



## LIFE STRŽEN

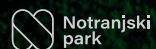
Izboljšanje stanja območij Natura 2000 na presihajočem Cerkniskem jezeru z renaturacijo struge Stržena

*Improvement of Natura 2000 statuses with renaturation of Stržen's riverbed on intermittent Cerknica Lake*



## LAYMAN'S REPORT

Poročilo o rezultatih projekta







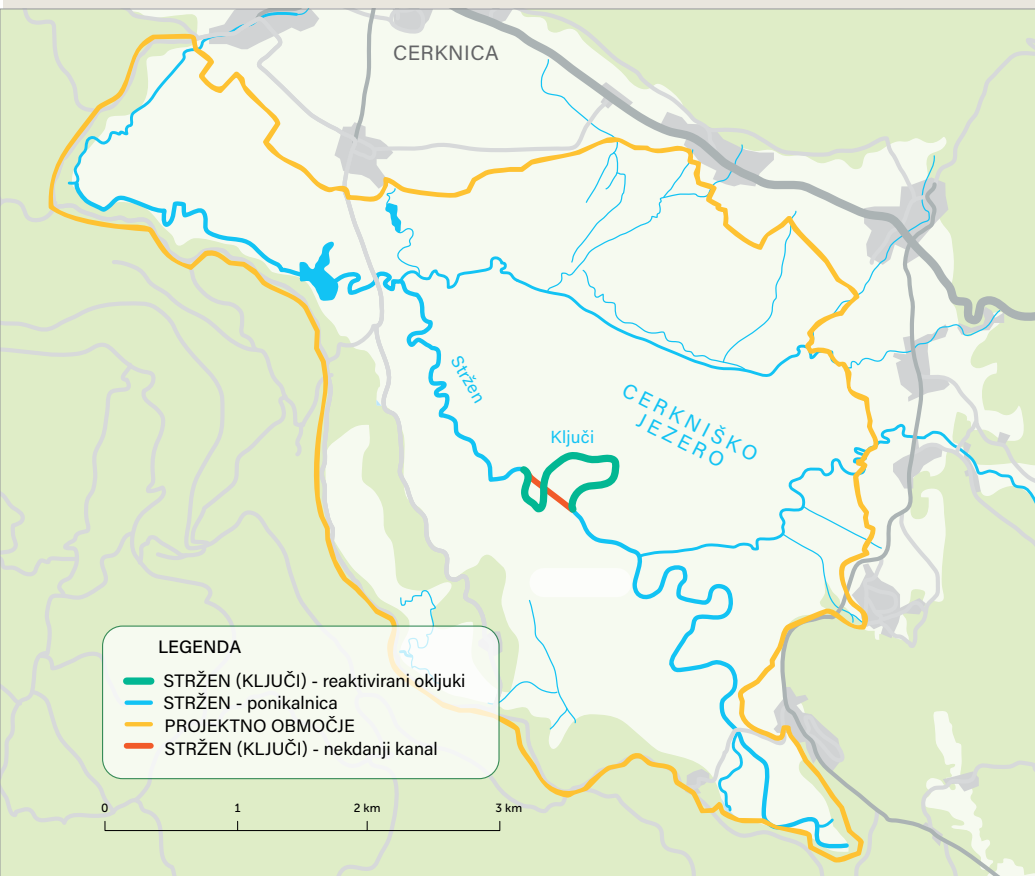
Cerkniško jezero / Cerknjica Lake  
Foto / Photo: Matej Blatnik, Žan Kafol

## KAZALO / CONTENTS

- 5 Uvod / *Intro*
- 6 Cerknjiško jezero in vodotok Stržen / *Cerknica Lake and the Stržen riverbed*
- 8 Bobnarica / *Eurasian bittern*
- 9 Projekt / *The Project*
- 13 Podpora / *Support*
- 14 Ozaveščanje / *Awareness*
- 15 LIFE po LIFEu / *After-LIFE Plan*
- 15 NATURA 2000 in LIFE / *NATURA 2000 and LIFE*
- 15 Mreženje / *Networking*

