

Project Update: October 2016

According to our research during the spring, we have made a short summary about the important reedbeds. The generated information from the survey is going to be translated into Albanian by the members of the Albanian Society for Protection of Birds & Mammals.

Small Prespa Lake

The major part of the small Prespa Lake belongs to Greece. The Albanian side is 4 km long and around 1 km wide reedbed area. The Greek side has been a protected area since 2000, and also belongs to a national park. The reedbed is in a good shape, mostly closed with infrequent open water patches. The edge zones of the coastal parts are mostly covered by *Typha angustifolia* and *Schoenoplectus lacustris*. Along the shore the *Iris pseudacorus* is really common too. *Nymphaea alba* is present in the open water. In some parts of the reed bed, marks of cutting and burning activities can be seen, but it does not cover a big area and it does not affect the habitat and the wildlife heavily.

The fishing activity of the locals is mainly based on traditional roots; nevertheless the underwater fish traps and fisher nets can endanger the population of the *Emys orbicularis*. Hunting is a strictly prohibited activity in Albania by the law, but we have noticed the presence of it in several parts. Around the small Prespa Lake we found some recently built hunter hideouts and a lots of shotgun cartridges. Presumably the hunting activity is not significant.

Near the reedbed just a few places are suitable for agricultural using, but those little plots are usually cultivated with horses.



Reedbed of small Prespa Lake



Agricultural plots in the corner of the lake





The local traditional fishing method is a valuable heritage



European pond turtles (*Emys orbicularis*) stuck and died in fishing nets

Observed bird species around the Small Prespa-lake

27th-28th of April, 2016

Species List:

1. Tőkés réce (*Anas platyrhynchos*)- *Mallard* (2)
2. Cigányréce (*Aythya nyroca*)- *Ferruginous Duck* (4)
3. Kis vöcsök (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)- *Little Grebe* (2)+(1)
4. Szárcsa (*Fulica atra*)- *Coot* (2)
5. Vízityúk (*Gallinula chloropus*)- *Common Moorhen* (2)+(1)
6. Guvat (*Rallus aquaticus*)- *Water Rail* (1)
7. Borzas gödény (*Pelecanus crispus*)- *Dalmatian Pelican* (4)
8. Szürke gém (*Ardea cinerea*)- *Grey Heron* (1)
9. Nagy kócsag (*Casmerodius albus*)- *Great White Egret* (4)
10. Üstökösgém (*Ardeola ralloides*)- *Squacco Heron* (5)
11. Bakcsó (*Nyctocorax nyctocorax*)- *Black-crowned Night Heron* (1)+(1)
12. Törpegém (*Ixobrychus minutus*)- *Little Bittern* (2)+(1)
13. Kis kárókatona (*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*)- *Pygmy Cormorant* (10)
14. Egerészölyv (*Buteo buteo*)- *Common Buzzard* (1)
15. Barna rétihéja (*Circus aeruginosus*)- *MarshHarrier* (2)+(1)
16. Kígyászölyv (*Circaetus gallicus*)- *Short-toed Snake-eagle* (2)+(1)
17. Kabasólyom (*Falco subbuteo*)- *Eurasian Hobby* (1)
18. Vadgerle (*Streptopelia turtur*)- *TurtleDove* (1)
19. Lappantyú (*Caprimulgus europaeus*)- *European Nightjar* (1)
20. Nyaktekercs (*Jynx torquilla*)- *Eurasian Wryneck* (1)
21. Havasi sarlósfecske (*Apus melba*)- *Alpine Swift* (10)+(15)
22. Molnárfecske (*Delichon urbicum*)- *House Martin* (25)
23. Partifecske (*Riparia riparia*)- *Sand Martin* (70)
24. Cigánycsuk (*Saxicola torquatus*)- *Stonechat* (4)
25. Rozsdás csuk (*Saxicola rubetra*)- *Whinchat* (1)
26. Déli hantmadár (*Oenanthe hispanica*)- *Black-eared Wheatear* (2)+(2)
27. Fülemlé (*Luscinia megarhynchos*)- *Common Nightangle* (7)
28. Fekete rigó (*Turdus merula*)- *Blackbird* (12)
29. Kék kövirigó (*Monticola solitarius*)- *Blue Rock Thrush* (1)
30. Barátposzáta (*Sylvia atricapilla*)- *Blackcap* (2)+(3)
31. Kis poszáta (*Sylvia curruca*)- *Lesser Whitethroat* (1)
32. Mezei poszáta (*Sylvia communis*)- *Common Whitethroat* (1)
33. Bajszos poszáta (*Sylvia cantillans*)- *Subalpine Warbler* (2)+(5)
34. Berki poszáta (*Cettia cetti*)- *Cettis's Warbler* (3)
35. Nádirigó (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*)- *Great Reed Warbler* (25)+(15)
36. Cserregő nádiposzáta (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)- *Common Reed Warbler* (1)+(1)
37. Barkóscinege (*Panurus biarmicus*)- *Bearded Reedling* (3)
38. Sárgarigó (*Oriolus oriolus*)- *Eurasian Golden Oriole* (1)
39. Holló (*Corvus corax*)- *Northern Raven* (3)
40. Erdei pinty (*Fringilla coelebs*)- *Chaffinch* (1)
41. Tengelic (*Carduelis carduelis*)- *Goldfinch* (6)+(3)
42. Kenderike (*Carduelis cannabina*)- *Linnet* (3)
43. Sövényhármány (*Emberiza cirlus*)- *Cirl Bunting* (3)
44. Sordély (*Miliaria calandra*)- *Corn Bunting* (1)

Qualification of the reedbed according to density and ages, based on satellite images

