



«Actions to protect, conserve and promote biodiversity. Field studies of endemic, endangered and nationally important species of Greece». Funded by the Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA)

TITLE

Population Dynamics of The Endangered Plant *Paeonia parnassica* (Paeoniaceae) in Mt Parnassos (GR2410002)

(Project ID: 13667)

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ABSTRACT

National parks of Greece are natural ecosystems with spectacular ecological and scientific value but also with a rich aesthetic and cultural significance. Also, National parks are important for their potential in biodiversity conservation and for their appeal to visitors and tourism, particularly ecotourism. The environmental conditions of Mt Parnassos are appropriate for growth and development of plant species *Paeonia parnassica*. *Paeonia parnassica* is a species of shrub in the family Paeoniaceae. The plant species *Paeonia parnassica* is endemic to Greece (Mt Parnassus). It has most recently been assessed for The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in 2011. Also, it is listed as Endangered under criteria C2a(1). In recent years, monitoring of the *Paeonia parnassica* population dynamics in Mt Parnassos has not been carried out. Hence, in this study, the population dynamics of *Paeonia parnassica* was investigated at the Mt Parnassos. The study will focus on the below axes: a) Recording and mapping the population of *Paeonia parnassica* on Mt Parnassos, b) Recording and mapping the distribution of individuals within the population, c) Study the floristic composition of the vegetation along the population of *Paeonia parnassica*, d) Recording the threats and estimate the conservation status of *Paeonia parnassica*, according to the uniform classification list of threats of International Union for Conservation of Nature – Conservation Measures Partnership (IUCN-CMP) and e) Assessment of the status of the taxon (conservation status) according to the criteria of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This is very important as monitoring efforts will give in the scientific community a better understanding of the occurrence, distribution and status of plant population in the Mt Parnassos.
