

Project Update: December 2006

Starting with May 2006, 7 ATS R1930 transmitters have been installed on tortoises from Eselnita – Mehedinti County. Simultaneous, 60 DS1921G temperature sensors have been installed in the tortoise area.



The sensors were installed on 8 tortoises (out of them 7 had transmitter), on soil surface and in soil at a 20 cm, in characteristic. The preliminary data indicate that tortoise territory had an average of 0,87 ha for males and 1,39 ha for females. Right now, the tortoises entered the sleep-hibernation season, so by April we will develop the draft version of the habitat suitability index.

Within the activity concerning the proposal of new areas to be included under protection a first discussion took place on August 15th, 2006 with the representatives of the Iron Gates Park Administration and Caras-Severin and Mehedinti Environmental Protection Agencies. The next meeting will take place in February, when a concrete proposal regarding the protection area for Hermann's tortoise shall be included on the agenda.

The layout of the A2 poster entitled Hermann's tortoise – a protected species has been made and a meeting within the Divici town school has been performed.

In January – April we will focus on the educational campaign, the fieldwork activities being stopped during the sleep-hibernation season.