

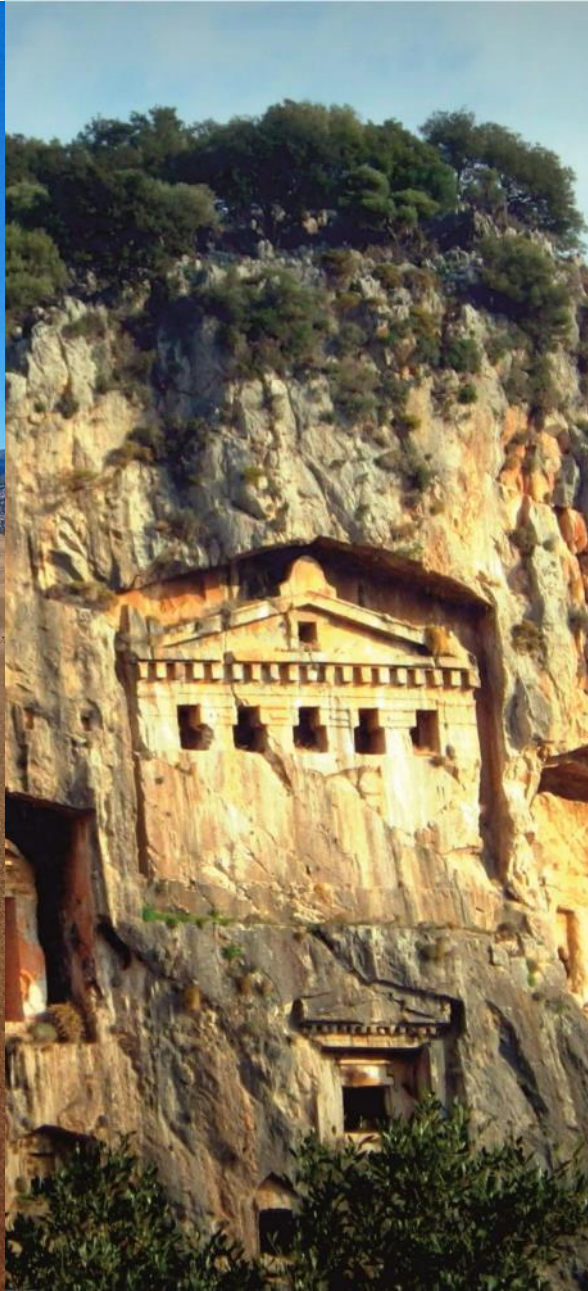


# **KÖYCEĞİZ-DALYAN SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AREA and its surroundings**

**23rd Oct., 2023  
DALYAN**

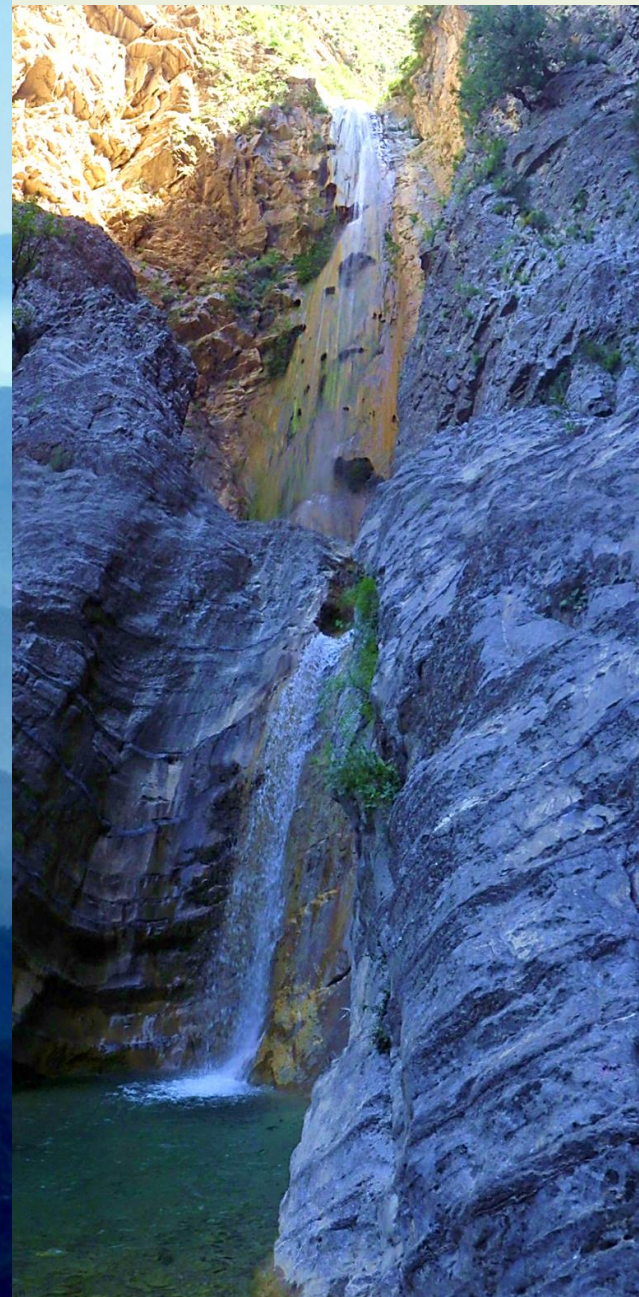


# K3yceđiz-Ortaca-Dalaman: our precious gem





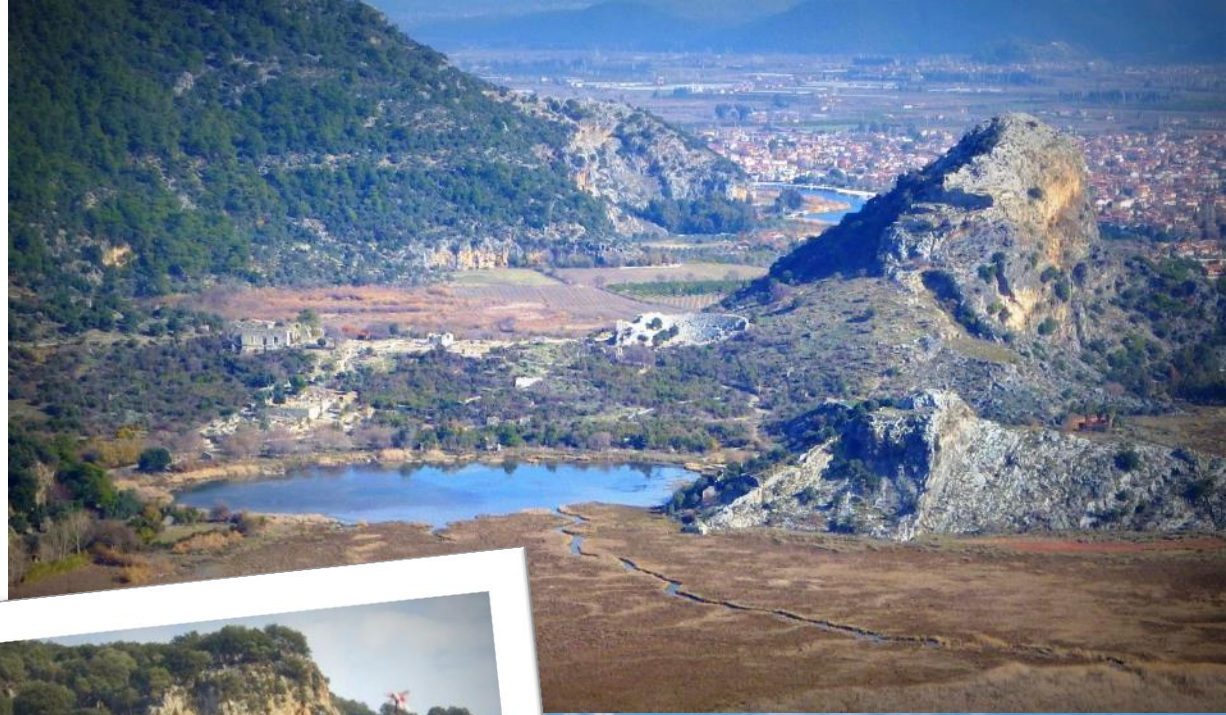
# K3yceđiz-Ortaca-Dalaman: our precious gem





## **Kaunos, the most important cultural heritage in the region**

- An important city state between Caria and Lycia, a trade port
- First archeological findings from 10th c. Bc, richer from as early as 4th c. and onwards. Excavations still continue



