

Project update April 2024

Before the start of the field season, we took the opportunity to publicise our project by talking to the local community at Kraljevac, one of the localities where we are conducting long-term capture-mark-recapture population study.

We were honoured that the managers of the SNR "Kraljevac" invited members of our team to speak at a forum on wetland conservation. In the presentation, our primary emphasis was on the population characteristics of the European pond turtle which inhabits Kraljevac lake. We discussed the practical applications of our research findings, which included utilising data on the turtles' spatial ecology to map crucial habitats for survival of the population, as well as identifying potential threats. In conclusion, we proposed that an ideal protected area should encompass not only the aquatic habitats of the European pond turtle but also the terrestrial areas where they lay eggs and the connecting corridors which they use to access these sites.

This type of information is of great use to the managers of the SNR "Kraljevac" who are planning to expand the protected area in the near future, which was also discussed at the forum.



Forum on wetland conservation at the Research and educational center "Kraljevac", Deliblato. © Nevena Karleuša.

