

Project Update: September 2018

Motajica, 2018

In this latest phase of the project, we have recently been spending a significant amount of time researching at a new locality (Motajica). Motajica is of great importance due to information we received from hunters concerning recent apparent wolf attacks on livestock in the area. However, it is likely that these were in fact carried out by jackals. There has yet to be any positive photo documentation confirming either wolves or jackals at this locality, thus we decided to research this area and to try to detect the presence of one or both species.



To date, we have yet to record the presence of either species via photo-trapping, despite the fact that cameras have been in place and active from the start. However, last week, during field activities in the monitored area, we located a dead (shot) jackal in proximity to one of the photo traps.



Dead (shot) jackal at the Motajica Mountain locality

Notes: coordinates were determined by using Garmin (Etrex, 20) GPS; photos were made by Canon (PowerShot SX400IS) photo camera, both provided with the funds from the 1st RSG.

Regional newspaper

On 24th September 2018 the regional newspaper "Glas srpske" published an article regarding grey wolf activities which we have performed within our projects. The article explains which activities were undertaken, who funds them and why projects are important for wolves in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Considering the fact that this newspaper is amongst the top regional newspapers, we hope that it will have an effect on responsible institutions and governments to become more involved in our activities, but also to provide information to the public to encourage understanding of why the wolf is such an important species.

10 понедељак, 24. септембар 2018. ГЛАС СРПСКЕ

Панорама

Требиње финансира реконструкцију Санирају 68 зграда

ТРЕБИЊЕ - Санација дијела стамбених зграда у Требињу је у току, а овим послом обухваћено је 68 објеката, за шта ће градска управа издвојити 130.000 марака.

Ријеч је о уређеној заједничких дијелова зграда и стамбених објеката, а биће финансирана замена улазних врата, прозора или стакала у улазима, кречење стубишта, замена поштанских сандучица и дотрајалих заједничких инсталација.

Радови су повјерени предузећу "Радник" из Требиња, а директор Лазар Приовић истиче да је највише захтева било за кречење хаустора.

- Заједницу стажних власника смо регистровали међу првим и аплицирали смо на јавни позив, а посао је успјешно завршен - каже станар зграде у улици Цара Душана, Тодор Петковић.

Р. Ми

Драгана Шњегота ради на великом пројекту Српчанка кроји план заштите сивог вука

СРБАЦ - Бројност сивог вука као незаштићене ловне дивљачи у БиХ је у опадању, због чега Српчанка Драгана Шњегота већ три године ради на пројектима који имају за циљ креирање плана његове заштите.

Шњегота је виши асистент Природно-математичког факултета у Банаљаци, а научном области генетика и наслеђивање бави се већ осам година. Она истиче да се спекулише да у БиХ има око 400 сивих вукова и додаје да је анализама утврђено да је ова врста све угроженија.

- Циљ моје докторске дисертације је генетичка карактеризација сивог вука, што се први пут ради за вукове са подручја БиХ који припадају динарско-балканској популацији вука. Из тог разлога започела сам мониторинг који се одвија методом постављања фото-замки на мјестима познатим по активностима вукова, чиме се утврђује њихово присуство и бројност на одређеном подручју. Фото-замке подешавају се на 24-часовни сликање и снимање, а активирају се помоћу сензора - каже Шњегота и додаје да су два пројекта већ завршена, а један је и даље активан.

Огромну помоћ и подршку, каже, има од локалних шумских газдистава, али и од мјештана који живе на локалитетима на којима се врши мониторинг и који указују на то гдје је најбоље поставити фото-замке. До краја мјесеца планира финализацију пројекта, због чега је ових дана отпутовала у Пољску, гдје ће радити у лабораторији за истраживање сисара.

Д. Ј.



Local Web provider

Local WEB provider also published the web article (<http://srbac-rs.com/srpcanka-dragana-snjegota-kreira-plan-zastite-sivog-vuka-u-bih/>) about all activities which we perform within our attempts to create a conservation management plan for the grey wolf in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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Srpčanka Dragana Šnjegota create a plan to protect the gray wolf in BiH

Posted: [urednikD](#) days 24. septembar, 2018. Search for: Category: ▼

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The size of the gray wolf as unprotected wild game on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina is in evident decline due to which for three years with a number of associates working on projects that aim to create a plan to protect them, said Senior Assistant Faculty of Sciences in Banja Luka, Dragana Šnjegota.