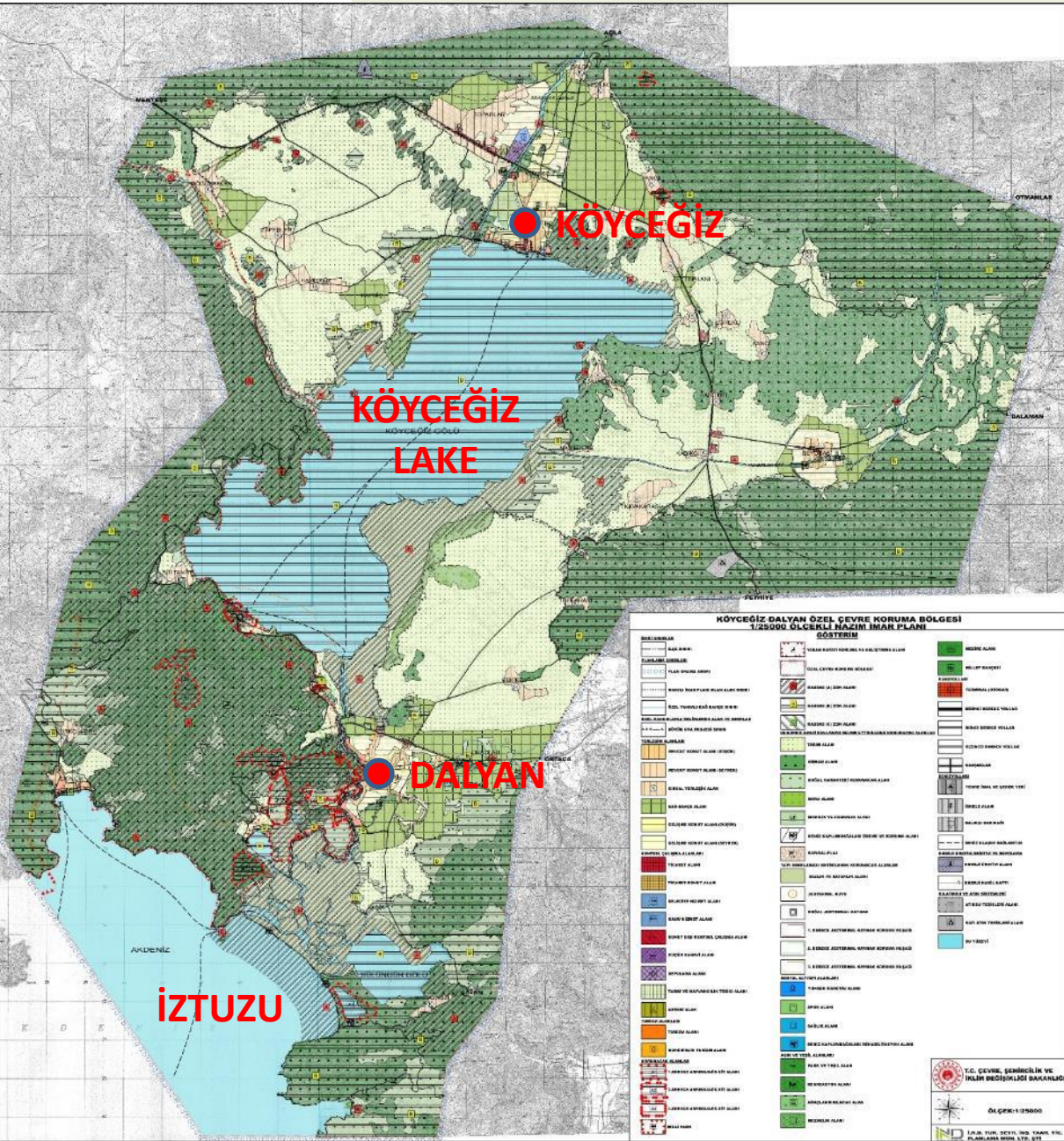


Natural and archeological protection zones in the region:

- **Köyceğiz-Dalyan Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA)**
- Köyceğiz Wildlife Development Zone
  - *Target species: Wild goat and Fallow deer*
- **Kartal Lake Nature Protection Zone (around Mt. Sandras)**
- Kartal Lake Natural Site Protection Area (around Mt. Sandras)
- **Sandras Important Nature Area (Önemli Doğa Alanı)**
- Marmaris National Park
- **Fethiye-Göcek SEPA**
- Kaunos Ancient Site archeological protection zone
- **İztuzu Lake archeological zone**
- Köyceğiz Sweetgum forest
- **Yuvarlakçay river Oriental Plane forest**







## K3ycejiz-Dalyan Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA)

- One of the first SEPA declared in Turkey, following a successful anti-development campaign on Iztuzu beach 35 years ago
- Known for its complex, rich ecosystems and habitats including rivers, lakes, delta, coastal sections, forests, mountains, agricultural areas, villages and all living things in an area of 460sq.km
- After 35+ years since declaration, still – relatively – well protected.
- An area of interest for ecologists and researchers



# Köyceğiz-Dalyan SEPA: Characteristics

- **Rivers:** Namnam, Kargıcak, Yuvarlakçay, Nasuhdede, Toparlar, Dalyan
- **Lakes:** Köyceğiz, Sulungur, İztuzu, Alagöl, Sülüklü
- **Beaches:** İztuzu, Ekincik, Kargıcak
- **Wetlands:** Dalyan lagoon
- **Mountains:** Ölemez, Bozburun, Kösten, skirts of Mt. Sandras
- **Forests:** Sweetgum (Köyceğiz-Hamitköy-Kavakarası), Pine (all around), maqui (all around), olive and citrus groves
- **Flora:** some 924 species of which 81 (8.65%) is endemic and 101 in IUCN list: **Sweetgum** (*Liquidambar orientalis*), **Cyclamen** (*Cyclamen trochopteranthum*), **Fritillary** (*Fritillaria forbesii*), **Sea Daffodil** (*Pancratium maritimum*)
- **Bird fauna:** 96 species and sub-species of which 3 are Near Threatened, such as **Ferruginous duck** (*Aythya nyroca*), **European roller** (*Coracias garrulus*), **Krüper's nuthatch** (*Sitta krueperi*) and **Smyrnan Kingfisher** (*Halcyon smyrnensis*)
- **Fish fauna:** some 50 species and sub-species including **grey mullet**, **blue crab**, **eel**, etc).
- **Reptiles** such as the endangered **Loggerhead sea turtle** (*Caretta caretta*) and **African softshell turtle** (*Trionyx triunguis*), **amphibians** such as the endangered endemic **Lycian salamander** (*Lyciasalamandra fazilae*), **mammals** such as **otter** (*Lutra lutra*)



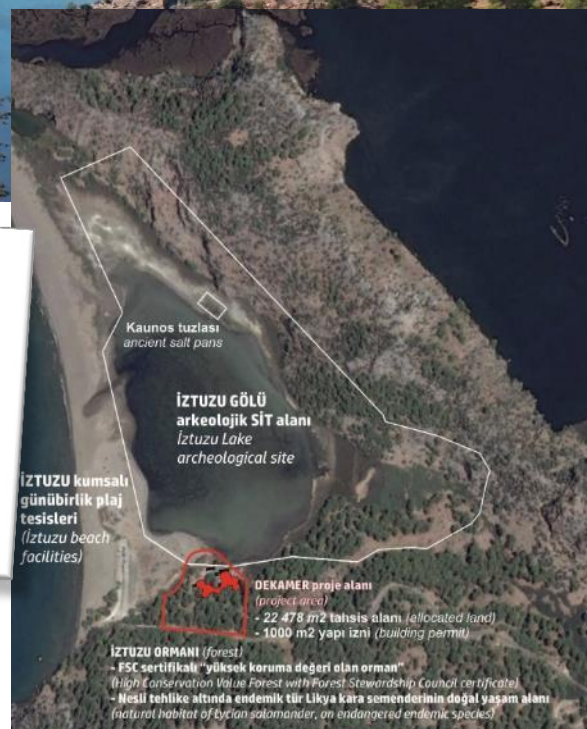
# Köyceğiz-Dalyan SEPA: İztuzu and Dalyan lagoon



