



## PRESS RELEASE

SAD-AFAG  
10 July 2007, Ankara

### Proposal on Enlargement of Foça SPA Ended up Successfully

Foça SPA border was enlarged by a decision of the Council of Ministers appeared on the Official Gazette dated 13 June 2007 through the proposals launched and advocated by SAD-AFAG since 2004.

Foça and vicinity hold one of the most important coastal zones in terms of marine and coastal biological diversity in Turkey, which was firstly declared as Specially Protected Area in 1990 by a decision of the Council of Ministers with the borders shown in the map below.

After detailed long-term field surveys had been carried out by SAD-AFAG during Foça Pilot Project funded by WWF, Türkiye İş Bank and Henry Ford European Conservation Awards between 1993 and 2003, an analysis was made by SAD-AFAG resulting in an idea of enlargement of Foça SPA. In the original design in 1990, Hayırsız Island, Kartdere Island and Cape Aslan and the uninhabited mainland coasts were excluded. SAD-AFAG, therefore, proposed MoEF such an enlargement of Foça SPA to be declared by Mr. Osman Pepe, the Minister of Environment and Forest (MoEF), in early 2004 before the joint press conference by MoEF and SAD-AFAG held in Çiragan Palace in Istanbul in April 2004.

(See *Turkish government pledges 5 new protected areas for the Monk Seal*)  
<http://www.monachus-guardian.org/mguard13/1316mednew.htm#Turkey>

As it was agreed by the MOEF before the press conference, Mr. Minister actually made a keynote speech in which he emphasized the importance of protection of the endangered monk seal along Turkish coasts and pledged that high-priority 5 Important Monk Seal Sites (IMST) will have improved protection status through “*Species Protection/Management Areas*” according to IUCN criteria and also stated that, as the first step, the Foça Monk Seal Site among these 5 IMSTs shall be enlarged.

After the joint press conference, SAD-AFAG kept close contact with MoEF and the Authority for the Special Protected Areas (ASPAs) in Ankara and continued lobbying until reaching the goal. The enlargement issue had also been brought into National Monk Seal Committee agenda as well as official communication letters were issued advocating the enlargement process between 2004 and 2007.

Our justification included the importance of missing islands and coastal stretch on the mainland with special emphasis on the Mediterranean monk seals (*Monachus monachus*), Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii*), Lesser kestrel (*Falco naumanni*) and Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) on Hayırsız and Kartdere islands as well as Kartdere valley with rich bird biodiversity, in the claimed zone. With the new borders, marine and coastal species in Foça SPA will have more protected habitat against coastal development, fish farms, illegal fishing and hunting.



The increase in the area of Foça SPA in terms of different aspects given in the Table-1.

	ORIGINAL	NEW	INCREASE (%)
TOTAL AREA (km2)	27,58	71,38	158,8
SEA AREA (km2)	15,16	50,55	233,4
LAND AREA (km2)	12,42	20,83	67,7
COASTAL STRETCH (km)	35,14	48,36	37,6

Table-1: Increase of total area, sea area, land area and coast line in Foça SPA after 13 June 2007 decision.

13 June 2007 WEDNESDAY

Official Gazette

No : 26551

**DECISION of the COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**Decision No: 2007/12212**

With regard to Patara SPA determined and announced by the Decision of Council of Ministers dd. 18/1/1990, No. 90/77 and Foça SPA determined and announced by the Decision of Council of Ministers dd. 22/10/1990 No. 90/1117, it has been decided by the Council of Ministers, in 21/5/2007, to modify the borders of both SPAs as shown in the annexed map and coordinates based on the letter from the Ministry of Environment and Forest dd. 18/4/2007, No. 2247 and in accordance with the Article 9 of the Environment Act No. 2872.