Publikacija je izdana in financirana iz projekta  
LIFE STRŽEN (LIFE16 NAT/SI/000708).  
Število tiskanih izvodov: 6.000  
Leto izdaje: 2023

*This publication is published within the project LIFE  
STRŽEN and is co-financed by the EU financing tool  
LIFE programme.  
6.000 copies  
Published in 2023*



## UVOD

Projekt LIFE STRŽEN je šestletni projekt v sklopu evropskega programa LIFE, pri katerem sodelujejo vodilni partner Notranjski regijski park (NRP) in pridruženi partnerji Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS), Društvo za opazovanje in proučevanje ptic Slovenije (DOPPS) in Zavod Republike Slovenije za varstvo narave (ZRSVN). Osrednjo vlogo v projektu ima potok Stržen, največji vodotok Cerkniškega jezera. Naravni okljuki Stržena so bili v preteklosti v želji po izsušitvi jezera in s tem pridobivanju površin za poljedelstvo in živinorejo izravnani v ravne kanale. Ta in številni drugi osuševalni posegi na jezeru niso dosegli zelenega cilja, je pa hitrejše odtekanje vode, zmanjšanje življenjskega prostora in vedno pogostejše presihanje Cerkniškega jezera prizadelo edinstven ekosistem presihajočega jezera.

Glavni cilj projekta LIFE STRŽEN je bil povrniti del stare struge Stržena na območju Ključev v prvotni dvojni okljuk in s tem izboljšati življenjske pogoje ribam, pticam, vodnim nevretenčarjem, značilnim rastlinskim vrstam in sesalcem, vezanim na vodo.

## INTRO

*The LIFE STRŽEN project is a six-year project which is a part of the European LIFE program, in which the leading partner Notranjski Regional Park (NRP) cooperates with its associated partners: The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia (ZZRS), The Slovenian Bird Observation and Study Society (DOPPS) and the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Conservation of Nature (ZRSVN). The Stržen stream, the largest watercourse on Cerknica Lake, plays a central role in this project. In the past, the natural bends of the Stržen stream were straightened into channels in order to drain the lake and thereby obtain land for agriculture and livestock breeding. This and many other drainage interventions carried out on the lake did not achieve the desired goal, but instead led to faster water outflow, the reduction of living space and the increasingly frequent draining of Cerknica Lake affected the unique ecosystem of the intermittent lake.*

*The main goal of the LIFE STRŽEN project was to restore part of the old Stržen riverbed in the Ključki area to its original double bend and thereby improve the living conditions for fish, birds, aquatic invertebrates, characteristic plant species and water-bound mammals.*

## CERKNIŠKO JEZERO IN VODOTOK STRŽEN

»Brez skromnosti pravim, da je ta zgodba Cerkniškega jezera velik čudež narave.«  
(Janez Vajkard Valvazor)

Cerkniško jezero je najbolj znano presihajoče jezero v Evropi. Prekrivata ga dve območji Natura 2000 - Natura 2000, območje Cerkniško jezero (SI 5000015), in Natura 2000, območje Notranjski trikotnik (SI 3000232). Tu živijo številne evropsko ogrožene vrste živali in rastlin, med njimi tudi ptice.

Na Cerkniškem jezeru je bila do sedaj opažena kar polovica vseh živečih vrst ptic v Evropi. Nekatere med njimi si v zavetju jezera naredijo gnezda in vzredijo mladiče, druge zgolj počivajo na svoji selitveni poti. Na območju jezera je prisotnih tudi 15 vrst dvoživk, 45 vrst sesalcev, 10 vrst rib ter 125 vrst dnevnih metuljev. Vsak letni čas nudi svojstveno izkušnjo opazovanja živali pri njihovih vsakdanjih opravilih...

