



&lt;LIFE09 NAT/SI/000374&gt;

**Inception Report**  
**Covering the project activities from 01/02/2011 to 20/09/2011**

&lt;28/09/2011&gt;

&lt;WETMAN&gt;





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Data Project

<b>Project location</b>	Slovenia (6 pilot areas)
<b>Project start date:</b>	01/02/2011
<b>Project end date:</b>	01/02/2015 <b>Extension date:</b> /
<b>Total budget</b>	€ 2.144.376
<b>EC contribution:</b>	€1.072.188
<b>(%) of eligible costs</b>	50

Data Beneficiary

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<b>Project Website</b>	<a href="http://www.wetman.si">www.wetman.si</a>

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## 2. List of abbreviations

- AB Associated beneficiary
- CB Coordinating beneficiary
- EC European Commission
- EU European Union
- ZRSVN Zavod Republike Slovenije za varstvo narave (Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation)
- IzVRS Inštitut za vode Republike Slovenije (Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia) - Associated beneficiary 2
- ZZRS Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia) - Associated beneficiary 3
- ZGS Zavod za gozdove Slovenije (Slovenia Forest Service) - Associated beneficiary 4
- RTV SLO radio televizija Slovenije (Slovenian Radio Television) - Associated beneficiary 7



### 3. Executive summary (max 3 pages)

#### 3.1. General progress

The LIFE+ project **Conservation and management of freshwater wetlands in Slovenia** (LIFE09 NAT/SI/000374 WETMAN) started on the 1st February 2011. This inception report covers the inception period from the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2011 until the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2011, and is submitted as required by the EC within the first nine months of the project. The purpose of the report is to give the necessary information for the Commission to evaluate the state of implementation of the project, in respect of the work plan, the financial situation of the project and whether the project is on track towards achieving its objectives, or whether there are serious delays. The inception report is sent both to the EC and to the external monitoring team Astrale Timesis. The report is delivered in paper and electronic versions.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the favourable conservation status of Slovenian freshwater wetland by demonstrating how to revitalize different types of freshwater wetland namely: alpine raised bogs, transition mires, wet meadows, river oxbows and pond. The aim is to establish better conditions for 8 Natura 2000 sites (project pilot sites), 8 targeted freshwater habitat types and 6 habitats of targeted species as well as biodiversity of the sites.

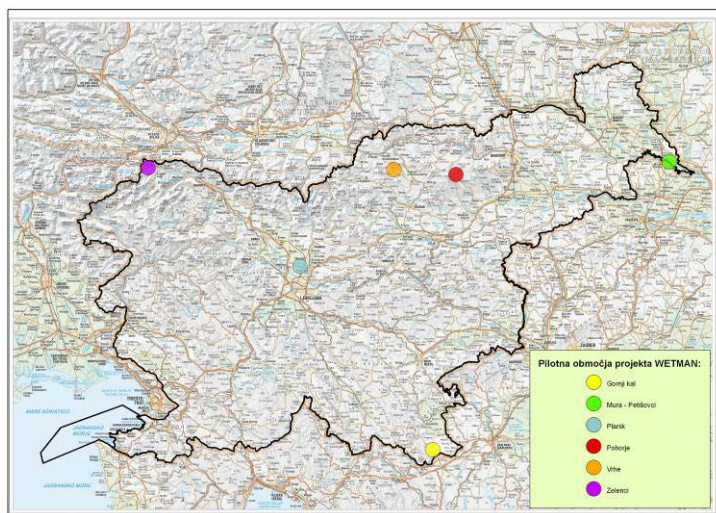


Figure 1. Project area with locations of the six pilot sites.

General progress of the project is good and the work on most of the project actions is according to the time plan (refer to chapter 5.1 for the detailed description of the general progress by the action).

The overall project coordination and administration started with the nomination of the project staff (55 members) and organization of the kick off meeting for the project partnership. We have signed the contracts with all six ABs (refer to Annex 7.1). The project coordinator is being in regular contact with local coordinators as well as ABs coordinators (refer to Chapter 4.1). The project group members have been regularly meeting and working together and/or independently on their actions. The Project Quality board and the Project Steering committee were formed (refer to Chapter 4.1). The two boards will meet in November 2011. The project coordination is going on well.

## LIST OF ACTIONS WITH A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE GENERAL PROGRESS

Action	General progress
A1 - Elaboration of Conservation guidelines	Work is in progress and is continuing according to project schedule. The workshops with all sectors are planned for November 2011.
A2 - Permit procedure	Work has started.
A3 - Car purchase	Completed. An open Public tender was prepared and the car has been purchased (Skoda Yeti).
B1 - Land purchase	In progress (refer to 3.3).
C1 - Hydrology	Action not due.
C2 - Overgrowth	Action not due.
C3 - Invasive species	Action not due.
C4 - Habitat protection	Action started in advance. The action (installation of sensors) has started a bit earlier to catch the Autumn tourist season.
C5 - Incorporation of Conservation guidelines into plans	Action not due.
D1 - National and local authority awareness campaign	Action not due.
D2 - General public awareness campaign	Work in progress. The press conference at the start of the project has been organized. The project and LIFE program was promoted through events for general public and local community as well as written media, TV and radio.
D3 – Promotional material	Work in progress. We have produced the project info list and 4 transportable banners and purchased hats, caps, two types of t-shirts, umbrellas, bags, folders, USB keys, pens and drinking bottles. The project brochure is now being produced.
D4 - Boards	Action started in advance. The boards announcing LIFE + project at all partner locations have been installed.
D5 - Project www & project graphical identity	The project graphical identity has been produced and the project webpage ( <a href="http://www.wetman.si">www.wetman.si</a> ) is accessible over the internet.
D6 - TV material	Work has started and is continuing according to project schedule. The workshop defining the concept, structure and target audience of the documentary was organized and some scenes already shot in the field.
D7 - Layman's report	Action not due.
E1 - Project management	The overall project coordination and administration started with the nomination of the project staff and organization of the kick off meeting for the project partnership in April 2011. AB contracts were prepared and signed by all AB. Co- financiers' contracts were prepared.



E2 - Project evaluation	In progress. An open Public tenders covering initial survey and monitoring of the effect of the project was prepared (separately covering the following groups: Amphibians, Aves, <i>Emys orbicularis</i> , Odonata and Habitat types). Offers were gathered and different external contractors contracted. All subcontractors already produced the first reports (Reports of the initial survey).
E3 - Revision of the Conservation guidelines	Action not due.
E4 - Audit	Action not due.
E5 - After LIFE	Action not due.

The list of key deliverables and milestones as defined in the grant agreement, are indicated below with the note of their fulfilment considered till reporting date 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010.

Name of the Deliverable	Code of the action	Deadline	Fulfilment
Project's graphical identity guide	D.5	01/05/2011	Completed
4 transportable promotional banners (PDF file)	D.3	01/05/2011	Completed
Promotion folder	D.3	01/05/2011	Completed
Paper bags	D.3	01/05/2011	Completed
One Project info-sheet (Slovenian version in paper copy, English, German and Hungarian language as PDF)	D.3	30/06/2011	Completed
2 different T-shirts	D.3	01/10/2011	Completed
Hats	D.3	01/10/2011	Completed
Umbrellas	D.3	01/10/2011	Completed
Field car purchased	A.3	31/12/2011	Completed
Reports of the Initial surveys of project areas	E.2	15/03/2012	Completed
Name of the Milestone	Code of the action	Deadline	Fulfilment
Press conference organised	D.2	30/04/2011	Completed
WEB site accessible on internet	D.5	31/07/2011	Completed
Initial surveys of project areas finished	E.2	15/03/2012	Completed

### 3.2. Assessment as to whether the project objectives and work plan are still viable

We estimate that the general progress of the project is good. The activities are being carried out according to the planned timetable. Actions which were planned for the period of this inception



report (01/02/2011 - 20/09/2010) have started or are in progress, some actions have even started in advance (refer to chapter 5.1).

