Sustainable nature conservation on Hungarian Natura 2000 sites

Péter TÓTH
Project manager
BirdLIFE Hungary
(toth.peter@mme.hu)

The aim and the implementation bodies of the project

Overall aim: To carry out an overall planning procedure for founding the long term basis of the management of Natura 2000 sites

The consortium

BirdLife Hungary
(leader of the consortium, responsible for monitoring of reptile, amphibian, bat, and bird species, publicity)

Szent István University, Gödöllő:
(management planning, habitat management pilot activities, monitoring of large carnivores, fish species and flora elements, evaluation of effects of big game species)

Hungarian Academy of Science, Ecological Research Center
(ternd analyses of habitat changes, survey on forest habitats, dead wood analyses)

External help from: national park directorates, volunteers, stakeholders
Pilot areas

**Natura 2000 területek Magyarországon**

- **HUBN10006** Mátra
- **HUBN20044** Recski Hegyes-hegy
- **HUBN20047** Mátra északi letörése
- **HUBN20048** Gyöngyöstorjáni Világos-hegy és Rossz-rétek
- **HUBN20049** Mátrabérc–fallóskúti-rétek
- **HUBN20050** Gyöngyöspatai Havas
- **HUBN20051** Nyugat-Mátra
- **HUBN20046** Gyöngyösi Sár-hegy
- **HUKN10002** Kiskunsági szikes tavak és az őrjegi turjánvidék
- **HUKN20009** Felső-kiskunsági szikes tavak és Miklapuszta
- **HUKN20013** Fülöpszállás–Soltszentimre–csengői lápok
- **HUKN20021** Ökördi–erdőtelek–keceli lápok
The project flow

Monitoring methodology development

Beginning of monitoring activities, data collection

Natura 2000 management planning

Habitat management on pilot sites

Contribution of the higher level of data collected on Natura 2000 network

NCIS
Methodology development and data collection I.

Monitoring of fish species
Methodology development of surveying
6 annex species
Population estimation, and evaluation

Amphibian and reptile monitoring—3 + 3 species
European pond turtle radiotelemetry
Survey on nest predation and genetical background
Methodology development and data collection II.  
Monitoring of bird species in forest and wetland habitats: 
10 forest, 13 wetland species

New protocols
Data collection for
The entire country
Methodology development and data collection III.

Monitoring of forest and wetland bat species

10 Targeted species

Innovative (detectors) and traditional (mist-nets) technologies

Monitoring of large carnivores

Targetted species with relevance of (wildlife)
Management and nature conservation

Intensively dispersing and other annex species (wolf, lynx, otter, steppe polecat, wildcat)

Methods, providing good territorial coverage (census of warrens), new methods (species identification based on captured fir/hair)
Methodology development and data collection IV.

Survey of plant species
On pilot ares, annex species and species with national importance
Habitat mapping
Estimation of expected population changes

Trand analyses of habitat changes
A countrywide approach,
with retrospective GIS analyses
Monitoring habitat changes at landscape level
12 annex habitats, 7 additional habitats
Methodology development and data collection V.

Development and implementation of forest habitat monitoring methods

Development of a complex monitoring system suitable for reporting based on Habitat Directive

Based on parts of the project aiming surveys on forest ecosystems

Training for monitoring staff, development of the ForestGuard homepage

Cruicial role of forest reserves as reference habitats
Methodology development and data collection VI.

Survey on effects of big game species on forest habitats
Methodology development aiming the evaluation of effects of herbivore game species on forest habitats
Surveys on pilot areas: + and − effects, relations between forests and big game species

Quantitative analyses of dead wood
And its ecological role
Surveys aiming moss and mushroom species
Monitoring of dead wood quantities in Forests aiming wood production
Management planning and pilot habitat management I.

1. Planning based on former experiences (transition facility project)
2. Close connection with other project elements (data requirement!)
3. Carrying out additional surveys if needed

Using participatory planning method
Management plans for 12 Natura 2000 sites
Detailed list for management
Recommendations for each management units
Management planning and pilot habitat management II.

- Test for the suitability of management recommendations in two pilot sites (sum of 500 ha)
- Sustainability studies in terms of ecological and economical issues at farm level
- Proposals influencing relevant sectoral policies. Focus on alternative financing mechanisms
- Taking into account the relevant Swiss experiences

WHAT TO DO WITHOUT SUBSIDIES (how far environmental awareness is enough)?
Our ambitions

- Integrative approach involving different sectors (nature conservation, agriculture, forestry, wildlife management)
- Effect decision making process at different levels
- Proposals for changing sectoral policies

Cooperating with other Swiss Contribution projects
Thank you for your attention!

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