

Annual REPORT

Association Biom
Year 2024





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We are dedicated to the protection of wild birds, other species, and habitats, fighting against poaching and other threats to wildlife. We bring together nature enthusiasts, organize volunteer opportunities, and educate both young people and adults.

We are a professional, open, and innovative organization with a wide network of members, volunteers, and collaborators, contributing to biodiversity conservation and influencing behavioral changes in the public and relevant stakeholders in Croatia. As a BirdLife partner, we participate in shaping nature conservation policies at the international level and advocate for the improvement of the national legal framework and institutional capacities. In short, our mission is to conserve biodiversity for the benefit of nature and society.

Through its educational, advocacy, and conservation activities, Biom contributes to biodiversity and influences changes in the behavior of the public and relevant stakeholders in Croatia. As a Croatian BirdLife partner, it participates in the creation of nature protection policies at the international level.

We envision Croatia as a country rich in biodiversity, with successful ecosystems, wild species, and habitats where people value and enjoy nature, preserved through increased environmental responsibility and the engagement of the wider public, governments, civil society organizations, and the business sector.

Our goal is the conservation of nature, species, and habitats, with a particular focus on the protection of wild birds, as well as environmental protection and the sustainable use of natural resources.

The natural world around us is not indestructible, and it is our duty to preserve it for nature itself and the well-being of humanity. Everything we do at Biom is focused on the conservation of biodiversity, the richness of plant and animal species, and the habitats in which they live.

What MARKED the Year 2024?

Although active for only one summer, the "SUP Patrol" achieved outstanding results in the mission to protect the griffon vultures! By patrolling near the vulture colonies in the Kvarner region on a daily basis, they assisted the staff of the Visitor Center and the Griffon Vulture Rehabilitation Center "Beli" on the island of Cres in rescuing young vultures who, still inexperienced in flight and sometimes further disturbed by the noise of vessels, often fall into the sea and, if not rescued in time, drown. This year, five magnificent volunteers not only saved vultures but also worked hard to educate visitors and tourists on how to behave properly near the colonies, resulting in a record number of calls to the Center for help with griffon vultures and the highest number of birds rescued from drowning.

Bird Conservation Program

After three years of work on the restoration of ponds on Dinara, Biokovo, Northern Velebit, and Učka, nearly 40 ponds and wells have been restored. The restoration will continue through new projects starting in 2025. Additionally, our completed project Dinara back to LIFE enabled the recognition of problems and a change in the Forest Law, including deforestation as a necessary measure for the preservation of open habitats. *Habitat and Botany Program*

The Ministry of Environment and Green Transition has established a Commission for the development of the National Action Plan for Combating Illegal Actions Against Wildlife for the period 2025–2028. We are proud to highlight that our team is part of this significant commission. The plan is expected to be developed in the first quarter of 2025, and its adoption will mark a crucial step towards a systematic and comprehensive approach to combating crimes against nature. *Safe Flyways Program*

We are particularly proud of the newly formed group of young people within Biom, Primar! The Primar team successfully carried out their first project in partnership with young people from France, during which they monitored bird collisions with glass surfaces and held several educational sessions for students on this important topic. Additionally, through a creative workshop, they educated students about the challenges of implementing environmental law in Croatia. They supported us in

organizing interactive educational games for the public on the conservation of the griffon vulture. Primar also submitted a project where they will carry out educational activities for young people about the importance of wetland habitats. Through social media, they shared valuable information and tips for nature and bird conservation. With new, exciting, and creative ideas, they are entering the new year, and we can't wait to see what actions they are preparing! *Public Outreach Program*

Finally, after many years of effort towards controlling invasive species, the results are beginning to show. Biom is now one of the key players in invasive species control activities, currently focusing on managing the population of the small Indian mongoose on the islands in Mljet National Park. Regarding the Mediterranean monk seal, we have become a recognized actor in Croatia – citizens report sightings to us, and the media regularly contact us for statements. *Mamal Conservation Program*



● Bird Conservation ● Program

Our bird protection programme has had another successful and dynamic year filled with fieldwork, educational activities, and collaborations. We are especially proud of our volunteers whose contribution was an essential part of all our work – from monitoring nesting populations to being part of bird rescues. This year has once again confirmed that joint efforts are a key part of long-term nature conservation, and we strive to achieve that next year as well.

LIFE SUPport

The second year of the LIFE SUPport project brought a lot of news. The most important one being the increase in the griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) population and the spread of the nesting population to new areas. These are the best indicators that implementing various conservation methods, often in collaboration with other sectors, gives concrete results.

