

## **Project Update: January 2012**

The fieldwork activities were conducted in August and September 2011 on eight localities in two Croatian regions along rivers Mura and Drava. During this time nine bat species were caught and identified, five of which are new records for the Regional Park with one additional species whose presence was confirmed in this survey. Furthermore, we found three species in the area, which are protected by and listed on Appendix II of European Habitats Directive.

Monitoring protocols that will be used for following bat trends as bioindicators have been developed. First transects for recordings of bat echolocation calls have been identified and implemented with analyses supplementing previous field activities. In this part of the survey we established a successful cooperation in the field with regional office for Nature protection, fishermen and foresters. Research has also been supported by a newspaper article (<http://www.emedjimurje.hr/udruga-i-klubovi/otkrivanje-tajni-iz-zivota-sisavaca>) and article in a yearly magazine published by regional Nature Protection office which is currently in press.

In the upcoming month a series of lectures and workshops is planned throughout the region in order to raise the awareness about the problematics among local people and interest them in taking part in monitoring survey. Final analyses of proposed monitoring transects, radio coverage on the project, presentation of the results on a local conference "Povijest okoliša područja Regionalnog parka Mura-Drava" regarding Regional Park and further fieldwork activities are planned in the following months.