



Workshop:

**„Regional capacity building on compliance with
environmental legislation”**

Nature protection in Croatia

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EU

Hungary

Slovenia

Italy

Serbia

**Bosnia and
Herzegovina**

non EU

**Monte
Negro**



Nature Protection in Croatia

- Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection
- Directorate for nature protection – MA CITES (40)
- Direction for Inspectional Affairs – Sector Nature Protection Inspection (12+2+1)
- State Institute for Nature Protection – SA CITES (50)

Nature Protection Areas

- 8,19% protected areas
- 418 sites
- 2 Strict Reserve, 8 National Parks, 77 Special Reserve, 11 Nature Parks, Regional Parks, Nature Monuments, Significant Landscapes, Park Forests and Monuments of Park Architecture
- Ecological Network – 20%

Nature Protection Inspection- NPI

- Established in 1994, from 2000 as separate Department
- 12 inspectors (+2+1)
- 3 laws (NPA, GMO and Act on crossborder trade and trade in protected species)
- working according Annual plan, complaints and urgent calls

- on the border - custom officer, sanitary and veterinary inspector
- Police officer
- Coast guard - at the sea
- rangers



RIGHT , OBLIGATION, AUTHORISATION of NPI

Control of

- trading
- import, export and transport of protected natural assets
- breeding

Authorised to

- – temporarily **seize objects** with the use of which criminal act or misdemeanor was committed,
- movable protected natural asset and
- -prescribe depositing or keeping seized animal or plant

Sanction

- misdemeanour proposal, or issue a misdemeanour order
- submit criminal charge
- fine (penalty)

CITES

- since 2000 Member of CITES convention
- Act on crossborder trade and trade in protected species



ILLEGAL TRADE

- I. CASES 2002 – 2008**
- II. CASES 2009 - 2012**

CASES 2002-2008

- **152** cases
- **13.121** specimens of birds (12.757 dead and 374 live)
- **more than 100.000** specimens of data shell (*Lithophaga lithophaga*)
- **2** wolves (*Canis lupus*)
- **1076** specimens of reptile
- **86** specimens different shells and snails
- **60** butterflies
- Derivates, products

CASES in 2009.

Total: 69 cases

- Small singing birds (dead) - 312 spm - Skylark (*Anthus trivialis*); live 43 spm (*Carduelis carduelis*)
- Data shell (*Litophaga lithophaga*) -27.088 spm
- Tortoises (*Testudo hermanni*) – 7 spm
- Fan mussel (*Pinna nobilis*) – 102 spm
- Marine gastropod (*Tonna galea*) – 21 spm
- Lynx (*Lynx lynx*) - 1 spm
- Bears (*Ursus arctos*) – 2 spm

Cases in 2010.

- Total 48 cases
- Small singing birds (dead) - 927 (*Anthus trivialis*, *Alauda arvensis* - Tree pipit, Skylark); live 78 Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)
- Data shell (*Litophaga lithophaga*) -2938 spm
- Tortoises (*Testudo hermanni*) – 252 spm
- Marine gastropod (*Tonna galea*) – 1 spm
- Fan mussel (*Pinna nobilis*) - 16 spm
- Otter (*Lutra lutra*) - 3 spm
- Wolf (*Canis lupus*) - 2 spm

Cases in 2011.

Total: 82 cases

- Small singing birds (dead) 256; 3 spm buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) and 61 live spm Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)
- Data shell (*Litophaga lithophaga*) -701 spm
- Tortoises (*Testudo hermanni*) -73 spm
- Fan shells (*Pinna nobilis*) – 63 spm
- River crabs (brown crabs) (*Astacus astacus*) **-157 spm**
- Wolf (*Canis lupus*) 1 spm

Cases in 2012.

Total: 51 cases

- birds (dead) 1883 and 123 live - Small singing birds 84 spm; *Pycnonotus xanthopygos* 2 spm, 2 birds of prey (*Falco peregrinus/rusticolus/cherrug*, *Falco rusticolus* hyb.)
- Data shell (*Litophaga lithophaga*) - 69 spm; Fan shell (*Pinna nobilis*) – 6 spm
- Tortoises (*T. hermanni*) -74 live spm
- Ivory - 2 whole tusks
- Caviar - 0,5 kg (*Acipenser baeri*)
- Snakes – 5 dead an 2 live (*Phyton regius* and *Vipera ammodytes*)
- Insects 571 dead spm and 1 live (*Mantis religiosa*)
- Plants 1467 spm (1388 *Cactacea* spp., 41 *Aloe* spp, 30 *Orchidaceae* spp., 6 *Pachypodium* spp)

Cases in 2013.

