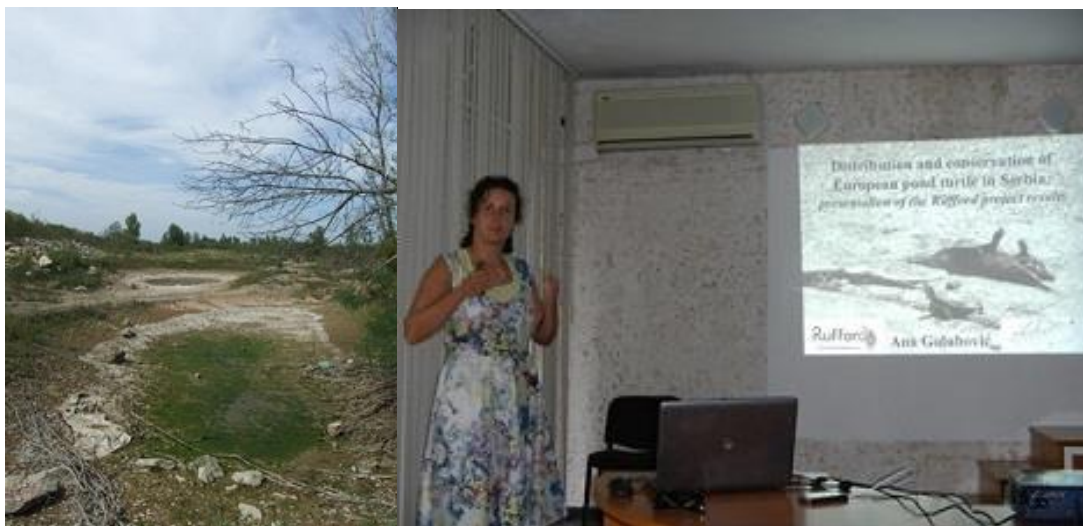


Project Update: October 2015

The second half of summer in Serbia was characterised by very low water levels. Our field experience suggests that dry and hot weather negatively affected activity of European pond turtles. Very few individuals were observed basking (i.e. in their most conspicuous behaviour). Some of the visited localities were even completely dried up. None the less, additional valuable data on distribution and state of habitats were collected in this period.

Ending of field season came along with opportunities to present preliminary data of the project to scientific public. Wider European community was communicated at 5th International Symposium on *Emys orbicularis* and other European freshwater turtles (Kiten, Bulgaria, 19th – 21st of August 2015). The presentation received very good feedback, and publication based on these data is now in preparation. Similar presentation was held in Podgorica, Montenegro at workshop on *Emys orbicularis* in late September 2015, in front of regional interested public.



Left: One of suitable, yet at the moment dried up habitats along Drina River. Right: Moment from the presentation of the project in Bulgaria. (Photo credit: Sonja Djordjević).