



The bullhead (*Cottus gobio*)

It is a freshwater fish that is widely distributed in Europe, mainly in rivers. The bullhead is a small demersal fish that lives both in cold, clear, fast-flowing small streams

and in middle-sized rivers. It also occurs on gravelly shores of cold lakes. The bullhead has a large broad head and tapering body, large fins and a rounded tail. It is usually about 6 to 8 cm long and is light brown mottled with darker colour. Food items eaten by the bullhead include benthic insects, crustaceans and other invertebrates.

Invertebrates:



Marsh Fritillary

(*Euphydryas aurinia*)

Occurs in very different types of habitat, like moist, sheltered grasslands, along the edges of raised bogs

and on dry, calcareous grasslands. The foodplants are Devil's-bit Scabious (*Succisa pratense*), Small Scabious (*Scabiosa columbaria*), Field Scabious (*Knautia arvensis*) and teasels (*Dipsacus spp.*). It has a unicolorous orange form with thin grey markings, to gaudy forms patterned in orange, red and cream with heavy black markings. The butterflies fly from April until July depending on latitude and altitude.

Project title: Proper Management of the Bodoc-Baraolt Mountains, Ciocaș-Vițelului Hills, Apa Roșie Peat Bog, Apa Lină-Honcsok Peat Bog, Upper Olt, Râul Negru, Ciomad-Balványos and Mestecănișul de la Reci Protected Areas

The project's beneficiary is Covasna County Council

Duration of the project is 21 months, between April 2014 and December 2015

The overall objective of the project is the protection and preservation of biodiversity and the natural heritage through the proper management of the protected areas administered by Covasna County Council, and to ensure the local community's and the visitors access to information on the natural values and thus contributing to their sustainable development. Further information about the project on www.natcov.ro, www.natkov.ro

Editor: Covasna County Council

Edited by: Incze Anna, Madarasi Csilla

Drawing and design: Szederjesi Szidónia

Map made by: Pap Endre

Photo: Tóth Szabolcs

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The site is not in custody.



Natura 2000 Site Upper Olt

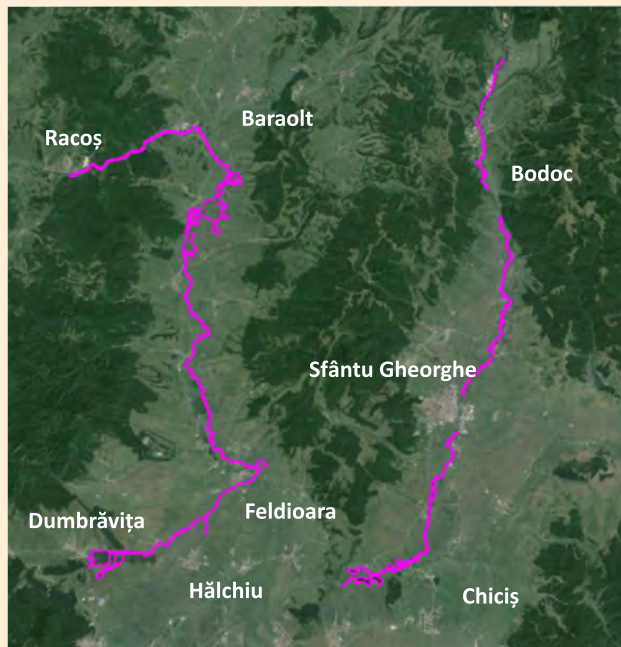
Proper Management of the Bodoc-Baraolt Mountains, Ciocaș-Vițelului Hills, Apa Roșie Peat Bog, Apa Lină -Honcsok Peat Bog, Upper Olt, Râul Negru, Ciomad-Balványos and Mestecănișul de la Reci Protected Areas



The Natura 2000 Network

Natura 2000 is a network of nature protection areas in the territory of the European Union established in 1992. It is made up of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated respectively under the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive. These sites protect vulnerable habitats such as wetlands, which in turn helps to safeguard the animals and plants which need these places to survive. Across the EU a diverse range of habitats are protected, from flower-rich meadows to vast expanses of estuaries, even cave systems, and a huge variety of animals throughout the EU benefit from this, such as golden eagles, flamingos, otters and lynx.

The Upper Olt Natura 2000 Site, ROSCI0329



It is Natura 2000 site since 2011, and has a surface area of 1.508 ha, from which 49 % is located in Covasna county and 51% in Brașov county. On the site we can find water surfaces representing 42% of its territory, we can also find swamps and bogs (9%), agricultural land (10%), pastures (17%), other arable land (17%), deciduous forests 2%, forest habitats (3%). Important habitats of the site are: streams and forests, eutrophic lakes, water meadows with alder (*Alnus glutiosa*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), willow (*Salix alba*). The site has many ideal habitats for beavers.

The site is a Special Area of Conservation selected for the following species of Community interest: mammals – otter and beaver –, a butterfly and ten fish species.

Mammals:



Eurasian beaver (*Castor fiber*)

One of the largest rodents in the world, they weigh around 11-30 kg. The semi-aquatic Eurasian beaver inhabits gentle streams, rivers, lakes and swamps. It generally favours freshwater habitats that are surrounded by woodland, but may sometimes use a river or stream flowing through agricultural land or even urban areas. It was hunted to near extinction for both its fur and castoreum. In Romania went extinct. The resettling actions started in 2006 and were successful.



European otter (*Lutra lutra*)

Brown above and cream below, these long, slender creatures are well-equipped for their aquatic habits. Normally, this species is 57 to 95 cm long, not counting a tail of 35-45 cm. They may inhabit any unpolluted body of fresh water, including lakes, streams, rivers, and ponds, as long as the food supply is adequate. European otters may also live along the coast, in salt water, but require regular access to fresh water to clean their fur. The European otter's diet mainly consists of fish.

Fisch species:

European weatherfish (*Misgurnus fossilis*)

It lives in still waters of muddy river meanders along the shore. They are very tolerant and can adapt quickly to low-oxygen and low visibility environments. Mostly restricted to densely vegetated habitats with slow or no current and soft, mud bottom. Spawns in dense vegetation, often in flooded meadows.