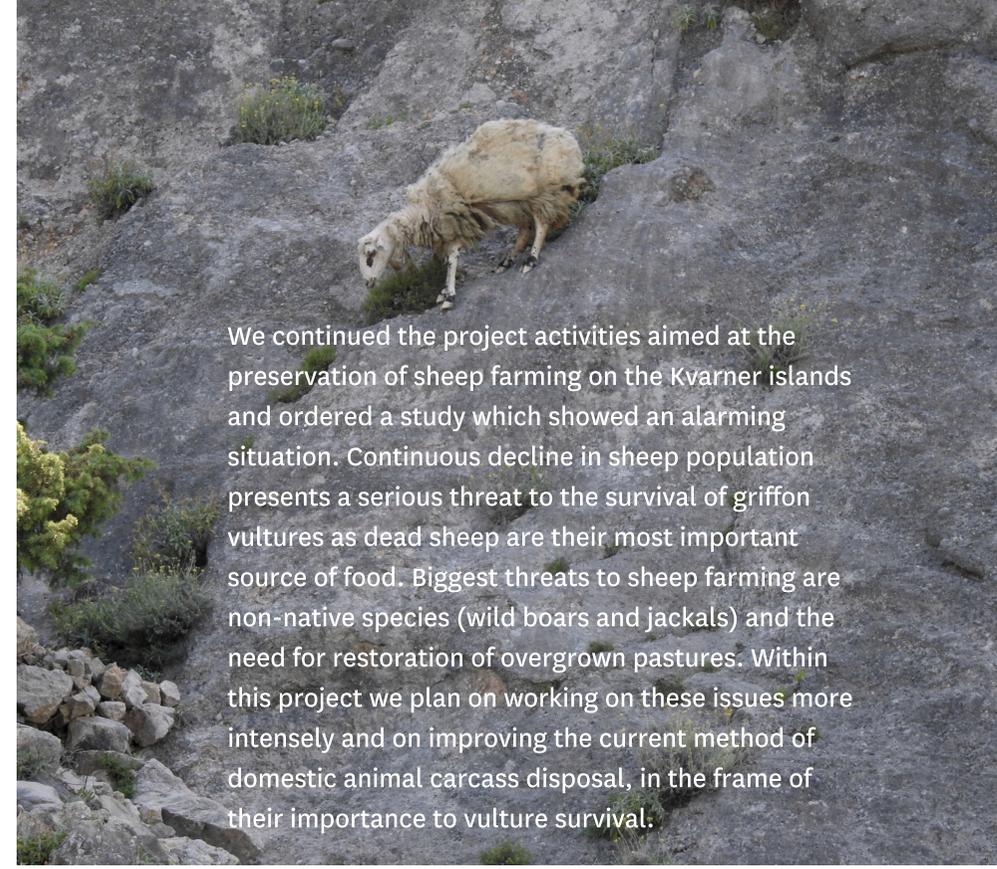
We are glad to be a part of this conservation story in Croatia. We are especially proud of the dedicated work put in by our volunteers, who we are very grateful to for joining our project team. Their contribution in monitoring electrocution cases on Cres, Krk, and Učka, looking at nest recordings of the young griffon vulture Grif – who was named through a public campaign – and their education of boat owners present in griffon vulture nesting areas, is priceless.



In addition, their part in rescue missions for young vultures that ended up in the sea, significantly contributed to set goals of the project. We believe you followed their actions in the media during the summer when our SUP patrol was active. This volunteer initiative, during which participants spent part of their holidays in the sea around the Kvarner islands, monitors vulture colonies, educates sailors on the importance of not disturbing the birds, and takes part in rescue actions. Coordinated with support of Beli Visitor Centre and Rescue Centre for Griffon Vultures, SUP patrol will continue its activities in 2025.



Through LIFE SUPport we also monitored electrocution cases, analysed movements of vultures tagged with GPS devices, and identified key zones within the project area that need to have protection placed on electric power distribution infrastructure, transmission towers to be precise, to reduce the risk of bird casualties. We also promoted the use of lead-free hunting ammunition amongst local hunters, to reduce negative effects of lead poisoning. We are eagerly awaiting their feedback on the lead-free ammo alternatives, whose use doesn't threaten biodiversity.



We continued the project activities aimed at the preservation of sheep farming on the Kvarner islands and ordered a study which showed an alarming situation. Continuous decline in sheep population presents a serious threat to the survival of griffon vultures as dead sheep are their most important source of food. Biggest threats to sheep farming are non-native species (wild boars and jackals) and the need for restoration of overgrown pastures. Within this project we plan on working on these issues more intensely and on improving the current method of domestic animal carcass disposal, in the frame of their importance to vulture survival.

