

Project Update: October 2016

In the last 4 months we conducted the field surveys in Jelašnica Gorge”, in surroundings of Bosilegrad, in surroundings of Kraljevo and in surroundings of Krupanj. According to the plan we measured snakes, took tissue for DNA analyses and mapped the habitats. Along with field research we distributed questionnaires to local community in towns Jelašnica, Kraljevo, Bosilegrad and Krupanj. After interviews we used to distribute leaflets and brochures among local people and to talk with local inhabitants about importance of nose-horned viper and snakes in general. In Krupanj we located population where this viper is harvested and our data analyses will show impact of this threat.

Besides these activities, we gave lectures to local community in Bosilegrad and Krupanj. There was great interest among local community in Krupanj to hear about nose-horned viper. Apart from inhabitants of surrounding villages, firemen, mushroom collectors, huntsmen, there were primary school pupils present. There is an article about our lecture in local newspaper called “Glas Podrinja”. As some planned expenditure for field survey in surroundings in Svilajnac was extra, we used that to conduct another short field survey (it lasted two days) in village Gložane near Svilajnac. Also, we gave lecture at Agricultural-veterinarian school in Svilajnac.

Additionally, as Faculty of Science and Mathematics in Niš organised field survey at mountain “Stara planina” for master students of ecology and nature protection (this is part of their exam), we used the opportunity to promote our project and gave short lecture about nose-horned viper directly on field.



Fig. 1 Lecture to local community in Bosilegrad



Fig.2 Lecture to local community in Krupanj



Fig.3 Lecture to local community in Krupanj



Fig.4 Lecture in high school in Svilajnac



Fig. 5 Lecture for master students at Stara planina



Fig.6 Project manager and volunteer counting ventral mountain scales on nose-horned viper



Fig. 7 Measuring morphometric characters



Fig.8 Pregnant female