So far, there are no obvious signs that the objectives cannot be reached. We plan to achieve the set goals as proposed in the project proposal.

### 3.3. Problems encountered

There is one complication in the implementation of the action B.1 Purchase of land for the gravel barrier building in the Zelenci project area. When preparing the project the owner of the parcel has been contacted and has agreed to the project activities. In the meantime the owner died. The parcel is now in the process of probate. We have contacted the potential heir of the parcel, but she will not sell the parcel if she would inherit it.

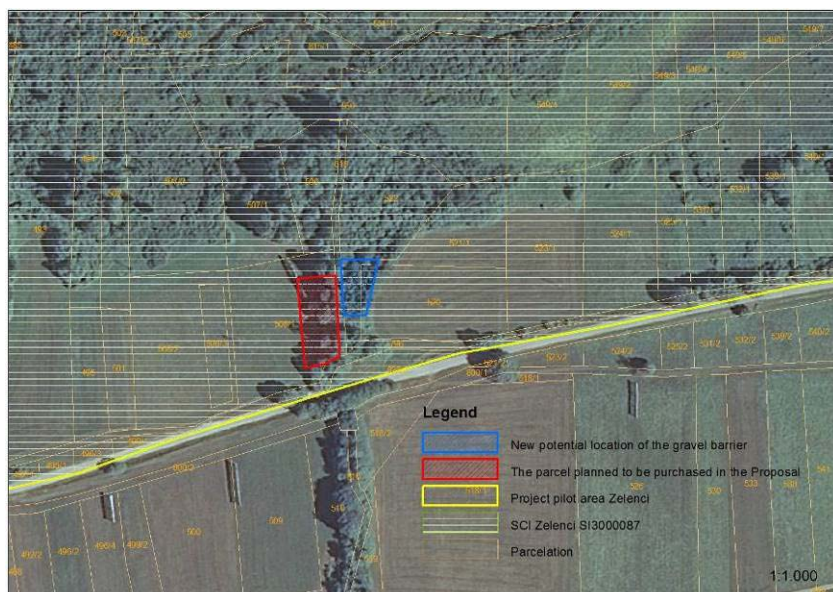


Figure 2. Location of the parcel planned for purchase in the proposal and new potential location of the gravel barrier.

We therefore asked the Institute of water of the Republic of Slovenia to search of the new potential location which would still be suitable for the construction of the gravel barrier. They suggested a new location covering partially three parcels (parcel numbers 520, 521/1, 522 – See picture above). The parcels lay within the pilot area Zelenci and Natura 2000 site. The parcels are owned by the Farmland and Forest Fund of the Republic of Slovenia. We had a meeting with the Farmland and Forest Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, Office in Kranj (covering the area in question). They told us that the grassland part of the parcel 520 is leased to a private person, but that the other woodland parts of parcels 520, 521/1 and 522 are free of leases. We were told to speak to the Farmland and Forest Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, Central office in Ljubljana. The person in charge told us to submit a written application so they would officially review the situation and provide a Permission to build a gravel barrier on their land. For now he sees no problems in obtaining the Permission, but they need to see if a new parcelation has to be made and the existing contract in the parcel 520 renewed. We submitted the application on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2011 and we will ask for an official meeting in October 2011 to personally present the project to the person in charge of our application.

We estimate that it will take us a bit longer than anticipated to obtain the land for the gravel barrier construction (till June 2012) and then additional half year to obtain the building license.

This is still in line with the project and presents no threat to other actions and project activities. We estimate that the gravel barrier can still be constructed by the end of 2013 (as planned in the proposal).

While starting with the project we found a few mistakes in the tables Milestones, Deliverables and Timetables. Sometimes the same activity was listed in both tables or a few times the number of the Action was wrong. We still had the project Action Information room in Šumik in the Timetable which was removed from the proposal in the phase of revision of the proposal by the EC as well as car purchase was still under action C.6. We apologise for the mistakes. We now attach new corrected Tables of Milestones (refer to Annex 7.2), Deliverables (refer to Annex 7.3) and Timetable (refer to Annex 7.4).

## 4. Administrative part

### 4.1. Description of project management

The project is organized as shown on the organigramme (refer to chapter 4.2, page 10). The project team consists of a CB and six ASs. As seen from the project team and management structure many people from different organizations are involved. For the easier management for the work Local coordinators (from the CB) were nominated. They coordinate the work of project local teams consisting from CB and AB staff on some representatives of target groups in the specific pilot area. In addition AB coordinators were nominated from each of the AB. The project coordinator is in a regular contact with local coordinators as well as with AB coordinators. They all (local coordinators and AB coordinators) monthly produce written reports on progress being done on the project.

The project scientific coordinator, financial coordinator as well as head of administration were nominated to help the project run smoothly.

The Project Quality board and the Project Steering committee were formed and are planned to meet in November 2011. Each of the board consists of one member from each of the beneficiaries. In the Project Quality board nominated member are represented by professional staff of each of the beneficiaries and in the Project Steering committee nominated member are represented by management staff of each of the beneficiaries.

A handbook "Management plan of the project WETMAN" was produced by the CB (refer to Annex 7.5). It covers contents of the LIFE+ regulation, LIFE + Common provisions and reporting requirement of the EC and internal reporting rules.

A kick off meeting of the project team was held in Kranjska Gora on the 30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> of March. The event was attended by CB and all AB, co-financers and some supporters of the project WETMAN (List of participants refer to Annex 7.11.2). The project together with the pilot sites and project activities was presented in detail. In addition project partnership as well as LIFE + mechanism and its relevant rules from the Common provisions were presented.



Obligation of the internal reporting of the monthly activities together with the internal financial reporting to the CB was presented as well as together reporting obligation to the European commission. On the 31<sup>st</sup> of March a workshop was held for each pilot area separately where all partners of each pilot area discussed in detail planned activities on the specific area and their timetables. Project Quality board and Steering committee were nominated. The kick off meeting included also a visit to one of the project pilot areas Zelenci. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Michele Lischi, Astrale monitoring team where he conducted the revision of the project.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April an internal meeting of the CB project staff was organized. Internal instructions were given on how to fill in timetables, travel reports and other reports foreseen in the project.

The CB organized joint six field visits to the pilot areas where Local project groups (consisting CB, specific ASs and some target groups) met and discussed the planned activities of the project. In addition two separate coordination meeting were held between CB and AB IzVRS project staff (14<sup>th</sup> April 2011) and AB - ZGS project staff (15<sup>th</sup> of July 2011). The project activities and its timetable were discussed in depth together with the role of AB and its specific tasks (refer to chapter 5.1.17, page 25).

Overall it seems that the coordination of the project is going on well.

