

Project Update: June 2018

Second trip was organised from 21st to 27th May 2018 and we have returned from the third field trip yesterday (10th June 2018).

Second field trip was organised only at River Crnovska reka gorge locality as there is a lot more data collecting to be done. Aleksandar Urošević, Marko Anđelković, a PhD student Tijana Vučić and myself spent 7 days collecting data on the locality and talking to people in Trgovište and villages around the locality. We were giving t-shirts to local people and deciding what would be the best place and time for the educational lecture.

All of our promotional material that had to be printed and designed is finished. T-shirts, posters and 1000 flyers. I have decided to make 1000 flyers instead of 500 as I stated in the initial project design because there is a price difference of less than 15 GBP (2000 RSD) between the printing of 500 and 1000 flyers and many people has shown interest in them. Also I have decided not to make stickers but small notebooks instead as it turned out this is much needed on the field trips to gather data. I redirected 80 GBP from the money designated on the educational material design and designed posters by myself to lower the cost of printing and designing altogether. All printing and design of promotional material was done in cooperation with Digital Solutions printing shop in Belgrade (<http://www.digitalsolutionbg.com/>). Photographs of poster flyers and notebooks are in the attachment. The poster photograph is from the Facebook of one of the people in Trgovište we have talked to so there is an impact of our project on social media.

The third field trip was a 7-day trip with 2 days spent on the locality of Prohor Pčinjski Monastery and the rest on the river Crnovska reka gorge locality. I have decided to take a team of six people to this field trip because only four of us went on the second one. Aleksandar Urošević, Marko Anđelković, Ljiljana Tomović, two students and myself 7 days exploring and data collecting. We distributed the promotional material which was accepted with lot of interest and enthusiasm.

On all three field trips together we gathered a lot of data on anthropogenic and other habitat disturbances, habitat types, herpetofauna diversity and collected biological data from little more than 300 lizards so far.

We have decided to give the lecture in Trgovište during our next field trip in September 2018 when new school year starts, in cooperation with local municipality employers that we had established connections on our field trips. We also plan an official meeting with people in Protected Landscape Dolina Pčinje organisation (<http://dolinapcinje.org/Eng/Home.asp>) in September.

People that live on both localities are very happy that we are having this project there and we have spent a lot of our time giving them information on the reptile and other species that live there and help them to have better attitude towards herpetofauna especially snakes and lizards.

Aleksandar Urošević and I are going on The 10th Symposium on the Lacertids of the Mediterranean Basin & 2nd Symposium on Mediterranean Lizards that will take place in the Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Tel Aviv University in Israel (18.06.18 -

21.06.18) where we will take some of the promotional material to further promote our project. Of course we will not spend any money from the project for the symposium, we are paying it ourselves.



