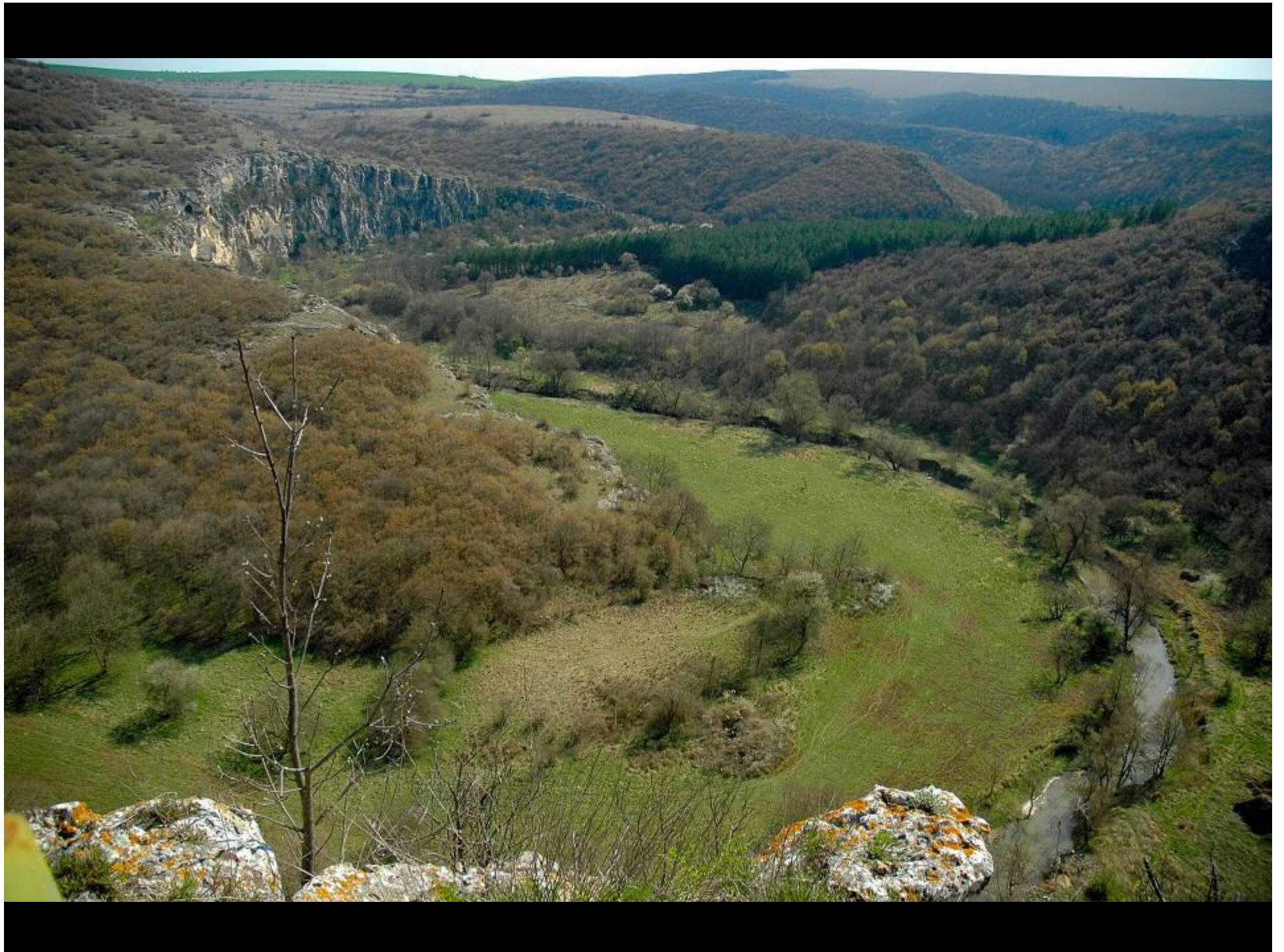






Rusenski Lom, BG

- Limestone canyons of Lom rivers
- Grasslands along rivers, on canyon margins and as patches in forests out of canyon
- Rusenski Lom Nature Park: 3400 ha
- Natura 2000: SPA and pSCI (32 500ha)





Rusenski Lom, BG

- Arable lands, gardens on the canyon floor
 - Red-backed Shrike (*Lanius collurio*), Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*)
- Meadows on the canyon floor
 - Corncrake (*Crex crex*)
- Dry, semi-natural grasslands
 - Rich flora
 - Spur-thighed and Hermann's Tortoises (*Testudo graeca iberia* and *T. hermanni*)
 - European Souslik (*Spermophilus citellus*)

Red-backed Shrike (*Lanius collurio*)



Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*)





Hermann's Tortoise
(*Testudo graeca hermannii*)



Corncrake (*Crex crex*)





- Lowland, floodplain
- Land use: 80% farmland, mainly arable
- Lower Prut Floodplain Nature Park (8247 ha over 122 km)
- Proposed Natura 2000: SPA and pSCI



