

We analysed habitat requirements and abundance of *Dinarolacerta mosorensis* and *D. montenegrina*, two closely related lacertid rock lizards endemic to the Dinaric mountains of the Balkan Peninsula. A total of four sites on three mountains in Montenegro were surveyed. At each study site, a number of visual transects were carried out in order to determine lizards abundance and eleven microhabitat variables describing habitat structure, type of vegetation and refuge availability. Data were examined by Analysis of Variance, Variance Components Analysis and Principal Component Analysis. We found significant differences in preferred habitat between species and among localities, but not between adults and non-mature individuals. Intraspecific variability in habitat use was greater than between the two species. There were significant differences in lizard abundances among localities. The lowest abundance was recorded in the southernmost population of *D. mosorensis*. A greater number of small rocks and larger areas of bare rocks without vegetation negatively affected lizard abundance, despite the greater number of refuges at these places. Our study underlines the needs for establishing a regime of more intensive monitoring of forest exploitation and implementation of concrete measures aimed at combating and reducing the number of fires in the study areas.

Key words: lacertid rock lizards, habitat selection, Dinaric mountains, forest fires, deforestation

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BIOLOGIJA POSKOKA U KAMENOLOMU BIZEK

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Poskok, *Vipera ammodytes* (Linnaeus, 1758) najveća je zmija otrovnica jugoistočne Europe. Međutim, neka područja njegove biologije i dalje su nepoznata. Ovdje predstavljamo rezultate prvog istraživanja biologije suburbanih poskoka u Hrvatskoj, od 2008. do 2014. godine, u zatvorenom kamenolomu Bizek. Cilj istraživanja bio je utvrditi postojanje razlika među spolovima u veličini, odrediti korištenje mikrostaništa, područja kretanja meteorološke prilike pri kojima su najaktivniji. Također je cilj bio utvrditi prehranu, procijeniti brojnost populacije i istaknuti posljedice nekih ljudskih aktivnosti na području kamenoloma. Ukupno je analizirano 140 jedinki poskoka. Utvrđeno je da postoje razlike u veličini među spolovima, a oba spola pokazuju vrlo slične sklonosti prema vrsti mikrostaništa i vremenskim uvjetima, osim u vlazi zraka. Među spolovima nema razlike u dnevnoj aktivnosti, ali ima u sezonskoj. Nema ni međuspolnih razlika u prehrani. Odrasli mužjaci se kreću najvećim područjem. Čišćenje kamenoloma ima jasan negativni utjecaj na populaciju, ako se izvodi na krivi način i u krivo doba godine. Rezultati ovog istraživanja daju uvid u neke dijelove biologije poskoka u kamenolomu te mogu koristiti zaposlenicima Parka prirode Medvednica u upravljanju tim prostorom.

Ključne riječi: *Vipera ammodytes*, suburbana populacija

BIOLOGY OF THE NOSE-HORNED VIPER IN BIZEK QUARRY

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The Nose-horned Viper, *Vipera ammodytes* (Linnaeus, 1758) is the largest venomous snake in the western Balkans. However, there's paucity of research in some aspects of its biology. Here we present the results of the first study of the biology of suburban *V. ammodytes* in Croatia, from 2008 till 2014, in the inactive Bizek quarry. Our goals were to determine the existence of sexual size dimorphism, microhabitat use, home range size, weather conditions during peak activity, food composition and population size. We also wanted raise awareness about the influence of some human activities in the quarry on the viper population. A total of 140 individuals were analyzed. Sexual size dimorphism was confirmed, and both sexes show very similar preferences in microhabitat use and weather conditions, except in relative humidity. There is no difference between the sexes in daily act ivity, but there are differences in seasonal activity. There are no differences in the diet composition between the sexes. Adult males have the largest home ranges. The cleaning activities in the quarry have a clear negative impact on the population, if done incorrectly and in the wrong time. The results of this research give a new view on some aspects of the biology of Nose-horned vipers in the Bizek quarry and can be of use to the Nature Park Medvednica staff in management of the area.

Key words: *Vipera ammodytes*, suburban population

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NEW DATA AND DISTRIBUTION OF COMMON SPADEFOOT TOAD *Pelobates fuscus* (Laurenti, 1768) IN WESTERN BALKANS

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Based on known literature data and data collected during field investigations in 2014 and 2015, we present updated distribution map of Common spadefoot toad (*Pelobates fuscus*) in Western Balkans (Bosnia and Herzegovina (B-H) and Croatia). *Pelobates fuscus* is listed as LC on the IUCN Red List and DD in Croatian Red Book, and the species is in constant population decline. Until year 2014 this species was only suspected to inhabit B-H. Today we have several positive localities in Posavina region presented with precise locality, elevation and coordinates. In B-H new populations are found near towns of Srbac, Brod, Modriča and Šamac. Distribution map includes east part of Lijevo polje and whole Posavina and there is a big chance that species range extends also through Semberija. In this paper we also present first findings of tadpoles, more precisely, the reproductive sites of Common spadefoot toad in the B-H. In Croatia this species is found along the rivers Mura, Drava and Sava, including most lowland areas up to 300 m above sea level. New localities in Croatia are confirmed in Ivanovo selo and Bjelovar, connecting the Drava and Sava River populations.

Keywords: conservation, decline, Posavina, Pannonian Plain