Furthermore, we took part in an international workshop held in Opatija, where we learnt about EU directives and their implementation in Croatian and other EU countries. This knowledge will be key for improving policies regarding vulture feeding and sustainable ecosystem management practices.



First year of LIFE TETIDE project

The first year of the LIFE TETIDE project was marked by the successful continuation of our work on seabird conservation, which was started during our previous project LIFE Artina. The project activities are aimed toward the conservation of two endangered seabird species – Yelkouan shearwater (*Puffinus yelkouan*) and Scopoli's shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea*). These birds nest on islands of the special protected areas in the Lastovo and Vis archipelagos and are key indicators of a healthy marine environment.

Over the past year we conducted nesting success monitoring and implemented biosecurity measures, including the control and removal of rat populations from islands where they were introduced by humans. We significantly improved nesting conditions in these seabirds' colonies and the results are promising – islands without rats show more successful nesting results, emphasizing the importance of continuing these activities.



We are wrapping up the first year of activities and are preparing for the second year, where the focus will be complete eradication of the rat population from key islands and control of their population on other ones, ensuring long-term protection. By removing these threats, increasing the nesting success rates, and educating fishermen and locals on the importance of biosecurity measures we are making important steps towards safeguarding the future of seabirds and their ecosystems.

A key component in implementing these activities is our collaboration with the public institutions responsible for managing these areas – More i Krš (project partner in LIFE TETIDE) and Nature Park Lastovo Islands. Their support is important for carrying out the fieldwork and for reaching out to the local communities.



Our joint efforts are already yielding positive results and are moving us closer to our goal: conservation of these species and their habitats.

In cooperation with the Bulgarian BirdLife partner BSPB, Public institution PP Kopački rit, and 13 other partners from Southeast Europe and the Caucasus, we have applied for the DIVING DUCK LIFE project. The focus of the project is the protection of Ferruginous duck (*Aythya nyroca*) and Common pochard (*Aythya ferina*) along their flyway route. Through the project, the restoration of over 2,000 hectares of wetlands in Kopački rit is planned, which would significantly contribute to the well-being of these target species of ducks, but also of many other wetlands species.

Activities outside the LIFE projects



This year we started monitoring the nesting population of Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) with the help of a network of volunteers. Since this is an endangered species in Croatia, we chose volunteers with whom we have already established trust through many years of cooperation. Unfortunately, the preliminary monitoring results show a worrying situation - out of 32 visited territories, only 15 were active, and nesting was confirmed only on 6 of them. These results indicate an urgent need for a more active approach in the protection of this charismatic species.

Sichtopher Chrisko, iNaturalist.com



We have also started implementing a monitoring service for target bird species in the Telašćica Nature Park. As part of this service, we will assess the population status of the following species: Shag *Gulosis aristotelis*, Eurasian Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo*, Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*, Merlin *Falco columbarius* and Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* in the Park area.



TOP 3 moments of the year

Growing our team – Ana and Matija joined as new support for our fieldwork and data analysis. Their positive energy and new ideas add strength to our conservation efforts.

Due to years of work, the population of griffon vultures in Croatia is growing and is re-inhabiting mainland areas. In contrast, golden eagle remains in the shadows and faces low success rates in nesting, as confirmed by the survey data collected this year.

We successfully hosted BirdLife's nature and climate work group in Lovran, and prior to that we organised a round table on renewable energy transition in Zagreb. Knowledge exchange and collaboration with other sectors is key for future nature conservation steps!



Conservation of and concern for nature are increasingly threatened due to global changes in political priorities. Therefore, I am thankful to donors and funds that enable us to continue working on this topic, which in my opinion, has key importance for wellbeing and health of our planet, and therefore us.