## 4.2. Organigramme of the project team and the project management structure

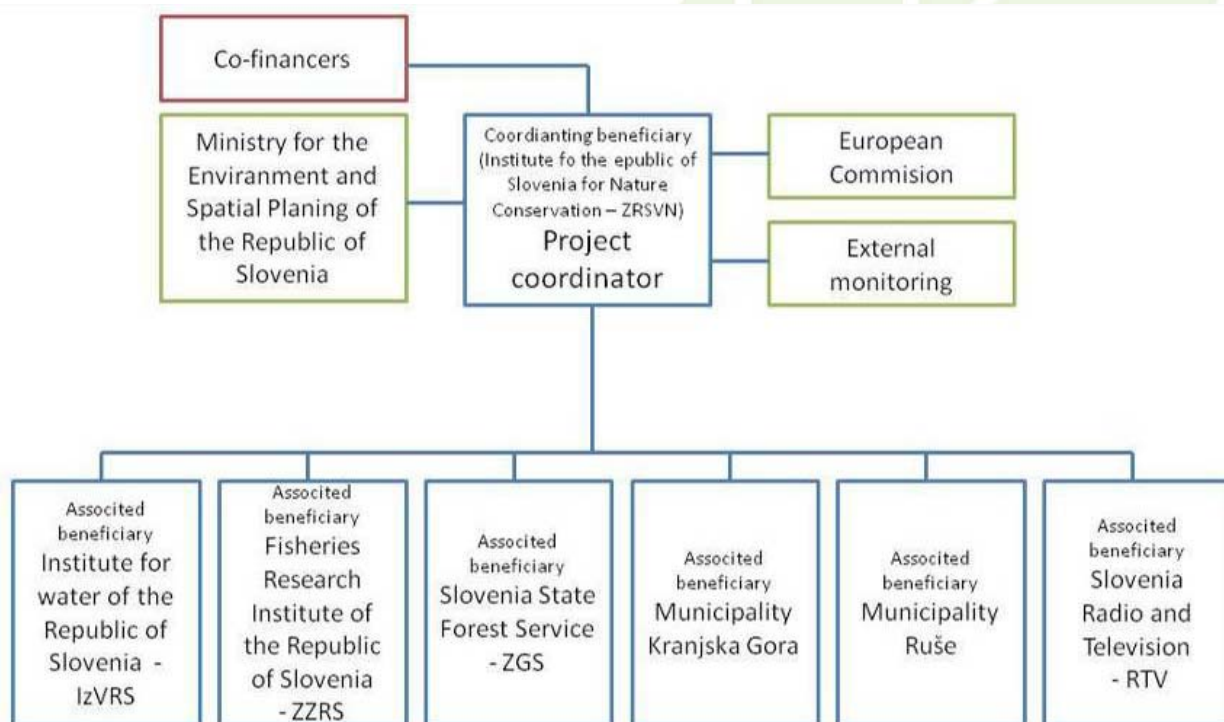
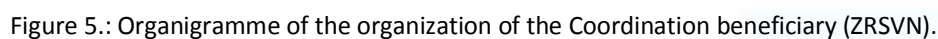
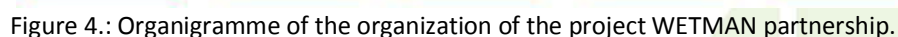


Figure 3.: Organigramme of the project partnership.





### 4.3. Partnership agreements status (incl. date of signature) and key content

In the first months of the project contracts with all six AB have been signed (refer to Annex 7.1.).

- Partnership agreement with the Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia – IzVRS, signed on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2011.
- Partnership agreement with the Fisheries Research Institute of the Republic of Slovenia - ZZRS, signed on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2011.
- Partnership agreement with the Slovenia State Forest Service - ZGS, signed on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2011.
- Partnership agreement with Municipality Kranjska Gora, signed on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 2011.
- Partnership agreement with Municipality Ruše, signed on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2011.
- Partnership agreement with the Slovenia Radio and Television - RTV, signed on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2011.

While preparing the partnership agreement the project coordinator has taken in into consideration the Commissions' Provisions and Guidelines.

All partnership agreements have the same content:

1. Findings: Signature of grant agreement, duration and value of the project; value of the EC co-financing,
2. Estimated eligible costs and associated beneficiary's financial contribution to the project
3. The aim of the agreement
4. List of actions in which the AB is actively participating
5. Obligations and rights of the associated beneficiary according to the Common Provisions
6. Obligations of the coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiary
7. Technical and financial reports
8. Subcontractors
9. Financial milestones and payments, payment terms
10. Financial and administrative obligation from the Common Provisions
11. Nomination of the coordinating staff of the CB and AB
12. Changes to the Agreement
13. Jurisdiction clause

ANNEXES: The grant agreement signed between the European Commission and the coordinating beneficiary, LIFE+ Common provisions, Management plan of project WETMAN

## 5. Technical part

In Slovenia, a lack of appropriate management of wetland in the past led to wetland loss and degradation. In the last 50 years many wetland areas were hydro-meliorated, drainages were constructed, especially in agricultural land and in forests. Hydro-ameliorations were carried out in the belief that desiccation of land would intensify agriculture and forestry. Between 1973 and 1991 over 70,000 ha of lowlands were drained (National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity 1997, Maticic 1986 & 1993). In addition flood control schemes have canalised natural meandering streams or restricted naturally fast flowing waters. Official statistical data show a decrease of almost 40% or 1,282 ha (Beltram 1996) in the land use/land cover category for

'reed beds, marshes and ponds' between 1950 and 1992 (Ramsar National Report, 1998). Additionally, industrial development, urbanisation, introduction of alien species and disturbance by expansion of tourism and recreation have negatively affected Slovenian wetlands.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the favourable conservation status of Slovenian freshwater wetland by demonstrating how to revitalize different types of freshwater wetland namely: alpine raised bogs, transition mires, wet meadows, river oxbows and pond.

Six project areas were selected, namely: Pohorje bogs, Zelenci, Vrhe, Planik, Gornji kal and Mura-Petišovci. Project areas were selected on the basis of good representation of standing freshwater Slovenian wetland habitats and habitats of wetland species (excluding big open-water wetlands). An additional selection criteria was a lack of and/or inappropriate past management.

The aim of this project is to establish better conditions of six SCIs and two SPAs (in 6 project pilot sites), and assure a favourable conservation status of 8 (two of them priority) targeted freshwater habitat types and 6 habitats of targeted species of Community importance as well as biodiversity of the sites. Following activities were therefore planed in the project proposal: improvement of the hydrological condition, removal of overgrowth, removal of invasive fish species, prevention of habitat destruction and disturbance of species, preparation of the Conservation guidelines for project pilot area management and their incorporation into existing sectoral management to insure the afterlife management of the sites. Teh activities will be supported by the aware raising campaigns and promotion of the project and LIFE+ mechanism.

Below are short descriptions of project actions and the activities undertaken during project implementation in the period between 01/02/2011 and 20/09/2011.

## **5.1. Actions**

### **5.1.1. Action A.1: Elaboration of the "Conservation Guidelines for project area management"**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-III/2012.

Actual starting and expected end dates: August 2011- July 2012

In Slovenia management of Natura 2000 sites will be integrated into relevant sectoral management plans. Several national authorities are responsible for the preparation of management plans for different natural resources (fishery, forestry, water). In this project, an efficient way of inter-sectoral management of wetlands in Slovenia (by collaboration with different relevant public sectors) will be developed, through the elaboration of "Conservation guidelines for project area management" (for six pilot sites).