Total: 20

- Small singing birds 98 live spm; (72 live spm Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*))
- Tortoises (*Testudo hermanni*) - 227 spm
- *Caretta caretta* 1 spm
- Snake 1 spm (*Vipera amodytes*)
- Hippocampus sp. 38 spm
- Shells (*Pinna nobilis*) – 2 spm
- Wolf (*Canis lupus*) 1 spm
- Insects 37 spm
- Private collection of stuffed animals 109 spm (mammals and birds)

Cases in 2014.

- *Caretta caretta* 3 spm
- *Chelonidae* 2 spm
- *Pinna nobilis* 1 spm
- *Crocodylia* 1 spm



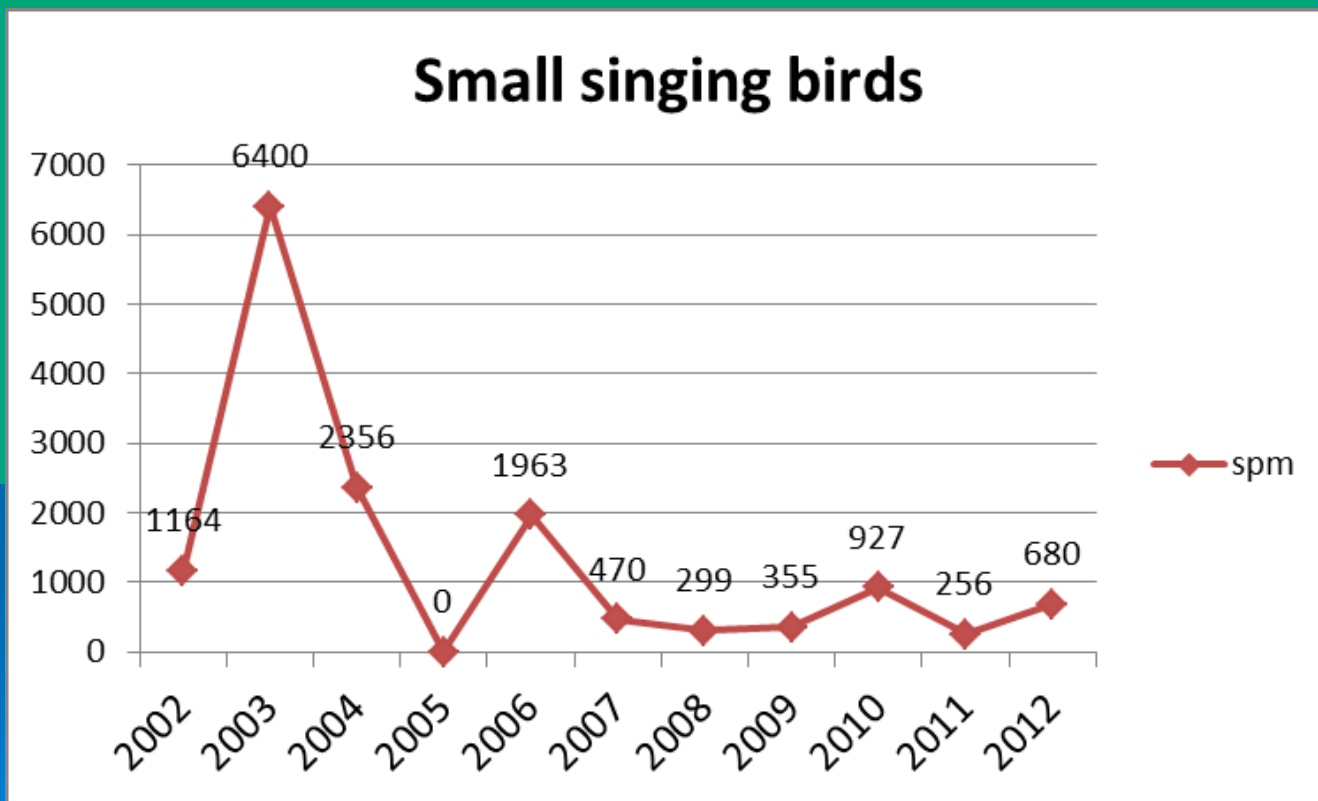
Statistics -analyse of „hot” species

The most endangered- native species

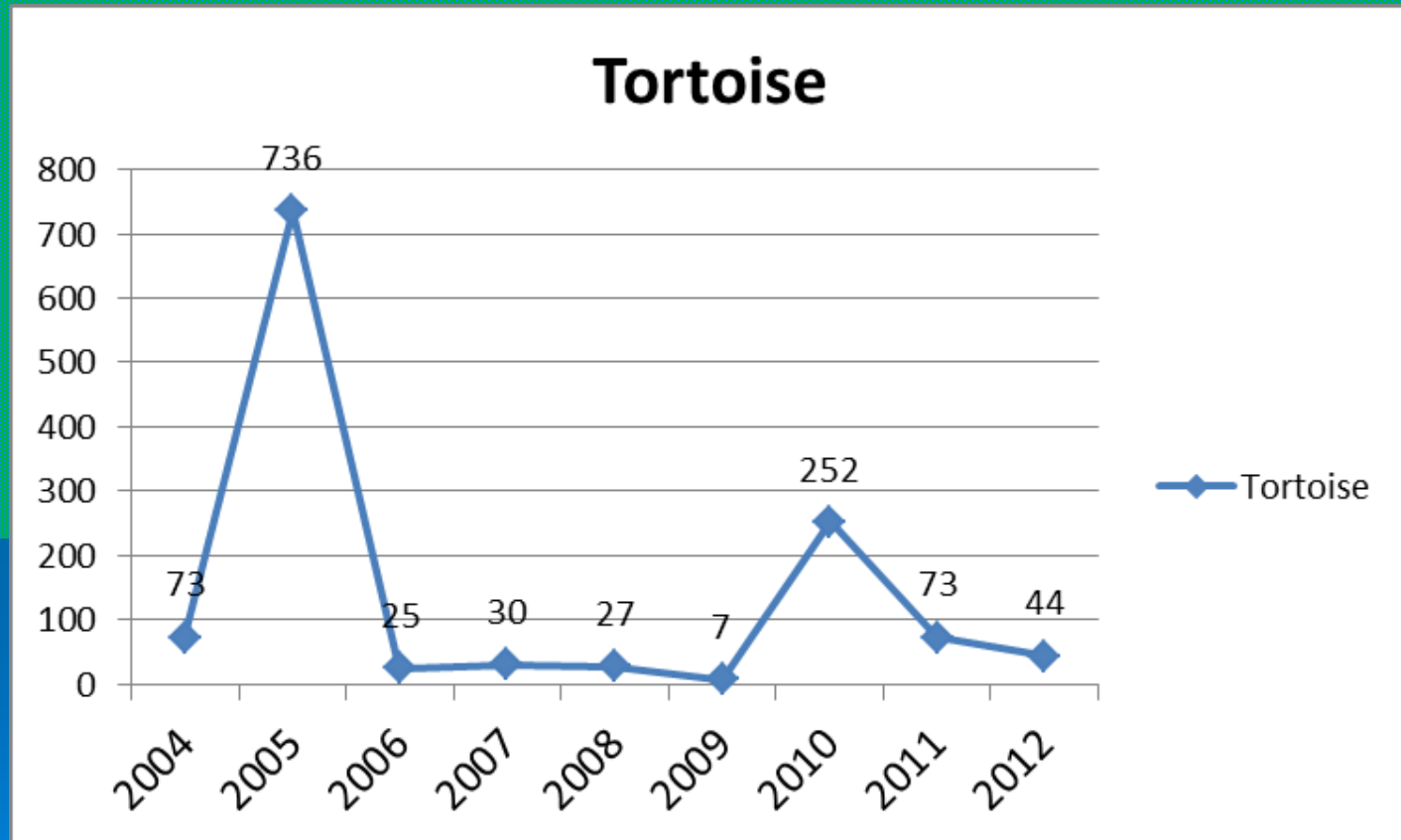
- Small singing birds
- Tortoises
- Data shell (*Lithophaga lithophaga*)
- Big predators