Dries Engelen, program manager





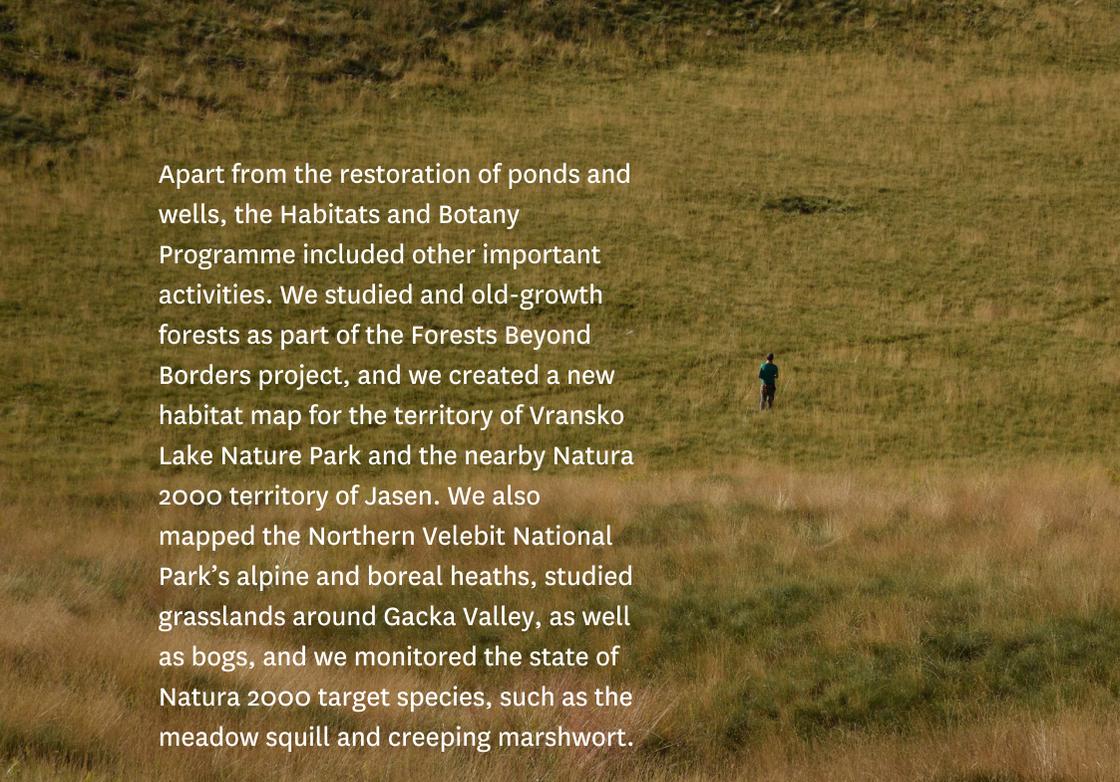
● Habitat and ● Botany Program

The past year of the Habitats and Botany Programme was mostly focused on the implementation of the Still Water Revival project, which is now in its final phase. Actions aimed at restoring freshwater ecosystems, preserving biodiversity, and raising awareness of the importance of natural habitats preservation were carried out vigorously within the context of the project. The restoration of ponds and wells in the territories of Učka, Northern Velebit, Biokovo, and Dinara was also completed. A temporary and successful solution to one of the biggest challenges – the sourcing of clay for a successful restoration of ponds – was also found, which we were especially happy about.

We successfully developed and launched the Pond Caretaker Programme, which brought forth a collaboration with a dozen elementary schools that will be visiting ponds and wells, as well as carrying out smaller projects necessary for their maintenance, for the preservation of biodiversity, and for the conservation of cultural heritage. To encourage future action, a brochure was designed with the goal to help students and their teachers further their knowledge of plant and animal life in pond habitats. Apart from that, the Biokovo and Učka nature parks, Northern Velebit National Park, and Association Biom will offer guidance from their staff during on-site visits to ponds.

We began organising the final conference, which is due in spring 2025, and more details about this event will be available in the next report.





Apart from the restoration of ponds and wells, the Habitats and Botany Programme included other important activities. We studied and old-growth forests as part of the Forests Beyond Borders project, and we created a new habitat map for the territory of Vransko Lake Nature Park and the nearby Natura 2000 territory of Jasen. We also mapped the Northern Velebit National Park's alpine and boreal heaths, studied grasslands around Gacka Valley, as well as bogs, and we monitored the state of Natura 2000 target species, such as the meadow squill and creeping marshwort.

The past year was marked by intensive preparation work for new projects. We prepared a project focused on wildlife corridors in the region for the Interreg Danube call for proposals. We also submitted a project focused on activating socio-ecological transformations in water management and nature protection in karst landscapes, which was accepted by the end of the year. First activities with regards to this project will begin in mid-2025 in biosphere reserves in Germany, Spain, and Croatia.

 *The entry into force of the Nature Restoration Law in August of this year at European level was a major step forward for the restoration of the parts of nature which are currently in poor condition primarily due to adverse effects of human activities. We expect this regulation, and other targets for preserving biodiversity and fighting climate change, to bring about the restoration of nature throughout Europe, including in Croatia, in the coming decade.*

Tomislav Hudina, program manager 

We spent the summer “holidays” preparing and submitting the Mosaic of LIFE project, which is an example of a kind of expansion of the previously completed Dinara back to LIFE project, and we are still waiting patiently for the results of the call. Autumn wasn't restful either, as we worked hard on submitting a wetlands conservation project for the areas of Livanjsko Polje, Dinara, and Cetina, but we were notified at the end of the year that the project didn't receive funding. At the same time, we developed a wetland restoration project for the areas of Vransko Lake Nature Park and Ravni Kotari, which is currently shortlisted for financing, and we hope we'll be notified of a positive outcome in the coming months.