- Officially protected area
- Daily use by public, closed after hours
- Attracts tourists for its relatively unspoiled nature
- The most popular nesting site of loggerhead turtles in Turkey
- İztuzu forest and İztuzu lake are also important elements



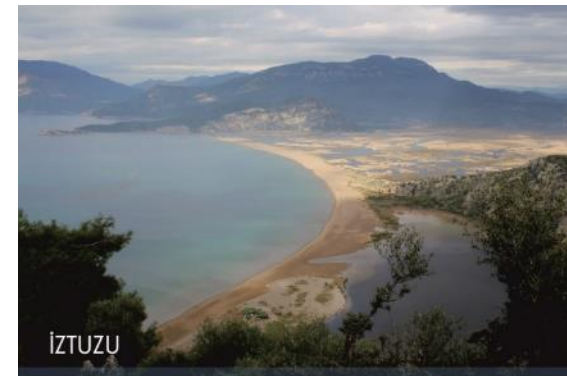
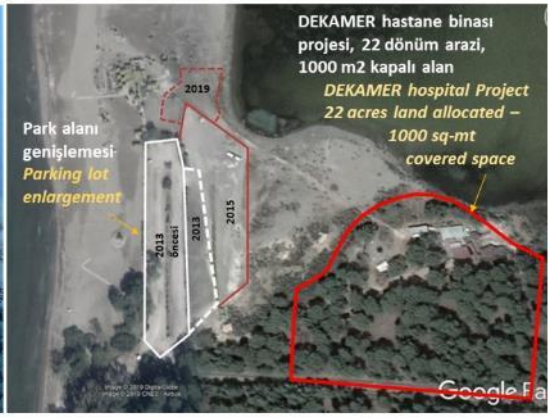
**Kaunos ancient salt pans**





## THREATS

- Over-use by public in summer months, national holidays
- Attempts to open for development in the form of "good cause"
- Too many river boats, heavy river traffic adversely affecting the lagoon reeds, damaging sea turtles and the bird fauna habitat



Thomas Cook

Holidays City breaks Destinations Deals Extras Holiday advice

My Account

Holidays Hotel only

Going to: Dalyan, Dalaman, T...

Departing from:

When: October 2023

Duration: 7 nights

Rooms & guests: 1 Room, 2 Guests

SEARCH

Home > Holidays > Turkey > Dalaman > Dalyan > Things to do > See the turtles on İztuzu beach

**See The Turtles On İztuzu Beach**

Gelecek nesillere ne bırakacaksın?  
What will you hand over to the next generation?

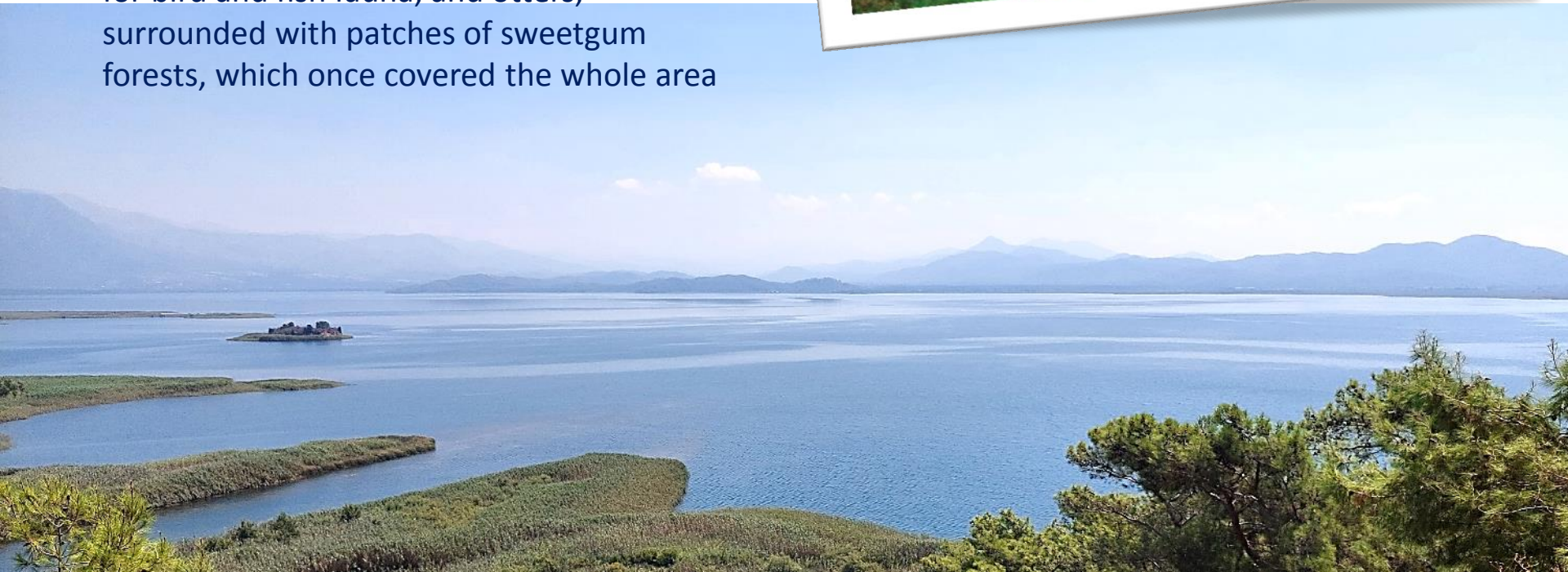
varım yokum  
**İztuzu.**

- Feeding of turtles as part of boat tours or at the restaurants to attract customers
- Noise and slowly growing light pollution



