

## Project Update: September 2019

Our last field session in this year (and this project) – has been successfully made in in all three Ramsar sites, Gornje podunavlje, Zasavica and Labudovo okno. In comparison to the previous period, August and September were very warm and dry, thus many of monitored shallow ecosystems dried up. Still, stonewort presence was detected in all three Ramsar sites. In Gornje podunavlje we detected four *Chara* species and one *Nitella*, in Zasavica two *Nitella* species and one *Chara*, in Labudovo okno two *Chara* species and in Kikinda *Chara canescens*.

Until the end of project in December 2019, we plan the promotion of our project results. Activities planned for the following are educational and promotional. In this period final promotional material will be designed and printed. Promotional material will be disseminated to the students, protected area managers and local communities in selected localities, so that awareness of stonewort importance is raised. We hope that our activities will inspire biology students to get involved and familiar with fieldwork and laboratory practice concerning stoneworts. From this project period we already have one Master's student (Vanja) involved, and she defended her Master's thesis supported by the results from our Rufford project on September 19th 2019. Vanja is now in the process of PhD studies enrollment.