In order to be able to start with the propagation of the »Conservation guidelines for the pilot areas management «a detailed assessment of the initial status of the site had to be made beforehand (Action E2). This was the reason for the Action A.1 to start a bit later and the action E.2 to finish in advance.

As the first step of the preparation of the “Conservation Guidelines for the pilot site management” by sectors the initial guidelines for appropriate management of sites need to be assigned. The initial guidelines are now being developed by the ZRSVN staff taking into consideration all the reports of the surveys of the initial status of the pilot sites done by the external subcontractors (Action E.2). A series of workshops for each of the pilot sites are now being prepared, where all sectors will participate in revision of the initial guidelines for appropriate management and development of an inter-sectorally agreed management of each of the six pilot sites. The workshops are planned to start in November 2011 and working groups are being assigned for each of the pilot area.

Prepared “Conservation Guidelines for the pilot site management” will be developed inter-sectorally and will assure a successful future management of the pilot areas and production of the management plans.

The basis of the simple database in Access for the successful keeping of the management data is under development and needed equipment therefore one computer and ArcGIS licences were purchased.

In the proposal a training trip to one of the EU member states (Netherlands) was foreseen. When organizing the trip we came into contact with two National parks (Natura 2000 sites) namely Bavarian forest National Park (Germany) and Šumava National Park (Czech Republic). Both parks have a history of renaturation works on bogs and mires as well as established Natura 2000 site management and tourist management. We therefore asked European Commission to change the location of the training trip and also include two AB (Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovenia forest service) in the training trip. The changes were approved and we carried out the training trip to both National parks with the detailed guided field visits to renaturated wetland sites from 12<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> of September 2011.



The activities are being carried out according to the planned timetable. No evident problems were identified and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.2. Action A.2: Permit procedures**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-I/2012.

Actual starting and expected end dates: February 2011 - March 2012

Some interventions foreseen in the project actions (hydrological works, overgrowth removal, fish out of the invasive fish species and foot path construction) fall under the requirement to obtain the Nature conservation consent, according to the Article 105. of the Nature Conservation Act. As the interventions foreseen in the project will be carried out on Natura 2000 sites, an Appropriate assessment (according to Article 6 (III) of the Habitats directive)) need to be carried. A separate Nature conservation consent will be acquired for each of the six project areas (six Nature conservation consents all together). In addition in order to carry out hydrological works on Zelenci and Mura Petišovci project areas a Water permit will be acquired.



Two Meetings were held between CB and The Environment Agency, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning; agency responsible for all permit procedures regarding Natura 2000 sites and water management in Slovenia. We obtained information about the needed documentations. A detailed up to date analysis of the pilot areas owners' structure was made. Currently we are in a process of obtaining written consensuses from the landowners in order to be able to submit application for the Nature conservation consent and Water permit.

We are now waiting for the outcome of the workshops under Action E2, where activities planned in the project proposal will be re-examined on the workshops for each of the pilot site by CB and all external subcontractors who carried out initial surveys of the pilot areas (see 5.1.18, page 26).

The activities are being carried out according to the planned timetable. We will obtain all the permits in time to implement the works within the set timetable. No evident problems were identified and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.3. Action A.3: Car purchase.**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-I/2012.

Actual starting and end dates: June 2011- September 2012

In order to be able to carry out project field action at three project areas: Pohorje Bogs, Mura Petišovci and Vrhe a lot of field activities are planned. The Regional unit Maribor of the ZRSVN (CB) currently owns one car (production year 1996, 274.000 km covered). A car is currently used for all the work carried out through the responsibilities of a public authority for nature conservation. Activities planned under this project will be additional to work currently being carried out as a public authority. The new field car will assist in successfully carrying out field activities of the project on pilot areas Pohorje, Mura and Vrhe.

The public tender according to the Slovenian legislation for the purchase of a field car was prepared (Annex 7.6). The tender was closed on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2011 and a subcontractor Porsche Slovenia contracted with the car Skoda Yeti. The car has been purchased, registered and is now in use.

The action was finalized ahead of the planned timetable.

#### **5.1.4. Action B.1: - Purchase of land for the gravel barrier building in the Zelenci project area**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-I/2012.

Actual starting and expected end dates: February 2011- July 2012

The aim is to stop the gravel before it reaches the alkaline fen on the Zelenci project area. The gravel barrier can only be built on the existing (one) mountain stream flowing into Zelenci area. The land, over which the stream flows, is a State property. The width of these parcels is only 3.3m. This is not enough for the entire gravel barrier. The size of the planned

gravel barrier is 28m wide and 40m long. In the project proposal we planned to buy the parcel on the left bank of the stream (1400m<sup>2</sup>) which is a private property.

For the in-depth description of activities refer to see 3.3 (page 8).

#### **5.1.5. Action C.1 Improvement of hydrological conditions**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: IV/2011-IV/2013.

Actual starting and expected end dates: December 2011- December 2013

Action not due.

#### **5.1.6. Action C.2 Removal of overgrowth**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2012-I/2014.

Actual starting and expected end dates: January 2012- April 2014.

Action not due.

#### **5.1.7. Action C.3 Removal of the invasive species**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2012-III/2013.

Actual starting and expected end dates: July 2011- September 2013

According to the project timetable this action was not due yet nevertheless some activities have already been carried out.

##### **5.1.7.1. Action C.3.1 Removal of the invasive fish species from the “Hrast” pond in the Gornji kal project area**

Fishing Society of Črnomelj entered an invasive allochthonous fish species *Silurus glanis* to the pond Hrast. The negative impact on targeted species *Emys orbicularis* can be observed due to competition over food and habitat. The population of the Wels catfish (*Silurus glanis*) will be fished out from the pond. The fish-out will be done by AB ZZRS (The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia).

Before the action starts, we planned the fishing competition “Wels Catfish of the Hrast” with the aim of prevention of future entering of invasive species to the pond and also as awareness campaign targeted at local fishermen and local community.

Cooperation between CB and local Fishing Society of Črnomelj was established. The Fishing competition “Wels Catfish of the Hrast” was organized in cooperation between CB and Fishing society of Črnomelj on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2011. 56 people attended the event among them local fisherman and local community members as well as representatives of AB ZGS and AB ZZRS. The competition was

accompanied by the presentation of the project activities, especially of the pilot area Gornji kal, Natura 2000 network and financial mechanism LIFE+. The captured fish was



transported to the nearby artificial pond, managed by the Fishing society of Črnomelj, which is not a Natura 2000 site.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of August the efficiency of technique for capturing of the invasive species by electro fishing from a boat was tested by AB ZZRS.

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals in time.



#### **5.1.7.2. Action C.3.2 Removal of the invasive species from all three project oxbow lakes in the Mura Petišovci project area**

Mass entering of allochthonous species (such as Grass Carp, Sunfish and Pseudorasbora) caused a significant change in the oxbow lakes biocenosis. The negative impact can be observed for all autochthonous species (competition over food and habitat). The populations of invasive allochthonous fish species *Ctenopharyngodon idella*, *Micropterus salmoides* and *Pseudorasbora parva* will be fished out from the following oxbow lakes "Nagy parlag", "Muriša", and "Csiko Legelo". The fish-out will be done by The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia.

Cooperation between CB and local Fishing Society of Lendava was established. Subsequently a joined field visit to all three oxbows on Mura Petišovci pilot area was organized on the 5th of May 2011. Following project members participated: CB, AS ZZRS, AB IzVRS and local Fishing society of Lendava.



No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals in time.