**Ahmet Necdet SEZER**  
PRESIDENT

Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN Prime Minister			
A. GÜL Min. of Foreign Affairs & Dep.PM	A. ŞENER State Min. & Dep. PM	M. A. ŞAHİN State Minister & Dep. PM	B. ATALAY State Minister
A. BABACAN State Minister	M. A. ŞAHİN Acting State Minister	N. ÇUBUKÇU State Minister	K. TÜZMEN State Minister
F. KASIRGA Min. of Justice	M. V. GÖNÜL Min. National Defence	O. GÜNEŞ Min. of Interior Affairs	K. UNAKITAN Min. of Finance
H. ÇELİK Min. of National Education	F. N. ÖZAK Min. of Development	R.AKDAĞ Min. of Health	İ. YILMAZ Min. of Transport
M. M. EKER Min. of Agriculture & Rural Affairs	M. BAŞESGİOĞLU Min. of Social Security	A. COŞKUN Min. of Industry & Trade	
M. H. GÜLER Min. of Energy & Natural Resources	A. KOÇ Min. of Culture & Tourism	O. PEPE Min. of Environment and Forest	

Table-2: Translation of the Official Gazette dd. 13 June 2007, no: 26551



13 Haziran 2007 ÇARŞAMBA

**Resmî Gazete**

Sayı : 26551

**BAKANLAR KURULU KARARI**

**Karar Sayısı : 2007/12212**

18/1/1990 tarihli ve 90/77 sayılı Bakanlar Kurulu Kararı ile özel çevre koruma bölgesi olarak tespit ve ilan edilen Patara Özel Çevre Koruma Bölgesi ile 22/10/1990 tarihli ve 90/1117 sayılı Bakanlar Kurulu Kararı ile özel çevre koruma bölgesi olarak tespit ve ilan edilen Foça Özel Çevre Koruma Bölgesinin sınırlarının ekli harita ve koordinat listelerinde gösterildiği şekilde değiştirilmesi; Çevre ve Orman Bakanlığının 18/4/2007 tarihli ve 2247 sayılı yazısı üzerine, 2872 sayılı Çevre Kanununun 9 uncu maddesine göre, Bakanlar Kurulu'nca 21/5/2007 tarihinde kararlaştırılmıştır.

**Ahmet Necdet SEZER**  
CUMHURBAŞKANI

Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN  
Başbakan

A. GÜL  
Dışişleri Bak. ve Başb. Yrd.

A. BABACAN  
Devlet Bakanı

F. KASIRGA  
Adalet Bakanı

H. ÇELİK  
Milli Eğitim Bakanı

M. M. EKER  
Tarım ve Köyşleri Bakanı

M. H. GÜLER  
Enerji ve Tabii Kaynaklar Bakanı

A. ŞENER  
Devlet Bak. ve Başb. Yrd.

M. A. ŞAHİN  
Devlet Bakanı V.

M. V. GÖNÜL  
Milli Savunma Bakanı

F. N. ÖZAK  
Bayındırlık ve İskan Bakanı

M. BAŞESGİOĞLU  
Çalışma ve Sos. Güv. Bakanı

A. KOÇ  
Kültür ve Turizm Bakanı

M. A. ŞAHİN  
Devlet Bak. ve Başb. Yrd.

N. ÇUBUKÇU  
Devlet Bakanı

O. GÜNEŞ  
İçişleri Bakanı

R. AKDAĞ  
Sağlık Bakanı

A. COŞKUN  
Sanayi ve Ticaret Bakanı

O. PEPE  
Çevre ve Orman Bakanı

B. ATALAY  
Devlet Bakanı

K. TÜZMEN  
Devlet Bakanı

K. UNAKITAN  
Maliye Bakanı

İ. YILMAZ  
Ulaştırma Bakanı

Krokiler için [Tıklayınız](#)

Table-3: Original announcement in the Official Gazette dd. 13 June 2007, no: 26551

