

## Project Update: August 2017

During August we have finished field work in two more populations, thus bringing the first field season close to an end. At Ludaš Lake we included rangers and local kids in field work, teaching them about European pond turtles and their habitats. We also gave statement for a local TV station about the species and main threatening factors. The report is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UO5VjpirLQ0>.

At Trstenik, after a 6-year long pause, we continued population studies. In this session 23.3 % of captured animals were already marked. Besides oak forests, locality has many cottages with orchards and vineyards. It seems that Hermann's tortoises benefit in terms of food and nesting places.

Additionally we managed to find novel distribution places for both species. Some of them were intentionally searched for, while the rest are now available thanks to our spreading network of volunteers interested in turtles.



Left: Kids and European pond turtles. Right: Hermann's tortoise nest after hatching - benefits from vineyard's south exposition without grass and loose soil.