TOP 3 moments of the year

We solved the challenge of sourcing clay for pond restoration, which allowed us to finish the restoration process for the Still Water Revival project

We prepared five project proposals, some of which are already greenlit for financing, which ensured continuity of our work

We lobbied for changes in the Forest Act that will make the restoration of grasslands easier, and we are happy that the Nature Restoration Law was adopted to EU legislation, since it is crucial for nature restoration investments in the coming decade

Our botanical team has had a very dynamic year filled with challenges, successes, and preparations of new opportunities. We hope that the 2025 projects will bring about positive changes to biodiversity, adaptation to climate change, and to the lives of all those who live in the project areas.



Mamal Conservation Program

The Mammal Conservation Programme made significant progress in 2024, completing the largest project to date – LIFE Lynx. Although we were only a small partner in this project, LIFE Lynx introduced us to the LIFE Programme and helped us establish a network of collaborators in Croatia and neighbouring countries. Project has also enabled a secure future for the lynx in the Dinarides, at least in terms of genetic diversity. This allowed us to pursue other activities aimed at preserving large predators which are key species in natural ecosystems.

One of the significant challenges we faced this year was the reduced legal protection of wolves within European Union legislation. Although this is unfortunate, it was anticipated. Given that several of our projects focus on the human-wolf conflict, we felt it necessary to send a letter to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Green Transition, outlining our perspective on the situation and offering proposals for future actions. We continued mapping potential habitats for the Mediterranean monk seal throughout the year, this time focusing on the Northern Adriatic, including the Velebit Channel. Our international volunteers were also involved in this process, gaining insight into the research methodology and actively participating in fieldwork.

At the very end of 2024, together with the Public Institution of Mljet National Park, we began controlling the small Indian mongoose population within the park. The project is currently being carried out on three islets—Kobrava, Tajnik, and Moračnik—where seabirds nest. Due to mongoose predation, their nesting success has become extremely low. This activity is crucial for protecting the endangered seabirds that breed in this area.

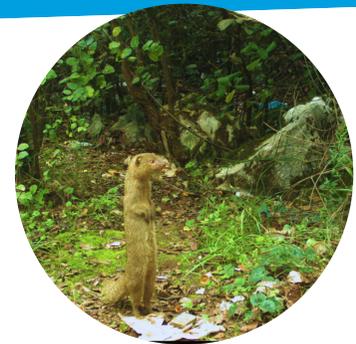
TOP 3 moments of the year

After long preparations, we have started activities to control the small Indian mongoose population in Mljet National Park.

Although the LIFE Lynx project has officially ended, communication and collaboration with participants continue, ensuring the sustainability of its results.

During the research of potential habitats for the Mediterranean monk seal, a large part of the Northern Adriatic was successfully mapped.

The Republic of Croatia has finally begun implementing active measures to control invasive species. The removal of the small Indian mongoose from several islets, which are crucial for breeding seabirds in Mljet National Park is just one part of the activities now underway in Croatia. We are proud to be part of this important effort!



Ivan Budinski, program manager

Olovo odlazi u prošlost

Olovo

Safe Flyways Program

Through the Safe Flyways programme, we contribute to positive changes in combating illegal actions against nature. In Y2024, through public campaigns, cooperation with public institutions, dialogue with key stakeholders and volunteer programs, we have taken important steps towards reducing the scope of illegal killing of birds - poaching and poisoning of wild animals, and lead poisoning from hunting ammunition.

Two strong campaigns

In Kvarner, Lika and Dalmatia, we launched a public campaign dedicated to the problem of poisoning of wild animals. The "Trails of Poison" campaign attracted public attention through a creative concept inspired by horror movie trailers. We implemented the campaign through billboards and posters in frequent locations, radio spots and a digital campaign on social networks. Also, the broadcast of the video on the IskonTV channel further strengthened the reach of the message.

INSPIRIRANO PRAVIM ZLODJELIMA

TRAGOVİ OTROVA

Prijavite trovanje životinja pozivom na 112

BIOM BALKAN DETOX LIFE

Projekt BalkanDetox LIFE financiran je sredstvima Programa LIFE Evropske unije, uređen za odgojne i edukativne svrhe. Iznos za odgojne i edukativne svrhe iznosi 1.000.000,00 eura.