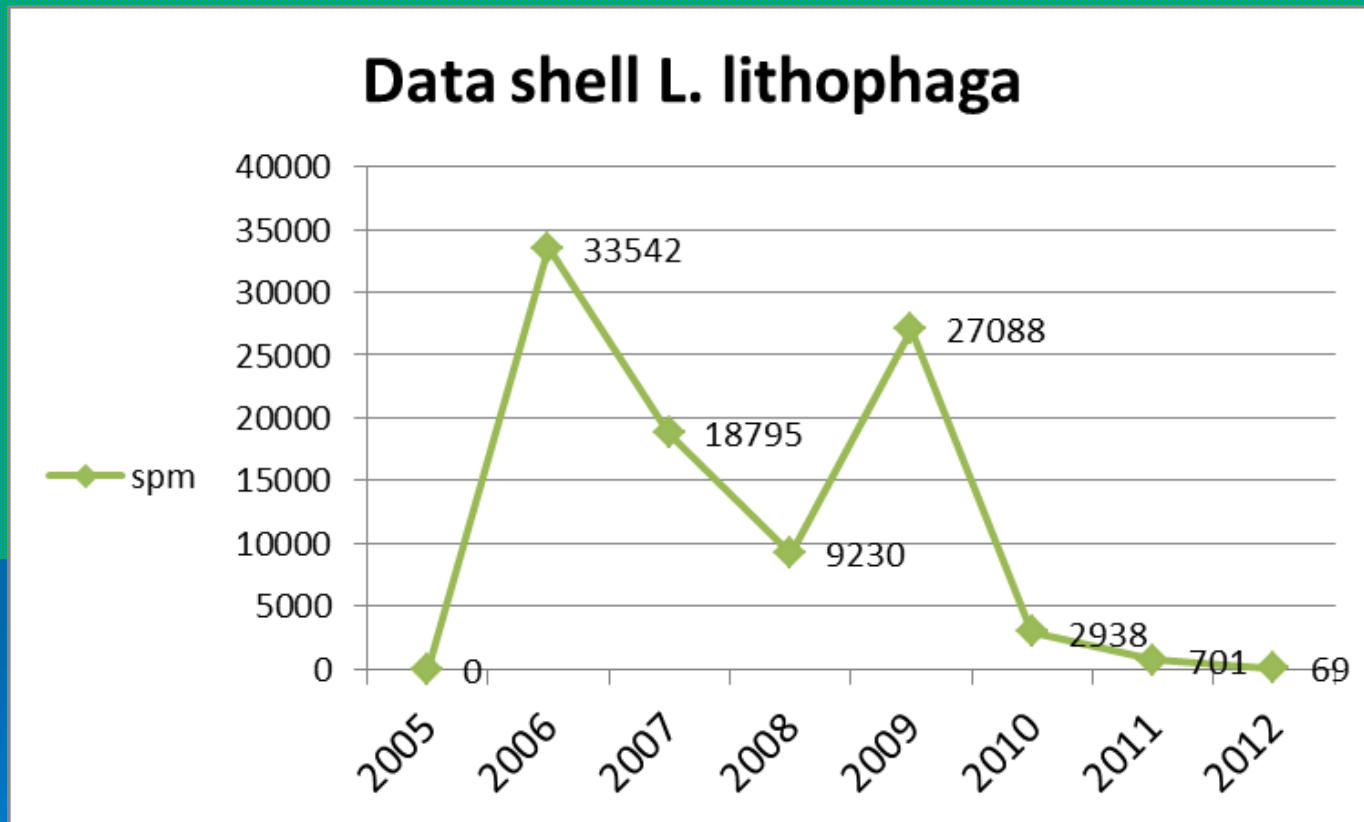
Illegal trade with small singing birds (2009-2012)