## An important element of the SEPA

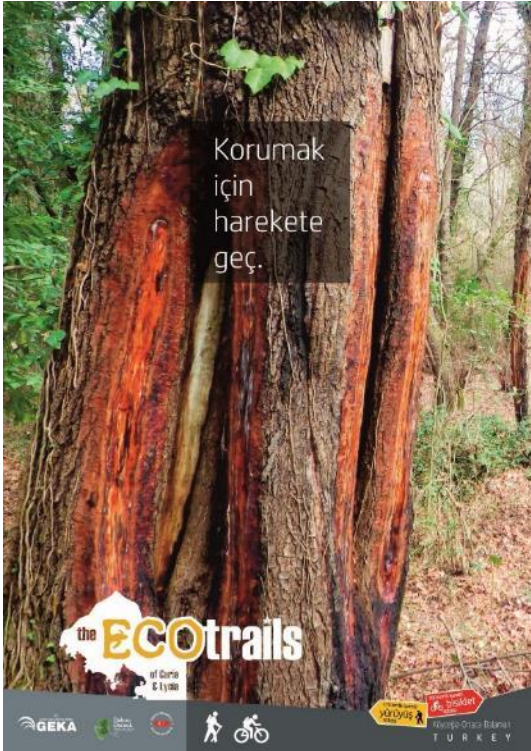
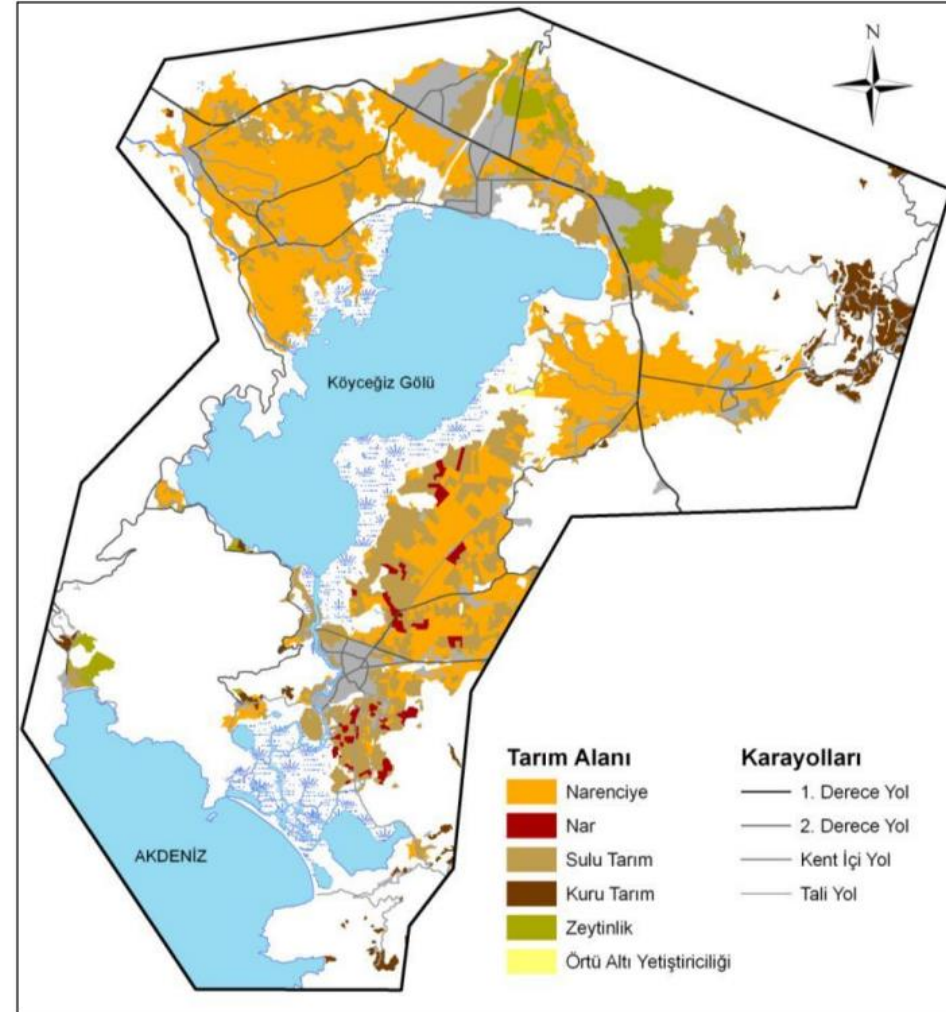
- Once part of the sea, it became a lake due to natural causes, most notably the slow formation of Dalyan delta by Dalaman river (which later changed its course towards what is today's Dalaman plane)
- Dalyan river is the natural waterway that discharges lake's water to the sea (and back!).
- A relatively well-protected natural habitat for bird and fish fauna, and otters, surrounded with patches of sweetgum forests, which once covered the whole area





## THREATS

- Over-fishing
- Destruction of reeds for tourism/agricultural reasons
- Agricultural pollution near residential areas on the coast as well as via rivers feeding the lake
- Hunting (birds, wild goats, deers)
- De-forestation of sweetgum trees for agriculture use