Towards the end of the year, in Neretva river delta, we launched the "Coot on Sale" campaign in order to draw the attention of game lovers to the danger of lead poisoning when consuming meat caught with lead ammunition. With the provocative message that coot meat is on sale, through posters, flyers, billboards and radio spots designed in the style of holiday ads, we wanted to convey that the true price of such meat remains hidden - because you can pay for it with your own health.



Strengthening national capacities

BalkanDetox LIFE project, which deals with strengthening national capacities in combating crimes against nature with a focus on poisoning of wild animals, is still ongoing. As part of the activities, we organized four workshops on best practices in the management of wildlife poisoning cases.

Lectures were given by experts who graduated from the Wildlife Crime Academy in Andalucia (Spain). Among them were a nature guard, a huntress, a nature protection inspector, a veterinary forensic scientist, a criminal police officer and a representative of the county state attorney. Workshops were held in Sinj, Varaždin, Osijek and Krk.



In addition, in cooperation with the Judicial Academy, we organized three specialized workshops in Zagreb, Split and Rijeka for judges and public lawyers, dedicated to the successful prosecution of criminal offenses of poisoning wild animals. The participants learned about the issue of poisoning as a crime against nature and its impact on vulture populations. The professor of veterinary medicine presented key experiences and warned about important aspects in the processing of such cases from the perspective of a forensic expert. The judge presented the international and domestic legislative framework, while the public attorney prepared practical training based on real cases and existing practice.

At the end of October, we organized an intersectoral workshop on the implementation of the ban on the use of lead shot in wetland areas. We managed to gather top lecturers - experts in the field of ecosystem health, conservation of birds of prey, hunting ballistics and inspection supervision. Institutional representatives expressed support for a complete ban on lead shot, which would be more effective for nature and easier to implement.



In addition to the workshop, we organized a study trip to Madrid to get inspired by the Spanish model of solving environmental problems. Namely, Spain stands out for its organized nature protection system, a key part of which is SEPRONA - a specialized police service with military training, responsible for investigations and the fight against poaching and crimes against the environment. In addition, each of Spain's 17 provinces has its own guard service. For example, in Madrid this role is played by the Agentes Forestales CM, a ranger service responsible for rapid response to environmental incidents - from poaching and pollution to collecting injured animals and securing crime scenes. Also, such a system is additionally supported by the 112 emergency center, which systematically collects information about all kinds of emergency situations, including crimes against wild animals, treated as a matter of public safety. Thanks to the exceptional coordination between the 112 center, the ranger service with 6,000 rangers and 1,800 SEPRONA agents, response to incidents is fast, and many cases end in court verdicts. We hope that the Croatian nature management model will also follow the best world practices and ensure an effective environmental protection system.

TOP 3 moments of the year

Two important awareness raising campaigns: "Traces of Poison" and "Coot on Sale"

Development of collaboration with the Judicial Academy through which we organized workshops titled "Successful Prosecution of Wildlife Poisoning Offenses" for judges and public prosecutors

We are especially proud of the development of new volunteer programs for monitoring and combating illegal actions against bird species such as songbirds, bee-eaters and quails

Monitoring of poaching and electrocution

We continue with field work to monitor and suppress the illegal killing and trapping of birds. This year we developed three volunteer programs with concrete results. At the beginning of the year, our volunteers monitored the sale of songbirds on Sundays at Zagreb's Trešnjevka market. From May to August, we monitored the illegal destruction of bee-eater colonies, which resulted in five reports to the State Inspectorate and the saving of one colony from enclosure during the critical nesting period. In September and October, we monitored quail poaching using decoys, and based on our monitoring, an Italian poacher was arrested.

In addition, we intervened again due to the suffering of bald ibises. In cooperation with the Waldrappteam organization, at the end of October we followed the movement of 11 individuals that entered Croatia. Unfortunately, after only two days, two individuals were killed by electric shock on the medium-voltage power grid near Senj. We have reported the case to HEP, who will implement mitigation measures to prevent further cases in the area.

Poaching in Neretva delta is still present, it is an almost daily and nightly occurrence. In the Neretva reserves, shots and electronic decoys are heard from sunset and throughout the night. When the weather permits, about a hundred shots are fired each night in the Neretva confluence reserve, and significantly more on weekends. This year we introduced a new technology – passive acoustic monitoring, which allows us to systematically collect data on gunshots throughout the entire poaching season. This method will give us a more precise insight into the intensity and patterns of illegal hunting and help in the further fight against this practice.



Working on difficult subjects like poaching, poisoning and lead poisoning is like a bird's first flight. In the beginning, we struggle until we learn how to achieve the right momentum, but once we master it, we fly to the heights. With good and ambitious projects, we manage to make big and significant steps. I would like to thank each volunteer, follower and associate who contributes to the preservation of nature with their goodwill, ambition and civic courage.