#### **5.1.8. Action C.4: Prevention of the habitat destruction and disturbance of species**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: VI/2011-IV/2014.

Actual starting and expected end dates: July 2011- December 2014.

An increase interest in leisure activities in nature is directly destroying fen and bog habitats (Sphagnum spruce woods, active raised bogs, transition mires, alkaline fens, and natural dystrophic lakes and ponds) and are disturbing nesting, feeding and breeding of wild animals.

According to the project timetable this action was not due yet nevertheless some activities have already been carried out.

##### **5.1.8.1. Action C.4.1 Prevention of habitat destruction and disturbance of species in Pohorje bogs project area**

The mass-hiking and the presence of cyclists and motor vehicles in summer and in winter is damaging Pohorje bog habitats. In the Pohorje bogs project area ("Lovrenška barja", Ribniško barje" and "Črno jezero") the wooden foot-paths will be built in the total length of 750 m. A simple fence will be built in the most sensitive parts area (app. 200m) to prevent visitors from walking off the trail. In one end of the foot-path in

“Lovrenška barja”, the existing worn out watching tower will be renewed, to assure the safety of visitors.

According to the project schedule this action was not due yet nevertheless preparatory work has been done: CB (ZRSVN), AB (ZGS) and a structural engineer jointly visited the site (7<sup>th</sup> of September 2011) in order to prepare detailed plan for the construction of the foot-paths and renewal of the watching tower. The detailed construction plan of foot-paths and watching tower was prepared and a simple step by step work plan for the construction work is in preparation. The exact quantity of needed wood was calculated by the AB (ZGS).

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.8.2. Action C.4.2 Prevention of habitat destruction on Zelenci project area**

Action not due.

#### **5.1.8.3. Action C.4.3 Visitors' surveillance on the Pohorje bogs project area**

Currently we do not have any data on number of visitors per site (Pohorje bogs, namely »Lovrenška barja« bogs, »Ribniško barje« bogs and »Črno jezero« bogs) or their seasonal fluctuation. These data are needed with the aim to establish visitors' controls over targeted Pohorje bogs project area. Three visitor counters in Lovrenška barja, Ribniško barje and Črno jezero were planned to be placed at visitors' main entrances. Counters (Passive Infra-Red (PIR) body-heat sensors) will count the number of visitors 24 hours per day. Data will be analysed / processed with EcoPC and Numero software.

According to the project schedule this action is not planned to start yet nevertheless the potential supplier for the Passive Infra-Red (PIR) body-heat sensors were identified by the internet and offers obtained. The supplier was chosen (ExseGesIS, UK). The sensors and associated software were ordered and installed at visitors main entrances at “Lovrenška barja» bogs, »Ribniško barje« bogs and »Črno jezero« bogs (installation carried out from 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> of September).



No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.9. Action C.5 Incorporation of the “Conservation guidelines” for the project area management into the sectoral management plans**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: III/2012-I/2015.

Expected starting and end dates: September 2012 - January 2015.

Action not due.

#### **5.1.10. Action D.1 National and local authority education project**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: IV/2011-IV/2014.

Actual starting and expected end dates: June 2011 - December 2014.



A lack of appropriate management of wetland in the past led to wetland loss and degradation. Local foresters, farming advisors, local fisheries experts, environment inspectors as well as Slovene Police have the potential to be very influential in informing and convincing farmers, forest owners, fishermen and local community about the importance of the wetland habitats and species and in addition present suitable management practices.

The aim is to educate District foresters, Farming advisory services, Slovene Police, Nature environment Inspectors and members of fishing clubs about the importance of wetlands, Natura 2000 network, its habitats and species, their requirements and conservation measures as well as appropriate management of the area for the maintenance of favourable conservation status of species and habitats. This action includes 11 workshops with targeted groups. Additional 7 meetings with mayors and municipalities' councils will be organized to present up to date project activities to them, and to attain their support for our endeavours.

According to the project schedule this action was not due yet nevertheless one meeting was organized between the mayor of Črnomelj and CB on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2011. The cooperation on the project was initiated and the mayor then attended the Fishing competition "Wels Catfish in the Hrast" in the pilot area Gornji kal on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2011.

All the needed information was prepared and gathered for all 6 pilot sites with the aim of the preparation of the project WETMAN communication plan.

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.11. Action D.2 General public and local community awareness campaign**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-I/2015.

Actual starting and expected end dates: February 2011- January 2015.

The general public and other interested parties, namely farmers and land owners are not sufficiently educated about the importance of wetlands and its' "species' and habitats' as well as the appropriate management of wetlands for the assurance of the favourable conservation. The aim is to raise the awareness the targeted audience status of targeted wetland habitat and species. Following events will be prepared: 4 lectures for local farmers and foresters, 3 press conferences, 19 articles in national and local newspapers, 20 internet articles, 10 radio broadcasts, 12 lectures for the general public and other interested groups, 12 lectures for elementary school children, The project and the Natura 2000 network will be presented on the Nature and health fair (two times) in Ljubljana.

List of articles, radio and TV broadcasts is annexed (Annex 7.11.1). Totally: 12 printed articles, 5 TV and radio broadcasts and 66 internet articles were published.

Following events were organized for the general public:

- On the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2011 a Joint press conference of the ZRSVN, ZGS, Ministry of environment and spatial planning (MOP) as well as Ministry of Agriculture, forestry and food (MKGP) was organised on the International Wetland day. Invited speakers



were: Gordana Beltram (representative of the Ramsar convention), Barbara Avčin Tržan (MOP), Robert Režonja (MKGP), Darij Krajčič (ZRSVN), Jošt Jakša (ZGS) and Nika Debeljak Šabec (ZRSVN). Nika Debeljak Šabec presented the project WETMAN and the LIFE+ financial mechanism.

- 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2011: Project WETMAN was presented on the Press conference of the project NATREGs (Title: Managing natural assets and protected areas as sustainable regional development opportunities) Regional workshop. Project NATREG is financed from the Transnational cooperation, Southeast Europe programme. Slovenian pilot area in the project NATREG is Pohorje. During the 2 years of the project activities in the pilot area Pohorje the project gained a very good support from the local community and stakeholders. This was the opportunity to reach the local communities for Pohorje pilot area since a good cooperation was established in the project NATREG. The speakers at the press conference were: Mag. Boris Podvršnik, mayor of the Municipality Zreče; Damjan Pintar, executive director Unior d.d. Program Turizm; Dr. Darij Krajčič, director ZRSVN; Gregor Danev, ZRSVN NATREG project coordinator; Dr. Nika Debeljak Šabec, ZRSVN WETMAN project coordinator.



- 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, Nova Gorica: Ministry of environment and spatial planning organised an event: Signing of the Letter of Intent for the nomination of the Soča river day. Invited speakers were: dr. Roko Žarnić, minister; dr. Darij Krajčič, director ZRSVN; Matej Arčon, in the name of all the mayors; Barbara Avčin Tržan, general director of the Environment directorate, Ministry of environment and spatial planning, dr. Mitja Bricelj and dr. Irena Rejec Brancelj, Environment directorate, Division of waters and all the representative of project currently running in Slovenia connected to waters. Nika Debeljak Šabec was invited to present the project WETMAN and the LIFE+ mechanism.