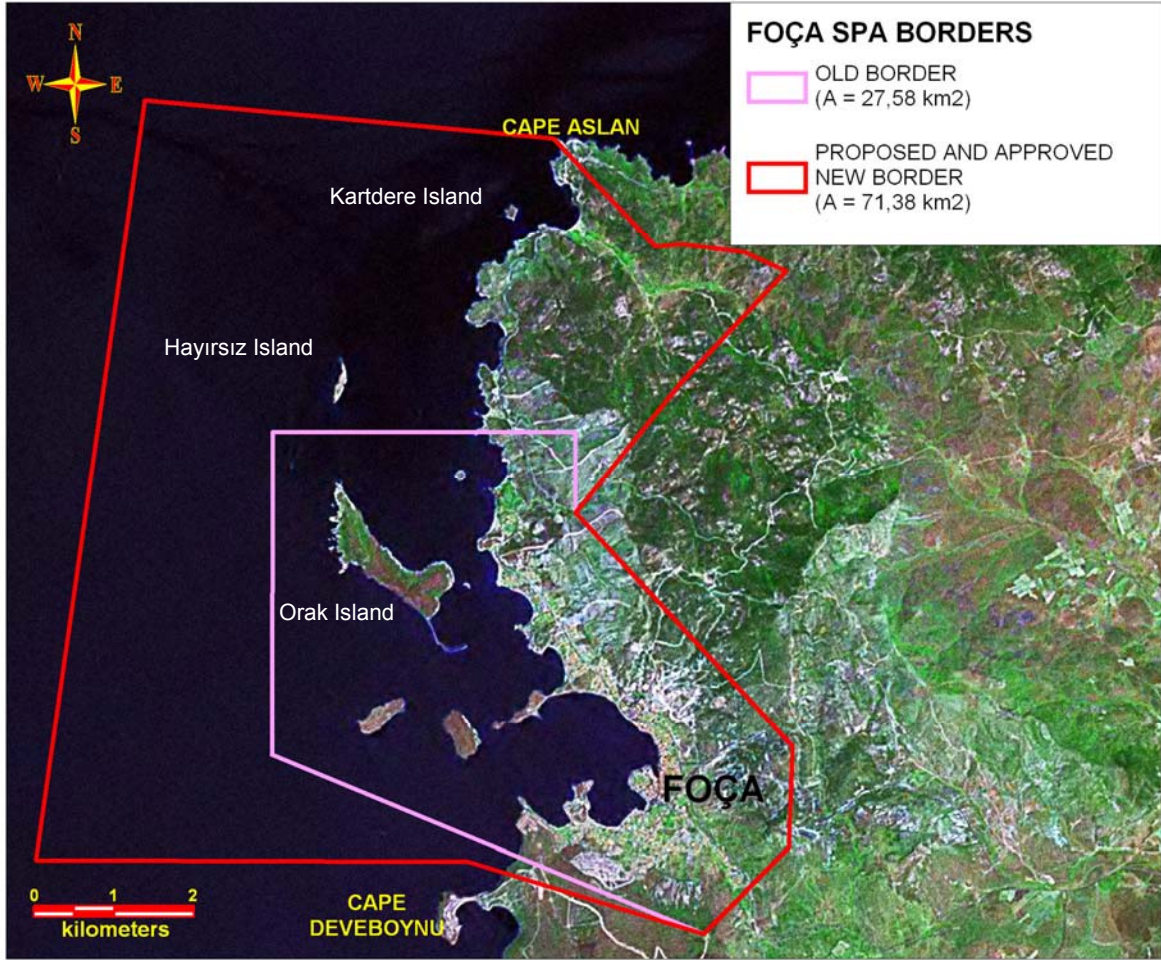


Figure 1: Map of Foça SPA with the original and new borders.

For communication : Cem Orkun KIRAÇ  
SAD-AFAG Coordinator  
[afag\\_ankara@yahoo.com](mailto:afag_ankara@yahoo.com)  
[www.sad.org.tr](http://www.sad.org.tr)  
[www.sadafag.org](http://www.sadafag.org)