This Srčanka seven years ago employed in the higher education institution, as assistant to the scientific field genetics and inheritance. In the meantime, she completed master academic studies on the module Zoology in Novi Sad, where she enrolled in doctoral studies.

Previously, he finished high school in 2004 at the Center High School "Petar Kocić" in Srbac and undergraduate biology at the Faculty of Sciences, University of Banja Luka in 2009. During her studies, she received a scholarship from the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Serbian Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of Serbian and Foundation Dr Milan Jelic.

Šnjegota points out that there is not much data on the number of gray wolves in BiH, but it is speculated that there are about 400, adding that preliminary genetic analyzes showed that this species more threatened.

"The aim of my doctoral dissertation genetic characterization of the gray wolf as the first love of wolves from BiH who belong to the Dinaric-Balkan population of wolves. For this reason I started monitoring that goes on the method of setting photo traps in places known for their activity wolves which determines their presence and abundance in a particular area. Photo-traps are set in 24-Osatno imaging and recording, and are activated by sensors," says Šnjegota, adding that the two projects have already been completed and one is still active.

In addition to the application of the method of photo-traps, within the project is performed and non-invasive sampling, that is, the collection of faeces and hair, from which it is isolated and amplified DNA a desired molecular marker, and all this with the aim of genetic analysis on a sample and to a larger territory.

"A huge help and support I got from the representatives of local forest enterprises but also from residents who have been living in the localities where they monitor and indicate where best to place the photo-traps. All projects related to the monitoring of wolves in the area of BiH are financed by the Rufford Foundation of Great Britain, which finances projects aimed at nature protection in 156 countries around the world, which recognized the goal of our activities," said Šnjegota.

The end result of which it intends to achieve the establishment of proper management and creating a plan to protect species at the level of BiH and the Dinaric-Balkan level.

"In June this year we launched the [website](#) which is regularly updated with new data and activities related to the research of wolves in BiH and beyond. So far, we participated research results at numerous conferences in the country and abroad, such as Slovenia, Hungary, Italy, and Georgia, and NaCN published papers in international journals," said Šnjegota.