## Water source of the SEPA

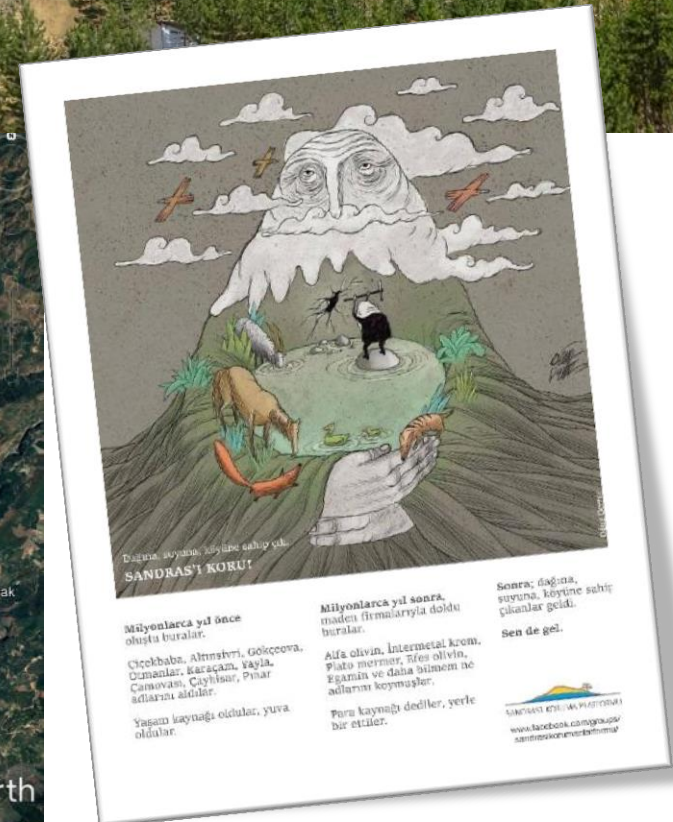
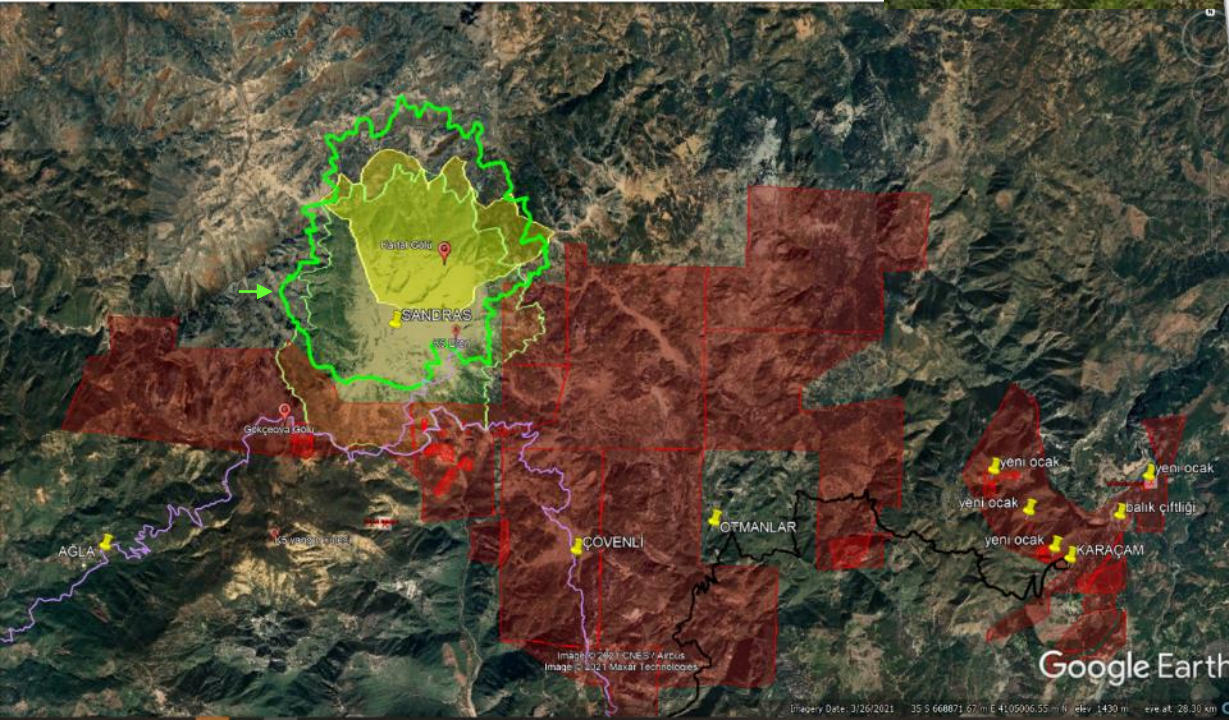
- Highest mountain in the region, covered in snow in winter
- Officially protected zone due its endemic species and rich ecosystems
- Kartal Lake and G3kgeova lake are important elements.
- Monumental Black Pine forest





## THREATS

- Mining (chromium and olivin) destroying natural zones, forests, water sources and habitat for wildlife
- Gökçeova lake under threat due to touristic over-use