... spomladi ob bregu urno tekajo kozice, z dolgimi kljuni spretno pobirajo ličinke vodnih žuželk in sem pa tja kakega drobnega svitka. Vidra si da v tršci opraviti s pravkar ulovljeno ribo. Poleti širna travišča skrivajo gnezda plahega rdečenogega martinca. Rjavovrati ponirek se že ob svitu potaplja za ribjimi mladnicami, v jasnih nočeh pa se zbudijo ponočnjaki - male in grahaste tukalice, ki se jim z glasovnim živžavom pridružita »hreščeči« rakar in neutrudni trstni cvrčalec. Slednji kot maestro razkoračenih nog stoji na dveh bilkah trsa in zlepa ne neha peti. Jeseni jezero privabi na tisoče vodnih ptic, med njimi race kostanjevke, ki se v poplavljenem trstju nahranijo in spočijejo za nadaljevanje poti. Zima jezero spremeni v drsališče, tam, kjer voda ne zamrzne, pa nas preseneti nenavadno oglašanje, ki spominja na kruljenje prašička; mokoži si iščejo hrano.

Največji vodotok Cerkniškega jezera je **Stržen**, ki vijuga po vsej dolžini jezerskega dna. Območje struge, imenovano Ključi, leži v osrčju presihajočega Cerkniškega jezera. Prav tu se rada zadržuje ptica **bobnarica**, vrsta čaplje, ki spominja na križanca med čapljo in sovo. Prebiva v trstičju, pri izbiri prostora za svoje gnezdo pa je izjemno pazljiva in zahtevna.

## LAKE CERKNICA AND THE STRŽEN RIVERBED

"Without any modesty, I can state that the story of the Cerknica Lake is a true miracle of nature." (Janez Vajkard Valvazor)

Cerknica Lake is the most famous intermittent lake in Europe. It is covered by two Natura 2000 areas - Natura 2000 area Cerknica Lake (SI 5000015) and Natura 2000 area Notranjska Triangle (SI 3000232). Many endangered European animal and plant species live here, including birds.

As many as half of all living bird species in Europe have been observed on Cerknica Lake. Some of them make nests in the shelter of the lake and raise their young, others use the lake to take a rest during their migration. 15 species of amphibians, 45 species of mammals, 10 species of fish and 125 species of butterflies can also be found in the area of the lake.

Each season offers a unique experience of observing animals in their daily activities...

... In spring, the common snipe constantly runs along the banks; with its long beak it skilfully picks up larvae of aquatic insects and every now and then a small Planorbidae. An otter in the reed is treating itself to a fish it had just caught. In summer, the wide meadows hide the nests of the timid common redshanks. The red-necked grebe is already diving for young fish at dawn, and on clear nights the nocturnal animals come to life - little and spotted crakes, joined by the "squealing" great reed warbler and the tireless Savi's warbler. The latter, like a maestro with splayed legs, stands on two reed sticks, tirelessly singing its song. In autumn, the lake attracts thousands of waterfowl, among them Ferruginous ducks, which feed and rest amongst the flooded reeds before continuing their journey. Winter turns the lake into a skating rink, and where the water does not freeze, we are taken by surprise by a strange sound that resembles the squealing of a pig; water rails are looking for food.

The largest watercourse of the Cerknica Lake is the **Stržen** stream, which meanders along the entire length of the lake bed. The riverbed area, called Ključi, lies in the heart of the intermittent Cerknica lake. This is where the **Eurasian bittern**, a species of heron that resembles a cross between a heron and an owl, likes to hide. It lives in the reeds, and is extremely careful and demanding when choosing a place for its nest.

# STRŽEN

Ogrožene živalske vrste (Natura 2000) /  
Threatened animal species (Natura 2000)





Foto / Photo: Wikicommons

## BOBNARICA

Bobnarica gnezdi v zmernem toplotnem pasu Evrope in Azije, od Britanskega otočja na zahodu do Japonske na vzhodu. V Sloveniji gnezdi samo na Cerkniškem jezeru. To redko in ogroženo vrsto čaplje najdemo na rdečem seznamu ogroženih vrst IUCN, seznamu vrst NATURA 2000 in rdečem seznamu ptičev gnezdilcev Slovenije.