- 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011, Kranjska Gora: The initial press conference presenting project WETMAN its activities and pilot as well as LIFE+ mechanism was organized by CB in Kranjska Gora on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March. The speakers were: mag. Julijana Lebez Lozej (Ministry of environment and spatial planning), dr. Darij Krajčič director ZRSVN, Jure Žerjav mayor of the Municipality Kranjska Gora and dr. Nika Debeljak Šabec ZRSVN WETMAN project coordinator. The press conference was attended by representative of Astrale monitoring team Mr. Michele Lischi.



- 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2011, Hrast: Project WETMAN was presented to the local community at Gornji kal pilot area. Project aim, its activities and LIFE+ mechanism were presented in detail to the local community. In addition information were gathered regarding the history of the ponds (when were they constructed and how, what was their original size).



- 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2011, Ljubljana: Presentation of the LIFE + mechanism and the project WETMAN on the official visit of the representatives of various nature conservation organisation / agencies from Bosnia and Herzegovina to ZRSVN, Slovenia.



- 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> of May, Ljubljana, 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2011, Maribor (The Green week): CB joint the Green week event of the EC representatives in Slovenia. The project WETMAN, LIFE+ and Natura 2000 were promoted on the stands in Ljubljana and Maribor.



- 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, Ljubljana: Project WETMAN and LIFE+ was promoted at the 6<sup>th</sup> DM run for women, where 11 women employees of the ZRSVN actively joined the run. Approximately 9000 women participated in “The run for better life”.



- 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2011: Project WETMAN and LIFE + mechanism were promoted on project NATREGs (Territorial cooperation, Southeast Europe programme) final conference held in Novi Sad, Serbia. The conference was attended by representatives’ of all international project partners, European Commission, national authorities of Slovenia and Serbia (121 attendees). The conference was officially opened by Marta Takač, director of PE Vojvodinašume; Serbia: the opening day, was attended by important guests: Minister of Republic of Slovenia for Environment and Spatial Planning Roko Žarnić;; Serbian Minister of Environment, Mining and Spatial Planning Oliver Dulić; Vice-President of the Executive Council of Autonomous Province of Vojvodina Istvan Pastor; director of The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation Darij Krajčič, PhD., and Head of the Project Development and Management Unit of the Joint Technical Secretariat of the South East Europe (JTS) Ivan Curzolo. The pilot area on the project NATREG in Slovenia is Pohorje, so the WETMAN will carry on the activities started in NATREG, as well as the targeted groups are the same. (The expenses will not be charged to WETMAN.)



- 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, Rateče: LIFE+, the project WETMAN and planned activities on pilot area Zelenci were presented to general public and landowners. The event was organised in collaboration of ZRSVN, local community Rateče and Tourist office Rateče.



- 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2011, Maribor: Project WETMAN and LIFE + were promoted on project NATREGs (Territorial cooperation, Southeast Europe programme) final conference in Slovenia, held in Maribor,





Slovenia. The meeting was attended by representatives of Municipalities and local communities (51 attendees) of the Pilot area Pohorje. Project NATREGs pilot area in Slovenia is Pohorje, so the targeted groups are the same.

- 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2011, Muriša: The project WETMAN and LIFE+ were promoted at the International meeting of Balkan odonatologists which was held on WETMANs Mura Petišovci pilot area. The meeting was attended by 17 odonatologists from Slovenia and SEE Europe.



- 6<sup>th</sup> of August, Hrast: The fishing competition was organized by CB, in cooperation with the Fishing club Črnomelj. The project WETMAN, its activities in Gornji kal pilot area (removal of the invasive species from the pond Hrast) and financial mechanism LIFE+ were presented to the target groups (local fisherman and local community Hrast). 56 people attended the event (among others: Director ZRSVN, mayor of Municipality Črnomelj, head of the local community Hrast; the president of the local Fishing club Črnomelj, etc.).



Currently organization of the activities at the Nature and health fair in Ljubljana (6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> of October 2011) are underway. The project WETMAN, LIFE+ mechanism, wetland and the Natura 2000 network will be presented on the event.

Events for school children:

- Collaborations were established between CB (ZRSVN) and biology teachers of the following primary and high schools:
  - pilot area Zelenci: Primary school of Kranjska Gora
  - Pilot area Mura Petišovci: Primary school of Lendava
  - Pilot area Gornji kal: Primary school Vinica and Dragatuš as well as High school for agriculture and biotechnical sciences, Novo mesto.

Following event was organized:

- On the 5th of September 2011 day youth camp of the Primary school Lendava was organized on the Muriša oxbow - pilot area Mura Petišovci. Representative of the CB presented the importance of wetlands and their conservation as well as project WETMAN; Natura 2000 network and financial mechanism LIFE+. We invited Branko Bakan, Ph.D., from University of Maribor to present plants of the area and Alijana Pivko Knežević from the Slovenian odonatological society to present dragonflies of the area.



Camera with the HD camcorder was bought.

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.12. Action D.3 promotional material**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-I/2015.

Actual starting and expected end dates: February 2011 – January 2015.

The aim of the action is to help promote the project its activities and goals.

Following project proportion materials are foreseen:

- One project info-sheet (Slovenian language (2000 copies), English, German and Hungarian version only in PDF,
- One project brochure on eight pages (Slovenian language (3000 copies) and English (1000 copies), German (500 copies) and Hungarian (500 copies),
- 4 leaflets, describing project areas, each on four pages (Slovenian language (1000 copies), English (500 copies); German and Hungarian version only in PDF
- 5 different promotion posters printed in 500 copies each,
- 8 different postcards (30.000 all together),
- 3 different T-shirts (300 pieces each, 900 together),
- A promotion folder and a paper bags (1000 pieces each, 2000 together),
- hats, umbrellas, calendars (900 pieces together)
- 2 transportable promotional banners.

Following promotional material were produced till now (Annex 7.10):

- 4 transportable banners (one for central unit coordination (covering all pilot sites) and an additional one for each of the Regional units of ZRSVN namely: RU Maribor covering pilot areas Pohorje, Vrhe and Mura Petišovci; RU Kranj covering pilot areas Zelenci and Planik and RU Novo mesto covering pilot area Gornji kal) were produced.
- One project info-sheet (Slovenian language (2000 copies), English, German and Hungarian version in PDF only.
- 2 different T-shirts, hats, umbrellas, drinking bottles, reflective pendant, safety fireflies, balloons
- USB sticks were purchased (50 pieces) with the logos of LIFE+, Natura 2000 and WETMAN. Documents presented at the project kick off meeting were loaded onto the USB stick. The sticks were then distributed among partners at the event. In addition it will be used for transport of different documents among project partners and as a general promotional material
- A promotion folder and a paper bags (1000 pieces each, 2000 together).

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.13. Action D.4 Information and notice boards**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: III/2011-II/2012, III/2113 – III/2014.

Actual starting and expected end dates: June 2011- September 2014.

This action will contribute to our efforts to educate the general public (visitors, locals...) about the importance of the project areas, targeted animal and plant species of Community importance as well as, project action and goals. Boards will also promote Natura 2000 and

indicate the EC financial support as required. They will also facilitate the implementation of the project. Action foresees following board: Complex info boards: Pohorje bogs (2), Zelenci (3), Planik (1), Gornji kal (1), Mura Petišovci (3); small info/notice boards: Zelenci (3), Gornji kal (2), in addition wooden garbage baskets (Zelenci (10), Gornji kal (3)), and benches will be constructed (Zelenci (10), Gornji kal (3));

According to the project schedule this action was not due yet but 10 notice boards announcing LIFE+ project WETMAN at all project partners' locations have been placed.