*Boleslaw Slocinski
program manager*



Public Outreach Program

Successful nature conservation is impossible without the tireless contributions of the entire community. Behind us is another year of gatherings, education, and collective action

In 2024, we expanded our regular educational activities and introduced some new ones. Besides birdwatching in Zagreb and Sinj, we also organized events in Daruvar, Garešnica, and Križevci. Križevci even hosted this year's Ornitodruženje – an informal gathering of bird enthusiasts, where we shared the latest news from the ornithological world. We placed special focus on educating children and young people. Students living near karst ponds had the chance to become guardians of these vital habitats through our new educational program. On the island of Krk, we introduced students to the fascinating world of griffon vultures and the threats they face, while our educational activities once again enriched the Gljevstock festival.



In Zagreb, we trained local educators to lead bird-themed workshops, while on the Neretva, we held our traditional bird identification training for nature enthusiasts.

We contributed to the coexistence of people and urban biodiversity by developing Guidelines for the Conservation of Swifts and Guidelines for a Strategic Approach to Coexisting with Crows. Additionally, we held lectures on swifts in Dubrovnik and on crows in Zagreb and Čakovec.



We kicked off our volunteer year with the traditional winter waterbird count and continued with eagle-owl monitoring, tracking their breeding success for the first time. In Zagreb, we conducted a rook census, while our youth group Primar launched a bird-glass collision monitoring project.



Our dedicated volunteers also monitored other threats to birds—illegal songbird trade, quail poaching, and the disturbance of bee-eater colonies. We reestablished the monitoring of golden eagle populations and held our traditional Ornithology Camp on Učka.

To support griffon vulture conservation, volunteers tracked electrocution risks, analyzed colony footage, and educated tourists on responsible behavior around these birds. In the Lastovo and Vis archipelagos, they took part in invasive rat removal, nest inspections, camera trap installations, and audio analysis of yelkouan and Mediterranean shearwaters.



This year, we once again had the pleasure of hosting ESS volunteers from around the world—Linda from the Netherlands, Paula from Spain, Mélanie from France, and Zülfü from Azerbaijan. During their ten months with us, they contributed their enthusiasm and expertise to various aspects of our work, from field activities to creative ideas in the public communications team to their involvement in protecting the Kvarner griffon vulture population, especially during the summer spent at the rehabilitation center on the island of Cres.



We kicked off 2024 with "Kavica s Biomom", seizing the chance to connect with our members in person! Soon after, we dove into learning with "Čakula sa stručnjacima", where we discussed how to foster good neighborly relations with crows.



Božidar Grgošić

One special sunny May weekend, surrounded by many of our members, we spent time birdwatching and discovering the beauty of local biodiversity at the Siščani and Blatnica fishponds. A refreshing highlight in 2024 was the meetings of our newly formed Photo Group, where members who share a passion for photography exchanged ideas and learned valuable techniques for capturing birds and nature, sharing experiences and showcasing their work. We celebrated the 18th anniversary of the Biom Association with a big celebration, marking our metaphorical "coming of age" and "right to vote" by encouraging participation in the 2024 European Parliament elections.

TOP 3 moments of the year

Biom's youth volunteer group, Primar, significantly increased its membership and actively contributed to bird and nature conservation through a variety of activities.

This year, citizens had the opportunity to participate in organized birdwatching at three new locations—Daruvar, Križevci, and Garešnica.

We developed Guidelines for a Strategic Approach to Coexisting with Crows and Guidelines for the Conservation of Swifts, providing concrete recommendations for protecting these important species in urban environments.



Another important development was the establishment of the CiviCRM database, which will enable better and more efficient administration of our work with members. We wrapped up the year with the General Assembly, where we collectively laid the foundation for new successes and continued efforts for nature and society.

Our community, once again this year, has generously supported us not only with their time, knowledge, and enthusiasm but also with generous donations – for which we are deeply grateful.

At the beginning of summer, we raised funds to ensure a carefree summer for the griffon vultures, while during the winter months, our donors enjoyed Biom's digital advent calendar.