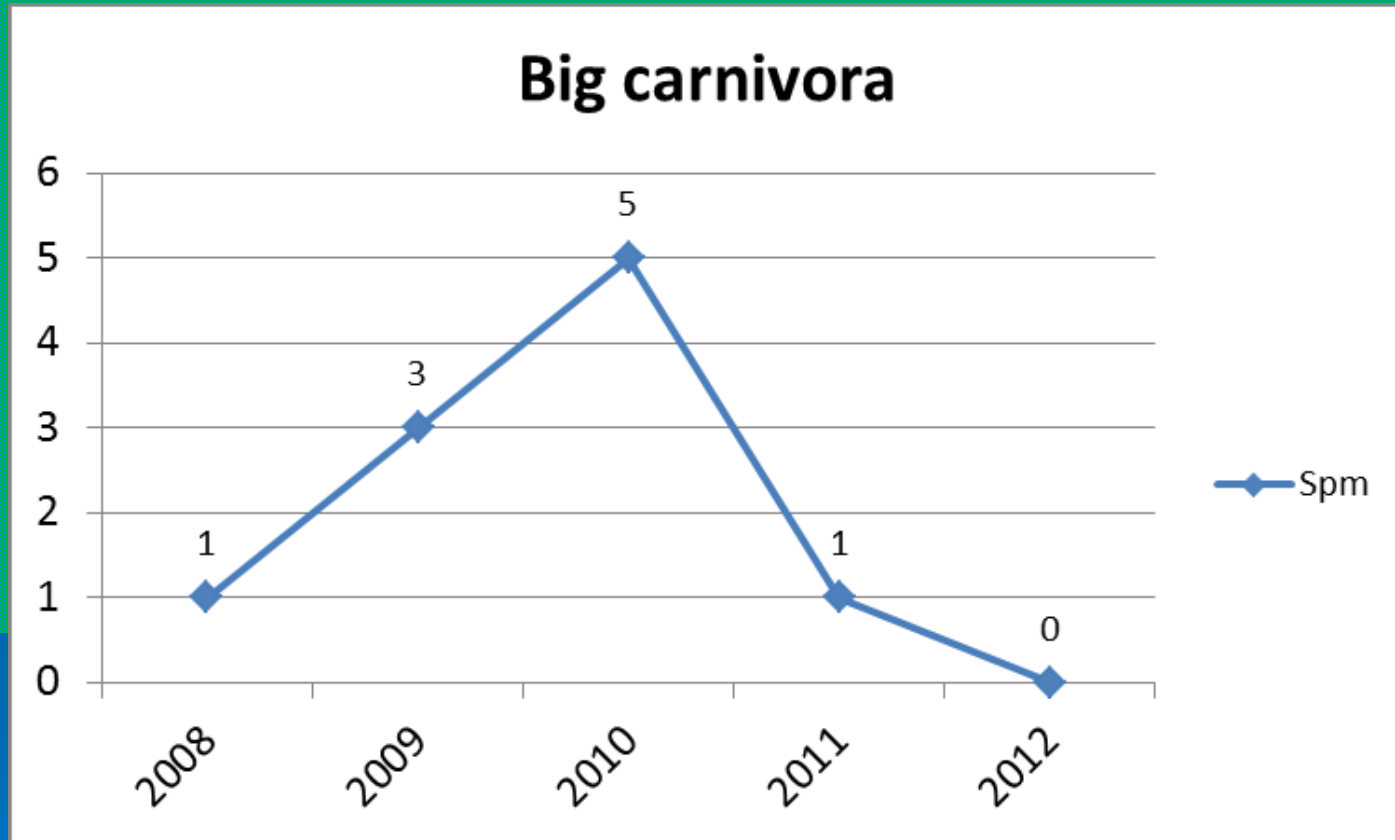
Illegal trade with tortoises (2004-2012)



Illegal trade with *L. lithophaga* (2005 -2012)



Illegal trade with big predators (2008 -2012)



RESCUE CENTERS

- 5 RESCUE CENTERS
- AWAP and Ruščica – all species
- Grifon and Sokolarski Centar birds of prey
- MOC – sea turtles



Educations

- TAIEX workshops
- CITES workshops



Problems – species

- Croatia – transit country
- Slight decreasing smuggling of birds -increasing smuggling of reptiles, and some „new” species
- Tourists – new threats (picking and collecting different things for souvenir)
- Scientific research- collecting and smuggling
- Cooperation with non EU countries (BiH!)

Problems

- Car availability
- Information
- Procedure on courts
- Working time
- Transportation of live animals to rescue center
- Colaborations with Hrvatske vode, Hrvatske šume, other Ministry (inspection)



Thank you for your attention!

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Thank you !