No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.14. Action D.5 The project's web page and project graphical identity**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-I/2015.

Actual starting and expected end dates: February 2011 - January 2015.

A vital part of the project's publicity is regularly updated web page. The project's graphic identity will serve to uniform all project promotion material, and to help the project to be easily recognized among public.

- Project graphic identity was produced together with promotional pictures which will be used for different promotional purpose (refer attachment 7.10). Project graphic identity guide and all project templates have been prepared and disseminated among project beneficiaries.



- The project webpage ([www.wetman.si](http://www.wetman.si)) is accessible over the internet. It will be updated regularly.

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.15. Action D.6 Project documentary and 3 TV spots**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: III/2011-II/2013.

Actual starting and expected end dates: April 2011- July 2013.

There are currently no available educational materials targeting conservation of freshwater wetlands habitats and species of Community importance in Slovenia. This action is needed to inform the national, local as well as general public about the importance of wetlands, its habitats and species as well as to promote Natura 2000 network. The educational program group on the RTV (the Slovene national TV) will prepare and broadcast 25-30 minutes long documentary and 3 (3-5 minutes long) TV spots.

15<sup>th</sup> of April 2011, Ljubljana: A (brainstorming) workshop was organised by ZRSVN. The aim of the documentary, detailed contents, targeted audience;



specific areas to be presented were identified. In addition the message of the three short spots was identified. The workshop included project personnel from CB, different B, external (not project) representatives from Regional Units from ZRSVN, Ramsar convention and local tourist organisation.

Slovenian Radio and television crew was present at the event of the Fishing even at Hrast. The pilot area (current status, its problems and the fishing competition was shot).



No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.16. Action D.7 Laymans report**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: IV/2014 - IV/2014.

Actual starting and expected end dates: October 2014 - December 2014

Action not due.

#### **5.1.17. Action E.1 Project co-ordination and management**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011 - I/2015.

Actual starting and expected end dates: February 2011 - January 2015.

The project co-ordination activities are necessary to ensure prompt and good implementation of the project objectives.

Project coordinator and project head of administration were employed by the CB. In addition CB (ZRSVN) nominated 4 local coordinators, a scientific and a financial coordinator. Steering and Quality boards were nominated and will meet in November 2011.

All associated beneficiaries provided the project coordinator letters of the nomination of the project staff. Subsequently CB organised six meetings with each AB separately where details of AB responsibilities were discussed. In addition initial support was provided to the partners (their financial personnel) to clarify any uncertainties about the financial reporting.

- 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> of March, Kranjska Gora: A project WETMAN kick of conference was organised. The project partnership was established as well as Project steering comity and Quality board were nominated (refer to chapter 4.1, page 9).

- 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2011, Kranjska Gora; Internal meeting of the ZRSVN project co-workers was organised in Kranjska Gora. Detailed instructions were given on how to fill timesheets, activity reports, report on the events, travel reports and other internal ZRSVN rules.



- 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2011, Ljubljana: A coordination meeting was held between CB and AB IzVRS. Planned activities of AC IzVRS were reviewed and hydrological works discussed.



- 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, Vodice: A project internal CB coordination meeting was held. Participants: project local coordinators, financial manager, scientific coordinator, PR personnel, other participants covering specific expertise (responsible for initial surveys, site management) and project coordinator were present. We went through all the activities that have been carried out till now in all pilot sites and planned future activities for the summer and autumn 2011.



- 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2011, Šumik, Pohorje: For the better coordination among employees of the ZGS an internal coordination meeting of the ZGS WETMAN project team was organized. The growth removal activities and other activities where the ZGS will be actively involved were planned and discussed in detail. Project coordinator and project local coordinators were also present on the meeting.



-CB organized joint (CB and Abs) six field visit of pilot area where activities were discussed and planned in detail.

- Durable goods of the CB (field car, computers with software, ArcGIS licences, a photocopier, cameras, GPSs, binoculars) were ordered and purchased following the public procurement rules (costs under different actions).

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### **5.1.18. Action E.2 Project monitoring and evaluation**

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2011-I/2012, II/2013 – IV/2014.

Actual starting and expected end dates: February 2011- October 2011, April 2013 – December 2014

In order to be able to evaluate the effects the project actions a project monitoring will be carried out. Since limited or no scientific data are currently available on status of habitat types and species of Community interest on chosen project pilot areas initial surveys of fauna, flora and habitat types will be carried out.

CB and ABs first review existing documentation and prepared information documents and maps (1:5000) needed for the initial surveys. The CB then prepared an open Public tenders covering initial surveys of pilot areas and monitoring of the effect of the project actions (separately covering following groups: Amphibians, Aves, *Emys orbicularis*, Odonata and Habitat types and *Liparis loeselii*) (refer to Annex 7.7). The tender was closed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2011. Offers were reviewed and best offers chosen. Different external subcontractors were contracted (refer to Annex 7.7):

- Contract for Amphibians signed with the Center za kartografijo favne in flore on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2011.
- Contract for Aves signed with the Društvo za opazovanje in proučevanje ptic Slovenije on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2011.

- Contract for *Emys orbicularis* signed with Center za kartografijo favne in flore were signed on the 29th of March 2011.
- Contract for Odonata signed with Pronatura, Matjaž Bedjanič s.p. on the 29th of March 2011.
- Contract for habitat types of alpine raised bogs on Pohorje pilot area was signed by Univerza v Mariboru, Fakulteta za naravoslovje in matematiko on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2011.
- Contract for habitat types oxbows lakes of Mura pilot area signed by Univerza v Mariboru, Fakulteta za naravoslovje in matematiko on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2011.
- Contract for habitat types of transition mires, fens and wet grasslands including survey of *Liparis loeselii* on project pilot areas Zelenci, Vrhe and Planik were signed with the Znanstveno raziskovalni center Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2011.

Subsequently representatives of CB organized joint visit with subcontractors to the pilot sites in order to clarify the subcontracted work. Subsequently the CB occasionally joined the subcontractors at their field work.



All subcontractors already produced first reports (Report of the initial survey of the pilot area; refer to annex 7.8).

- CB prepared "Guidelines for the preparation of the Reports of the initial status of the Pilot areas" (refer to Annex 7.9), which will cover status of the area, history, land ownership, current management, existing management plans of different sectors and biology of species and habitat types of the pilot area as well as their ecological requirements and nature conservation objectives. The document will join data gathered by Initial surveys' of the external subcontractor report. An initial workshop was organised on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September where the "Guidelines" were presented to the local coordinators who will coordinate the preparation of the Reports of the initial status of the Pilot areas. Additional 6 workshops (one for each of the pilot sites) are planned for 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> of September, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2011 where the drafts of the Reports of the initial status of the Pilot Areas will be reviewed and discussed. Additional workshops are planned for October/November 2011 where details of the Reports of the initial status of the Pilot areas will be discussed together with external subcontractors for the initial surveys' of the pilot areas. In addition activities planned in the project proposal will be re-examined and exact locations and time plan of action set.

By the end of October 2011 the activities covering the Survey of initial status of the pilot areas will be completed.

No evident problems were identified till now and we plan to achieve the set goals.

#### 5.1.19. Action E.3 Revision of the "Conservation guidelines"

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: III/2014-IV/2014.

Planned starting and expected end dates: July 2014 - December 2014.

Action not due.

#### 5.1.20. Action E.4 Audit

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: IV-IV/2012 and I-I/2015.

