



### Danube Clouded Yellow

(*Colias myrmidone*)

The wingspan is 44-50 mm. The butterfly flies in May and again from July to August (in two generations).

The Danube Clouded Yellow occurs in dry, warm grassland where its foodplant, the broom *Chamaecytisus ratisbonensis* is always abundant.

### The Scarce Large Blue (*Maculinea teleius*)

Has light greybrown underwings with two rows of dark spots. It flies in July-August. The butterfly is an indicator species for extensively used moist mesophile grasslands like litter meadows, tall herb communities, and wet meadows, all mostly poor in nutrients. The species has suffered a strong decrease all over Europe.



### Estern pasqueflower

(*Pulsatilla patens*)

Is a short hairy perennial steppe plant with early spring blooming. The flowers are blue-violet. The flowering time is in April. Habitat: Dryish ridged slopes, dry moors.

### The waterwheel plant (*Aldrovanda vesiculosa*)

It is a rootless aquatic plant. The plant captures small aquatic invertebrates. *A. vesiculosa* prefers clean, shallow, warm standing water with bright light, low nutrient levels and a slightly acidic pH. In the last century the species has become rare, listed as extinct in an increasingly large number of countries.

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**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](http://www.natcov.ro), [www.natkov.ro](http://www.natkov.ro)

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## Natura 2000 Site Mestecănișul de la Reci

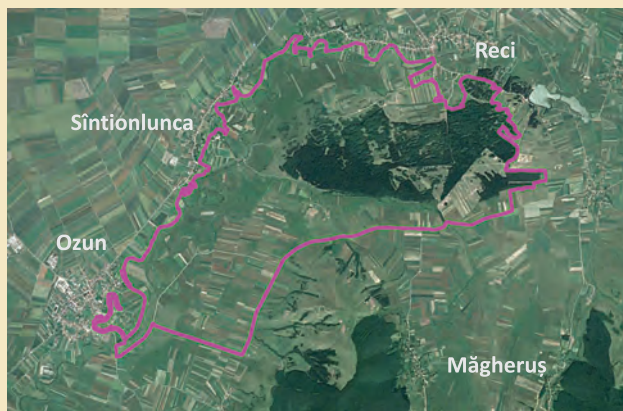
Proper Management of the Bodoc-Baraolt Mountains, Ciocaș-Vițelului Hills, Apa Roșie Peat Bog, Apa Lină -Honcsok Peat Bog, Upper Olt, Râul Negru, Ciomad-Balványos and Mestecănișul de la Reci Protected Areas



## 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.

### Mestecănișul de la Reci Natura 2000 Site, ROSCI0111



It is Natura 2000 site since 2007, and has a surface area of 2.020 ha. Mestecănișul de la Reci is a sandy deposit of Pleistocene age, presenting sanddunes, ponds and small lakes with a diverse flora and fauna, which are rare in Romania. Due to the strong anthropic intervention most of the birches were devastated and they have planted pine trees (*Pinus sylvestris*) to their



place. The grassy meadows have been heavily modified by grazing. The site has a special scientific importance due to its hydrophilic species which are rare in Romania.

#### Species of Community interest:



##### 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.



##### Yellow-bellied toad (*Bombina variegata*)

Dwells in mountainous and hilly countries in middle and southern Europe. It has an altitudinal range of 100-2,100 m. The larger of the males and females are between 35 and 55 mm. Their top side is grey-brown, often with washed-out, bright spots. Their underside is grey-blue to black-blue with striking, bright yellow to orange spots or patches. It is dependent on temporary small bodies of water on loamy ground, such as tractor trails, puddles, and small ditches.



##### Northern crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

The females can measure up to 16 cm males measure 14 to 15 cm long. These newts have dark grey-brown backs and flanks, and are covered with darker-coloured spots so they appear almost black. Their undersides are either yellow- or orange-coloured and are covered in large, black blotches. Males can be distinguished from females by the presence of a jagged crest during the breeding season. It has an altitudinal range from sea level to 1,750 m asl. It can be found in coniferous, mixed and deciduous forests (composed of pine, birch, oak, alder etc.), their glades and edges, in forest steppe, bush lands, pastures, meadows, parks and gardens.



##### European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*)

It is a medium size turtle and varies quite a bit across its distribution, from 12 to 38 cm length. Its shell is brown with a hint of green, spotted yellow. It prefers to live in wetlands surrounded by a large proportion of natural, wooded, landscape. It is usually considered semi-aquatic. They eat a mixed diet of plants and animal matter that can increase the efficiency of their digestive process.

##### Large copper butterfly (*Lycaena dispar*)

Has wings of a bright coppery-orange, fringed with black. The undersides are silvery-blue with black spots. Some specimens have several black spots on the upper wing. It has two generations each year flying from May to June, and again from July to August.