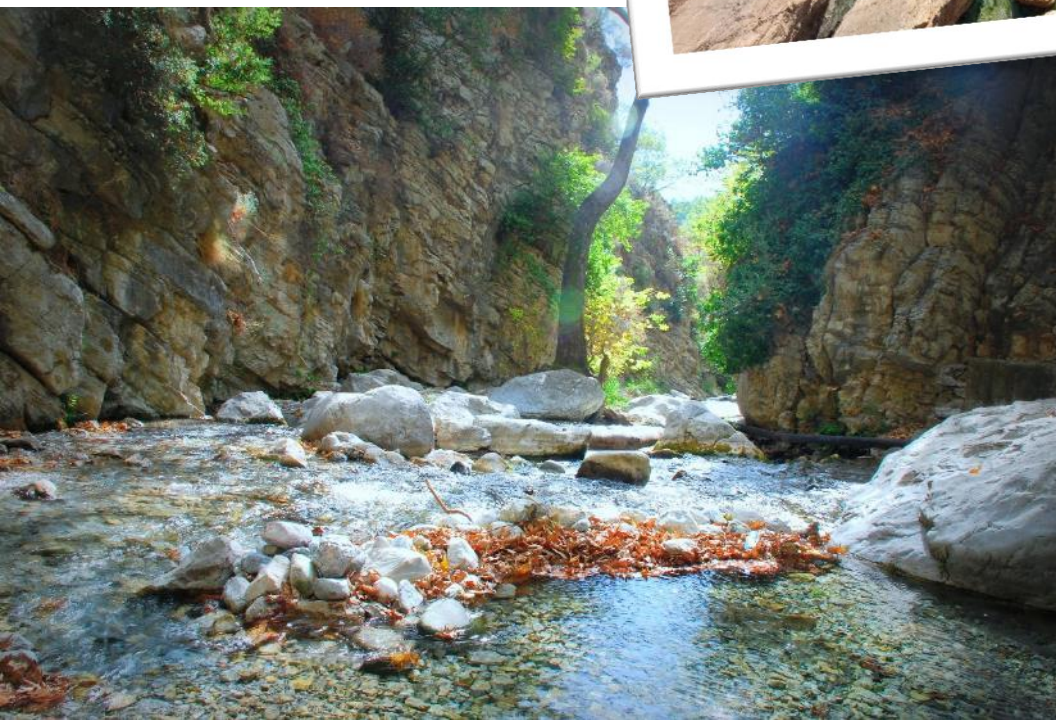


## Water source of the SEPA

- Namnam, Kargıcak and Yuvarlakçay are the most important ones that flow "life"

## THREATS

- HPP dams destroy the ecosystem, the landscape, the quality of water and changes the local climate.





## Dalyan Tourism, Culture and Environment Protection Association

### • Successful Environment Protection Campaigns AGAINST:

- **Hydro-electric powerplant Project on Yuvarlakçay river** (attempt stopped in 2010 by protests, petitions, law suits)
- **New DEKAMER Sea Turtle Hospital Project** (attempts stopped in 2014 and 2019 by protests, petitions, law suits)
- **Privatisation of İztuzu beach** (attempt stopped in 2015 by protests, law suits)
- **Mining projects at Mt. Sandras** (on-going and additional new ones) at Mt. Sandras (attempt stopped by protests, petitions, law suits; some projects' court rule pending)
- **Cooperation with other NGOs via platforms:**
  - Yuvarlakçay Protection Platform
  - Save İztuzu Platform
  - Sandras Protection Platform
  - Doğaya Güç Kat Platform



**DEKAMER'S dream, İZTUZU'S nightmare!**

İZTUZU BEACH DALYAN

Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation and the Sea turtle Rehabilitation Center, DEKAMER, have re-introduced the sea turtle hospital project, which was cancelled 6 years ago as a result of public protests. This time, the project has come in the shape of an "ecological design contest". Regardless of being eco-designed, ANY facility to be constructed at the beach will be a "building" that conflicts with the coastal law and international conventions. This "dream" will pave the way for development at İztuzu and, therefore, we are against it.

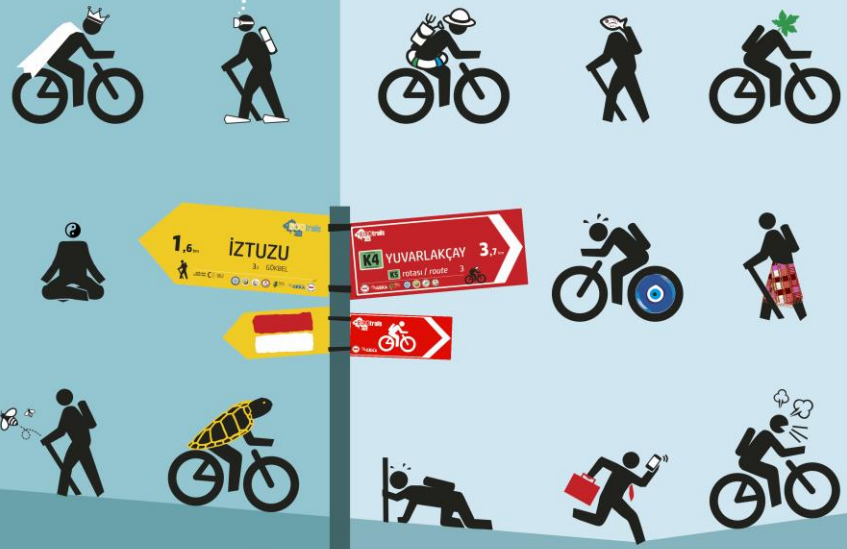
30th November, at 11, on the beach.



HAYATINA  
YENİ BİR  
NEFES

the **ECOtrails**®  
of Caria & Lycia

KÖYCEĞİZ-ORTACA-DALAMAN  
YÜRÜYÜŞ ve  
BİSİKLET  
ROTALARI



The ECO Trails, 470 km'lik yürüyüş rotaları ile 700 km'lik bisiklet rotalarından oluşmaktadır.