Planned starting and expected end dates: October – December 2012; January – March 2015

Action not due.

#### 5.1.21. Action E.5 After LIFE conservation plan

Planned duration of the action in the proposal: I/2014-IV/2014.

Actual starting and expected end dates: January 2014 - December 2014

Action not due.

### 5.2. Availability of appropriate licences and authorisations

Refer to 5.1.2.

### 5.3. Envisaged progress until next report

Action	2011				2012				2013				2014				2015	
Number/name	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
<b>A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or action plans :</b>																		
A1-Elaboration of CG	x	x	x	x	x	x	x											
			✓	o	o	o	o											
A2-Permit procedure	x	x	x	x	x													
	✓	✓	✓	o	o													
A3-Car purchase	x	x	x	x														
		✓																
<b>B. Purchase/lease of land and/or rights :</b>																		
B1-Land purchase	x	x	x	x	x	x												
	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o												
<b>C. Concrete conservation actions :</b>																		
C1-Hydrology				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
				+	+	+	+	+										
C2-Overgrowth					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
					+	+	+	+										
C3-Invasive species					x	x	x	x	x	x	x							
			✓	o	o	o	o	o										
C4-Habitat protection				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
			✓	o	o	o	o	o										
C5-CG into plans							x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
							+	+										



Action	2011				2012				2013				2014				2015	
Number/name	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
D1-N&L authority AC				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
			✓	o	o	o	o	o										
D2-GP AC	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	o	o										
D3-Promotional material	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x
	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	o	o										
D4-Boards			x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x				
		✓	✓	o	o	o												
D5-Project www	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	o	o										
D6-TV material			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x								
		✓	✓	o	o	o	o	o										
D7-Layman's report																	x	
<b>E. Overall project operation and monitoring:</b>																		
E1-Project management	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	o	o										
E2-Project evaluation	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	✓	✓	✓	o														
E3-CG revision																x	x	
E4-Audit								x										x
								+										
E5-After LIFE														x	x	x	x	

CG - "Conservation guidelines"

N&L authority AC - National and local authority awareness campaign

GP AC - General public awareness campaign

✓ – completed till now

o – in progress

+

## 6. Financial part

### 6.1. Putting in place of the accounting system

At the beginning of the project in February 2011 the coordinating beneficiary has set up the financial management scheme of the project. Partners are made responsible for their budget with the ABs' agreements and regular reporting (financial as well as reporting of the activities) to the project coordinator was established by the coordinating beneficiary. According to their budget all ABs receive a share of the overheads. ABs regularly submit time sheets, expenditure

reports and copies of all receipts/invoices that are all labeled with the project number. At the end of each financial reporting joint project expenditure is calculated. Each AB has established separate cost sheet in their accounting system (refer to Annex 7.11.3 - for CBs Brutto balance sheet since the beginning of the project).

## 6.2. Continued availability of co financing

Co-financing to the project implementation is provided by following institutions:

- Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, in sum of 563.095 €. The co-financing agreement no. 2511-11-250028 has been signed on 26/09/2011.
- Municipality Slovenjska Bistrica in sum of 3000 €.
- Municipality Slovenj Gradec in sum of 2.500 €.
- Municipality Lovrenc na Pohorju in sum of 2.000 €.
- Municipality Maribor in sum of 4.000 €.
- Municipality Zreče in sum of 4.000 €.
- Municipality Črnomelj in sum of 12.000 €.

Co-financing contracts with all municipalities are in the process of being signed. Slovenia currently had supplementation of State budget; subsequently Municipalities were not in the condition to sign the contracts. All municipalities are aware of their involvement in the project and will sign the contract when possible. We see no problems with that since the Municipalities could only incorporate their co-financing costs in the financial budget of the Municipality for the year 2012, (the municipalities' budgets for the year 2011 were prepared before we were notified that the project WETMAN was confirmed). We plan to achieve the set goals.

## 6.3. Costs incurred

Budget breakdown categories	Total cost in €	Costs incurred from the start date to 20.09.2011 in €	% of total costs
<b>1. Personnel</b>	881.840,00 €	103.755,70 €	12%
<b>2. Travel and subsistence</b>	80.270,00 €	7.876,40 €	10%
<b>3. External assistance</b>	777.534,00 €	106.262,62 €	14%
<b>4. Durable goods</b>			
Infrastructure	90.000,00 €	- €	0%
Equipment	102.100,00 €	62.004,78 €	61%
Prototype	- €	- €	-
<b>5. Land purchase / long-term lease</b>	6.400,00 €	- €	0%
<b>6. Consumables</b>	35.390,00 €	9.863,18 €	28%
<b>7. Other Costs</b>	30.976,00 €	7.142,06 €	23%
<b>8. Overheads</b>	139.866,00 €	4.314,09 €	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	2.144.376,00 €	301.218,83** €	14%

Action number and name	Foreseen costs	Spent so far	Remaining	Projected final cost
A1-Elaboration of CG	121.972,00	24.157,42	97.814,58	121.972,00
A2-Permit procedure	25.680,00	649,81	25.030,19	25.680,00
A3-Car	24.500,00	20.690,22	3.809,78	24.500,00
B1-Land purchase	13.380,00	180,25	13.199,75	13.380,00
C1-Hydrology	575.132,00	19.665,17	555.466,83	575.132,00
C2-Overgrowth	152.910,00	316,72	152.593,28	152.910,00
C3-Invasive species	46.520,00	1.222,52	45.297,48	46.520,00
C4-Habitat protection	119.910,00	5.230,00	114.680,00	119.910,00
C5-CG into plans	45.080,00	0,00	45.080,00	45.080,00
D1-N&L authority AC	19.350,00	1.252,90	18.097,10	19.350,00
D2-GP AC	72.930,00	10.138,22	62.791,78	72.930,00
D3-Project promotion	65.486,00	14.545,87	50.940,13	65.486,00
D4-Boards	45.100,00	284,04	44.815,96	45.100,00
D5-Project www	14.000,00	5.862,42	8.137,58	14.000,00
D6-TV material	59.402,00	4.246,97	55.155,03	59.402,00
D7-Layman's report	4.300,00	0,00	4.300,00	4.300,00
E1-Project management	347.350,00	50.529,19	296.820,81	347.350,00
E2-Project evaluation	212.508,00	137.933,03	74.574,97	212.508,00
E3-CG revision	13.800,00	0,00	13.800,00	13.800,00
E4-Audit	25.200,00	0,00	25.200,00	25.200,00
E5-After LIFE	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.004.510,00</b>	<b>296.904,76**</b>	<b>1.707.605,24</b>	<b>2.004.510,00</b>

\*\*Difference in total is due to first table counts Overheads as well

## 7. Annexes

- 7.1 Partnership agreements
- 7.2 Table of Milestones
- 7.3 Table of Deliverables
- 7.4 Table of Timetables
- 7.5 “Management plan of the project WETMAN”
- 7.6 Public tender for the field car purchase
- 7.7 Public tender for the initial survey of the pilot areas and monitoring of the effect of the project actions
- 7.8 Reports of the initial surveys of the project areas
- 7.9 “Guidelines for the preparation of the Reports of the initial status of the Pilot areas”
- 7.10 Promotional materials
- 7.11 Other
  - 7.11.1 Articles, TV and radio broadcasts
  - 7.11.2 List of participants: Kick off meeting 30-31st of March 2011
  - 7.11.3 Brutto balance sheet for CB since the beginning of the project