At the heart of our efforts to preserve nature is our tireless community. So many nature lovers have once again found ways to contribute this year—whether with their time, knowledge, curiosity, or donations. Together, we worked on habitat conservation, nurtured and explored biodiversity, and inspired many others to make positive changes. This generosity and commitment serve as an endless source of inspiration and strength for us. We look forward to another year with you and all the good it will bring for nature.
Iva Šoštarić, Program manager

Communications in 2024



683 media mentions



23 Appearances on TV and Radio



Most Followed Media Topic:
Griffon Vultures



72.829 users on the
websites www.biom.hr



122 articles on the website
www.biom.hr



Most read articles

How to Prevent the Horror and
Tragedy of Animal Poisoning

Destroying Swallow and Wagtail
Nests is an Illegal Solution

Crime Map: Illegal Killing of Quail Under
the Cover of Hunting Season

The Diary of the Grey Crow: Diet
40 mini



12096
340



3042
239



1913
27



Most popular post:
The growing up of the
Griffon vulture!



Bird of the Year 2024
The Rook



The new edition of the
Magazine "Pogled u divljinu"
published in January 2024

The participation of the Biom Association in networks and initiatives

Legend

 observer membership

 full membership

 secretariat

 candidate member

 exchange of knowledge and experience

 exchange of information

 advocacy at EU level, exchange of knowledge and experience

 advocacy at national level, exchange of knowledge and experience

BirdLife International

The largest international partnership of non-governmental organizations for the conservation of nature, birds, their habitats, and global biodiversity



Green forum

Informal network of environmental non-governmental organizations in the Republic of Croatia aimed at influencing the creation and implementation of environmental protection policies and nature conservation



International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

International association of governmental and non-governmental organizations for nature conservation, focusing on the preservation of nature and sustainable use of natural resources



Together for Med

Network of non-governmental organizations, international organizations, research centers, private companies, networks, and foundations dedicated to reducing pressures on Mediterranean biodiversity



Croatian Platform for International Citizen Solidarity (CROSOL)

A national civil society organization active in the field of international development cooperation and humanitarian aid



Mediterranean Alliance of Wetlands

An informal international organization aimed at connecting and supporting organizations involved in wetland areas in the Mediterranean



National Rural Network

Stakeholder Network in the Agriculture Sector led by the Ministry of Agriculture



Renewables Grid Initiative (RGI)

The network of non-governmental organizations and electricity transmission system operators from across Europe working on the energy transition



Croatian Youth Network

Alliance of 77 youth organizations across the territory of the Republic of Croatia.



Finance and administration



7

BOARD
MEMBERS

29

ZAPOSLENIKA

168

EMPLOYEES

213

MEMBERS

REVENUE

57.883 €
SERVICES

3.035 €
MEMBERSHIP FEES

1.468.610 €
DONATIONS

24.694 €
OTHER SOURCES

1.554.492 €

EXPENSES

685.165 €
EMPLOYEES

459.241 €
MATERIAL EXPENSES

343.574 €
DONATIONS TO PARTNERS

56.585 €
DEPRECIATION AND OTHER

1.544.565 €



1566 FIELD DAYS



18 PROJECTS



21 SERVICES



Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Gro Harlem Brundtland





List of Employees and Members of the Board

MANAGEMENT BOARD

Predsjednica: dr. sc. Silvija Kipson, dipl. ing. biol.

Dopredsjednik: izv. prof. dr. sc. Duje Lisičić, prof. biol. i kem.

izv. prof. dr. sc. Tvrtko Dražina, dipl. ing. biol.

Joško Gamberožić, dizajner viz. kom.

Katica Smojver, dipl.oecc.

Klara Horvat, mag. iur.

izv. prof. dr. sc. Toni Safner, dipl. ing. agr.

Ivana Selanec, mag. oecol. et prot. nat., izvršna direktorica,
(članica UO ex officio, bez prava glasa)

Employees of the Zagreb Office (in alphabetical order):

Bijelić Marija, Bogdanić Sanja, Dender Dubravko, *Dorogi Tea*, Engelen Andreas Jacobus Angela, Hudina Tomislav, Ivanko Martina, Kapelj Sven, Klarin Ana, Lukić Jelena, Martinko Ivanov Marija, Mihalić Iva, *Nola Đina*, Počanić Vovk Paula, Ribić Ivana, Slocinski Boleslaw Jan, *Spevec Dominik*, *Starčević Morana*, Starčević Tanja, Šarić Kapelj Ivana, Škunca Luka, Šikić Goran, Šoštarić Iva, *Vodopija Matija*

Employees of the Sinj Office (in alphabetical order):

Budinski Ivan, Budimir Zdravko, *Gaurina Siniša*, Glavinić Melani, Kodžoman Ante, *Modrić Saša*, Selanec Ivana, Sotinac Tomislav

* **New employees in 2024**

* **Employees who decided to continue their career elsewhere in 2024**



List of Funders, Co-Funders, and Donors in 2024



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Bird of the Year 2024

The Rook

at. *Corvus frugilegus*



Foto: Erik Kartis

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