

## Project Update: August 2018

The team has continued to do field work, collect data and work with the government institutions in order to impact better conservation and protection of the Danube salmon populations and the populations of fish species that Danube salmon depends on through April, May and June.

For the first time in almost 150 years we had one of the biggest amount of rainfall during the months of June and July 2018. Water level was high, colour was brownish and for the most times the river was unfit for field expeditions but nevertheless the team managed to do 17 expeditions by the middle of August 2018. In total we caught nine specimens but we are not too disappointed for these results because the prime time for catching more specimens will be October, November, December 2018 and January 2019 since that time is best for catching the Danube salmon and the last 3 years have proven it. The team also monitored the amount of juvenile cyprinid species for their summer months to see if the populations are in rise or fall because for us that is also one of the main factors for healthy Danube salmon populations.

During our conservation campaign, we went several times to the officials in the municipality of Novi Grad and talked to the mayor about the problem with poaching and those who poach and sell fishes. Our big fighting and conservation efforts brought to that the regime and people working in the fishing society have changed and we expect that the better management and conservation of the fish species get implemented as it is written by the law. We know that already some of the poachers were caught and got the penalties so we hope that after more than a decade the time has come to move this forward for the better.

We held lectures about Danube salmons and screening of the Una The One movie to the children from the two grades of Gymnasium in Novi Grad and we already talked to the directors of all schools that the big lecture campaign to introduce young people to the cause will start in end of September where we will include all high schools and elementary schools in the city of Novi Grad.



A photo from one of our expeditions in the beginning of August when the water level finally got back to normal.



Fish species that smaller huchos depend on.



106cm specimen caught in Bosanka Krupa