

Online
15 November 2021

5th Natura 2000 monitoring workshop — Part 1 (virtual)

Effects of observer variation on field monitoring data and integrating
new technologies for monitoring in Natura 2000 site management

PROGRAMME



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Programme

Practical information

Registration

[You can register for the workshop here](#)

The workshop will illustrate which aspects of our traditional methods of data collection provide the most reliable data and which can be improved by integrating new technologies. Speakers will demonstrate how we can complement traditional field data with data from new technologies and Earth observation and provide timely feedback into the management of Natura 2000 sites. Furthermore, the workshop will explore the potential for incorporating a) satellite data, e.g. from Sentinels 1 and 2 and from higher resolution platforms such as RapidEye, and b) drone data, including LiDAR, hyperspectral and multispectral data. We will also look at the potential advantages of using phone apps to augment field data collection and aid the interpretation of remote images.

Eurosité Remote Sensing Support Group (RSSG)

The use of remote sensing techniques and spatial analysis tools are among the fastest growing fields in nature conservation planning and management. Access to free high-quality spatial data is improving day by day (e.g. thanks to the EU Copernicus earth observation and monitoring programme). Moreover, the availability of low-price and easy-to-use mapping equipment and open source software makes it possible to implement new technologies in biodiversity conservation on every level, including for managers of high value nature conservation areas. The RSSG focuses on developing innovative, open tools, supporting open access to biodiversity spatial data.



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Programme

Monday 15 November

- 11:00 Introduction to the event
Clive Hurford, Chairman of the Remote Sensing Support Group
- 11:05 Welcome speech
Aljoša Duplić, Institute for Environment and Nature, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development
- 11:10 Introduction to the second part of the workshop in Croatia, 2022
Marina Škunca, Geonatura Ltd.
- 11:20 Use of satellite imagery to monitor grassland habitats in the EU - challenges
Bruno Combal, Directorate-General for the Environment, European Commission
- 11:35 Natura 2000 monitoring and remote sensing — challenges and opportunities
Wojciech Mróz, Eurosité - the European Land Conservation Network
- 11:40 Introduction to COP4N2K
Geoff Smith, Specto Natura Ltd. COP4N2K: Copernicus for Natura 2000
- 11:50 The impact of observer variation on vegetation monitoring and how to minimise it
Clive Hurford, Chairman of the Remote Sensing Support Group
- 12:10 Towards reliable vegetation monitoring using UAV: case study of the arctic-alpine tundra in the Krkonoše mountains
Lucie Kupková, Department of Applied Geoinformatics and Cartography at the Faculty of Science, Charles University
- 12:25 EarthTrack: recording environment descriptors and validating Earth Observation-derived products
Sebastien Chognard, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, Aberystwyth University
- 12:45 Discussion and summary (Q&A)
- 13:00 LUNCH BREAK
- 14:00 Conservation management needs help: let us send in the machines! - a multitemporal, multiscale analysis of biodiversity with remote sensing
José Manuel Álvarez-Martínez, Instituto de Hidráulica Ambiental 'IHCantabria'
- 14:20 Living Earth: An Open-Source Earth Observation driven system for landscape monitoring
Carole Planque & Suvarna Punalekar, Aberystwyth University
- 14:40 Drone technology and citizen science
Klaas Pauly, Remote Sensing Unit, Flemish Institute for Technological Research VITO
- 14:50 Remote sensing of plant invasions — from research to practice
Jana Müllerová, Department of GIS and Remote Sensing, Institute of Botany, The Czech Academy of Sciences
- 15:10 The application of drones for monitoring species populations
Ricardo Díaz-Delgado, Doñana Biological Station-CSIC & Clive Hurford, Chairman of the Remote Sensing Support Group
- 15:30 Discussion and Q&A
- 16:00 End of part 1, to be continued in 2022

Programme



[Eurosita - the European Land Conservation Network](#) - is a unique organisation. We provide networking, capacity building, training, information, advocacy, and awareness raising services for conservation practitioners all over Europe. Our members and partners are organisations and individuals working on and caring for land and nature conservation in governmental and civic society organisations, within and outside the EU. They work across a broad range of topics and geographic levels, but always with a keen interest in practical aspects of day-to-day natural site management, restoration and conservation as well as the implementation of nature conservation policies, both inside and outside protected areas.

[Geonatura Ltd.](#) is a consultancy in nature protection that was established in 2008 by a group of nature protection experts. The company's goal is to provide its clients with innovative and effective services in nature protection and preservation all over Croatia and its neighbouring countries. Today, with 20 employees, Geonatura gathers one of the largest teams of nature protection experts in Croatia which, accordingly, are its leading power. Their competence in different biological disciplines and perennial professional experience is complemented with expertise in geoinformatic tools (GIS) and other contemporary scientific methods such as remote sensing, telemetry, ecological modelling, and others. The company is structured around five groups: (1) terrestrial ecosystems research group; (2) freshwater ecosystems research group; (3) bird monitoring group; (4) bat monitoring group; and (5) large carnivores monitoring group; cooperating also with different associate experts by demand. Geonatura's services include, among others, biological inventory and biomonitoring, nature and environmental impact assessment, preparation of action and management plans, mapping and assessment of ecosystem services, as well as research associated with the use and management of natural resources, climate change adaptation and sustainable development. Furthermore, the company offers education and specialization to various stakeholders in nature protection, such as the public institutions and NGOs. Through its activities, Geonatura facilitates the cooperation between the science community and public, as well as private subjects, thus presenting an inevitable link between the state, the public and the private sector in nature protection projects and activities.



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