

Study visit report n. 2

Final Version of 10/12/2019

Deliverable Number D.4.1.1.

Project Acronym	CREW
Project ID Number	10044942
Project Title	Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia cross border region
Priority Axis	4
Specific objective	3.2
Work Package Number	4
Work Package Title	Implementation of Wetland Contracts
Activity Number	1
Activity Title	Wetland Contract methodology and case studies
Partner in Charge	Agency for Occupation and Development in North Barese / Ofantina Area
Partners involved	All partners
Status	Final
Distribution	Public

Subject: CREW_PP1_STUDY VISIT REPORT_ DELIVERABLE 4.1.1

STUDY VISIT TO VRANSKO JEZERO NATURE PARK AND KRKA NATIONAL PARK

Study visit was held from May 17 to May 19, 2021.

The study visit was organized by the Public Institution Natura Histrica, in order to exchange good practices of monitoring system in aquatic ecosystems implemented by Nature Park Vransko jezero Public Institution and Krka National park Public Institution.

– ORGANIZATION

Monday, 17. 5. 2021.

- 6:30 – Departure from Pula
- 11:30-12:00 – Arrival to Vrana, accommodation
- 13:00 – 16:00 – Meeting with the Director and Head of the expert service; presentation of the areas; presentation of the project CREW and CREW Observatory; presentation of activities of Vransko jezero Nature Park
- Evening – bird watching, individual field visit

Tuesday, 18. 5. 2021.

- 8:00 – Departure to Krka National Park
- 9:00 – Guided field visit to Krka National Park, with emphasis on monitoring and conservation measures conducted in certain parts of the Park
- 14:00 – Meeting with the Head of the Expert Service in NP Headquarters in Šibenik – presentation of activities of project CREW, presentation of monitoring activities conducted by Krka National Park Public Institution

Wednesday, 19. 5. 2021.

- 8:30 – Guided field visit to Vransko jezero Nature Park – on-the spot discussion on certain aspects of protected area management (hydrological regime, monitoring of abiotic parameters, monitoring of bird populations, surveillance...)
- 14:00 – Return to Pula

– PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS AND NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES (PEOPLE)

Natura Histrica Public institution (5)

Vransko jezero Nature Park Public institution (3)

Krka National park Public Institution (2)

– DETAILS

Monday, 17. 5. 2021.

Upon arrival to Vrana village, we had a meeting with the director and the head of the expert service of Vransko jezero Nature Park Public Institution. We presented project CREW to them, and invited them to join the exchange of data via CREW Observatory platform, which is created with a purpose of sharing data and good practices in management of wetland areas in the Mediterranean. The hosts presented their protected area and the problems they are facing on a daily basis. In the evening we visited a few localities in the park, where we observed and photographed birds.

Tuesday, 18. 5. 2021.

Guided by the employee of the expert service we visited central part of the Krka National Park, around Skradinski Buk, where the majority of visitor pressure is exerted. The guide presented to us monitoring programmes that they are conducting and the pilot-project of active removal of invasive alien species (*Ailanthus altissima*) from the Park. We also visited other localities near the Krka river waterfalls – old water-mills and other objects used for the presentation of river Krka cultural heritage. In the afternoon in Šibenik we met with the head of the Park's expert service who gave us detailed insight into the monitoring of hydrological systems in the park. We presented the activities of the CREW project and agreed on future co-operation and help from their side, as needed.

Wednesday, 19. 5. 2021.

We visited several localities in the Nature Park guided by the hosts – heads of the expert ranger services of the Park. We visited educational ornithological trail, ranger station and the connecting channel that links the lake to the open sea (similar situation to Palud). We discussed certain aspects of the area management, with focus on hydrological monitoring, surveillance, bird population monitoring, active measures for conservation of wet grasslands within the Special ornithological reserve and other.

OUTCOME

The main result of the study visit was increased insight into monitoring schemes already established in the two areas we visited. Colleagues offered assistance and advice in establishing monitoring in Palud area, and showed interest in Crew Observatory platform. Overall, the study visit was inspiring and we agreed on future closer co-operation and information exchange.

Pula, 21/05/2021