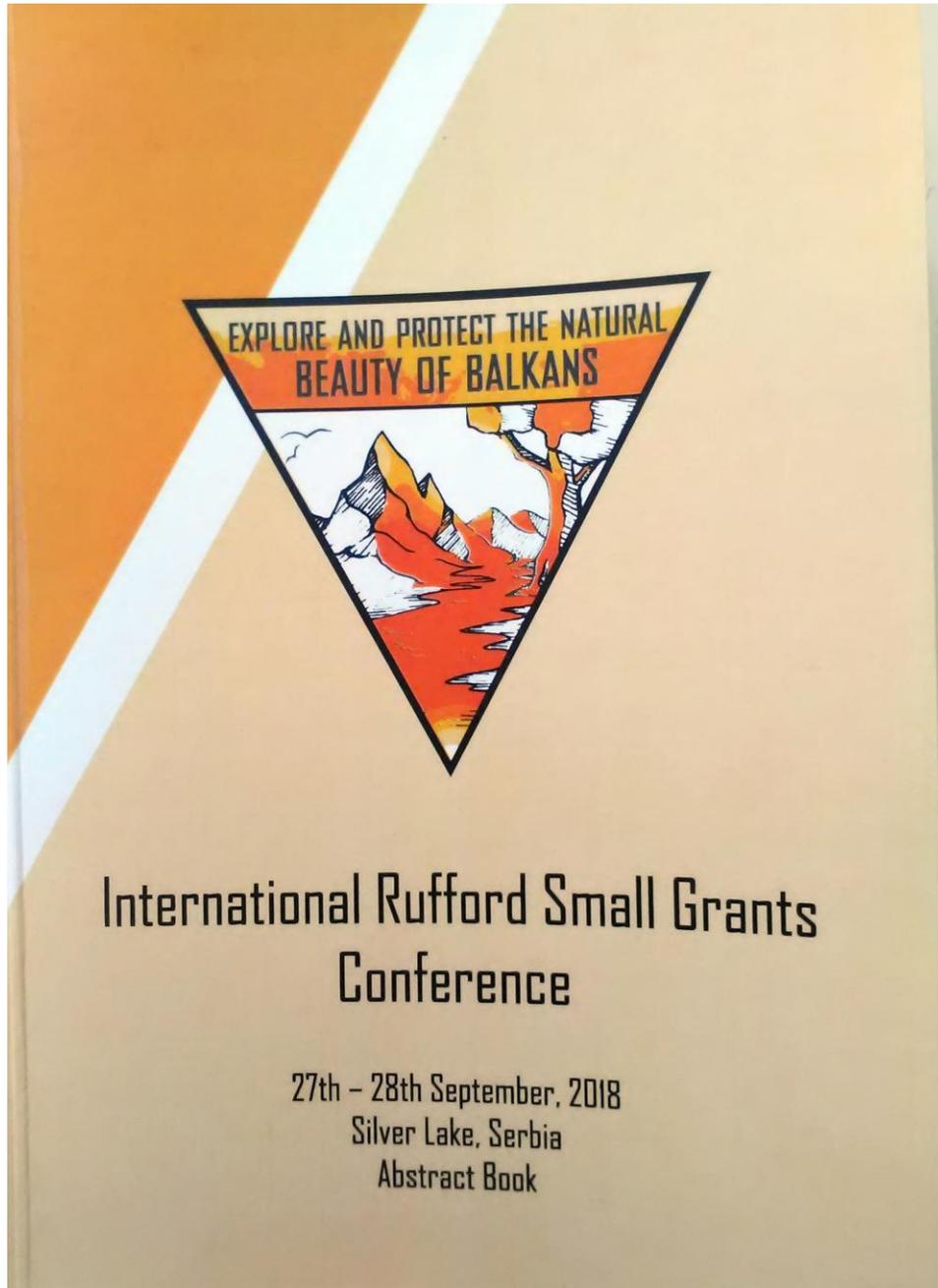
By the end of September plans to finalize the project for which has recently traveled to the city Bjalovjež in Poland where he will work in a research lab mammals where a year earlier worked in a variety of professional analysis. Next year will stay at the Department of Biology at the Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, where he will work with the excellent scientists further genetic analysis on a sample Dinaric-Balkan wolf population.

Dragana is from April to May 2013, participated in the international course in Wageningen in the Netherlands on contemporary approach to the protection and use of genetic resources, as a scholar of the Government of the Netherlands from 2014 to 2018, he occasionally stayed in the laboratory of Genetics at the Faculty of Science in Novi Sad on a doctoral thesis as a scholarship from the Ministry of Education and culture, under the co-financing of scholarships for international exchange of academic staff.



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In September 2018 the International Rufford Small Grants conference was held in Silver Lake, Serbia. Organizers and editors selected a photograph from our project for presentation in the conference abstract book. This presents an excellent opportunity to further increase public attention towards our projects, and consequently to enhance understanding of the importance of our research on the grey wolf in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



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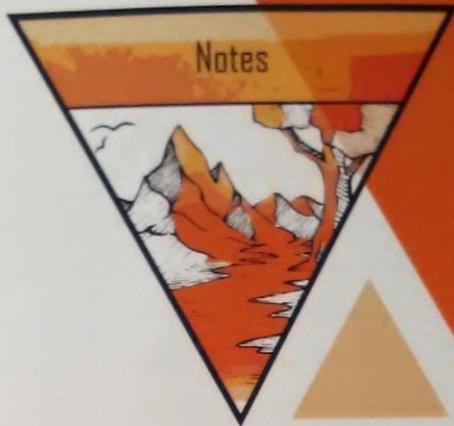
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The gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) and other large mammals were hunted in Europe for centuries and their populations are nowadays limited both in size and distribution. Photo shows the gray wolf captured by a camera trap during one of many Rufford projects aiming to preserve mammal species across the Balkans.

▼ Kupreška river, Republic of Srpska, Bosna and Herzegovina