**Yürüyüş rotaları, Sahil Rotası, Orta Rota ve Kuzey Rotası** olmak üzere üç ana güzergah ve bunları birbirine bağlayan ara güzergahları izler. Her iki yönlü-seyire imkanı verecek şekilde, sarı yon tabelaları ve kırmızı-beyaz şerit boya ile işaretlenmiştir. Sahil Rotasında bölge değerleri olarak deniz ve suatık alanlar- arkeoloji-yaban hayatı öne çıkarken, Kuzey Rotasında kırsal yaşam-dağlık arazi-nehir ve kanyonlar genel temayı oluşturur. Nispeten düz seyreden Orta Hat ise, üç ilçe merkezini birbirine bağlar. Sağta (günlük) ormanları, kökürttü su kaynakları ve arkeolojik alanlardan geçer.

**700 km'lik bisiklet rotaları,** toplam 14 güzergah ve bunları birbirine bağlayan ara güzergahları izler. Her iki yönde seyire imkanı verecek şekilde kırmızı yon tabelalarıyla işaretli rotaların tamamı birbirine bağlantılıdır.

The ECO Trails consist of 470-km long hiking trails and 700-km cycling routes.

**Hiking trails** waymarked with yellow signposts and red-and-white paint stripes follow the Coastal Route, Middle Route and Northern Route, all interconnected at various locations. While the Coastal Route present seascespes-lagoons and wetlands-archeology-wildlife as the main local values, the Northern Route brings forward the rural life-mountainous sections-rivers and canyons. Relatively flat and easier Middle Route, which connects the three towns, passes through the protected endemic Sweetgum forests, thermal springs and ancient remains.

The 700-km long **cycling routes** consist of 14 routes and their connecting segments, all waymarked with red signposts. They are designed such that riders could start at any location and direction.

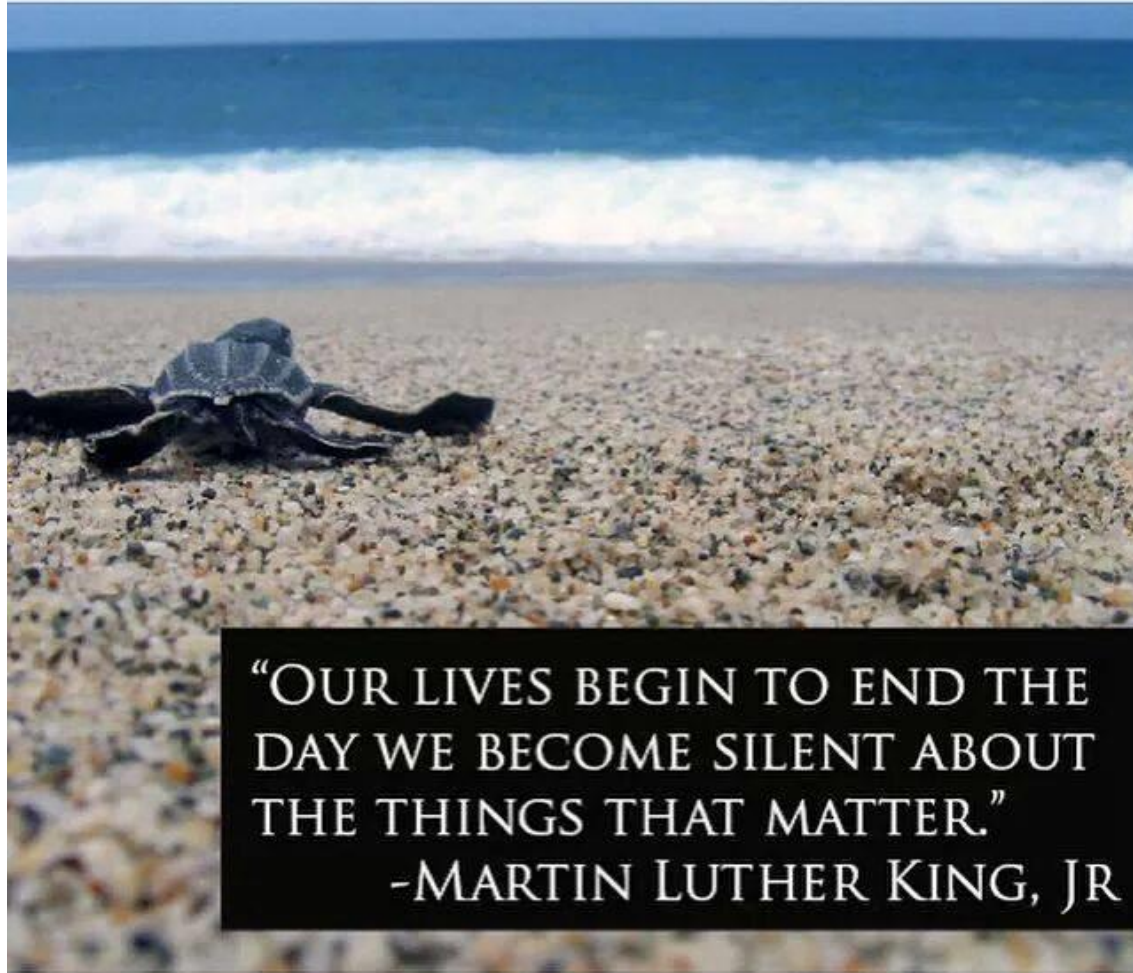


## • Eco-Tourism Activities:

- Eco Trails – long distance hiking and cycling routes network in Köyceğiz-Otaca-Dalaman area in order to promote eco-tourism (officially opened in 2018)
- Supporting Dalyan tourism via Dalyan Tourism Development Platform







“OUR LIVES BEGIN TO END THE  
DAY WE BECOME SILENT ABOUT  
THE THINGS THAT MATTER.”  
-MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR

**THANK YOU**