Skrivnostna ptica naseljuje obsežna trstišča, v katerih se z značilno varovalno barvo in vzorcem dobesedno zlije z okolico. Je mojstrica kamuflaže. Ko je prestrašena, iztegne svoj vrat in telo tako, da so proge na njenem telesu vzporedne z okoliškim rastlinjem, zna pa tudi zanihati dele svojega telesa, da ustvari iluzijo trstičja, ki piha v vetru. Tudi najbolj vztrajni in pretkani opazovalci ptic jo le redko vidijo, medtem ko se njihov močan in globoki »BUUUH« (kot bi pihali v prazno steklenico), sliši tudi do pet kilometrov daleč. Samci privabljajo samice.

V preteklosti regulirane struge številnih vodotokov na Cerkniškem jezeru so občutno poslabšale tudi življenjske razmere bobnarice. Zato je bil eden izmed ciljev projekta LIFE STRŽEN povečati njen življenjski prostor ter ji izboljšati gnezditvene pogoje.

## EURASIAN BITTERN (*BOTAURUS STELLARIS*)

*The Eurasian bittern breeds in the moderate temperature zone of Europe and Asia, from the British Isles in the west to Japan in the east. In Slovenia, it breeds only on Cerknica Lake. This rare and endangered species of heron can be found on the IUCN red list of endangered species, the NATURA 2000 species list and the red list of breeding birds of Slovenia.*

*The mysterious bird inhabits extensive reedbeds, where it literally blends in with its characteristic camouflage colour and pattern. It is a master of camouflage. When frightened, it extends its neck and body so that the stripes on its body are parallel to the surrounding vegetation, and it can also swing parts of its body to create the illusion of reeds blowing in the wind. Even the most persistent and experienced bird watchers rarely see it, while its loud and deep "BUUUH" (like blowing into an empty bottle) can be heard from up to five kilometres away. Males attract females.*

*In the past, the regulated beds of many watercourses on Cerknica Lake significantly worsened the living conditions of the Eurasian bittern. Therefore, one of the goals of the LIFE STRŽEN project was to increase its living space and improve its breeding conditions.*

## INFO

velikost: 70 – 80 cm

razpon kril: 125 - 135 cm

teža: 1 – 2,4 kg

barva: progasto rjavo, sivo in črno perje

prehrana: ribe, raki, dvoživke, žuželke

število jajc v leglu: 3 – 6

čas valjenja: 25 – 26 dni



size: 70 – 80 cm

wingspan: 125 - 135 cm

mass: 1 – 2,4 kg

colour: brown stripes, grey and black feathers

diet: fish, crustaceans, amphibians, insects

eggs per nest: 3 - 6

average time to hatching: 25 – 26 days

Ilustriral / Illustrated by: Jurij Mikuletič

## PROJEKT / PROJECT

01

### OBNOVA STRUGE STRŽENA NA OBMOČJU KLJUČEV

Z izkopom 2,1 km dolgega dvojnega okljuka na območju Ključev in zasutjem 600 metrov dolgega ravnega kanala smo podaljšali strugo Stržena za 1,5 km.

### RECONSTRUCTION OF THE STRŽEN RIVERBED IN THE AREA OF KLJUČI

With the excavation of a 2.1 km long double meander in the area of Ključiči and by filling in a 600-meter-long straight channel we extended the Stržen riverbed by 1.5 km.

Foto: arhiv NRP / Photo: archive NRP



02

### MIRNA CONA ZA BOBNARICO

Na območju Ključev smo uredili življenjski prostor za bobnarico v velikosti 219 hektarjev.

### QUIET ZONE FOR THE EURASIAN BITTERN

We created a habitat measuring 219 hectares for the Eurasian bittern in the Ključiči area.



Foto / Photo: Rudi Kraševc

03

### PREUSMERJANJE OBISKOVALCEV NA OBROBJE CERKNIŠKEGA JEZERA

Da bi obiskovalce preusmerili od najbolj občutljivih predelov jezera, smo zgradili tematsko pot Drvošec in opazovalnico nad Levišči, izvajali usposabljanja za turistične vodnike in organizirali tematske vikende z namenom preizkušanja in razvoja novih turističnih produktov.

### REDIRECTING VISITORS TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF CERKNICA LAKE

In order to divert visitors from the most sensitive areas of the lake, we created the Drvošec themed trail and observatory above Levišče, conducted training for tourist guides and organized themed weekends during which we tested and developed new tourist products.



Foto: arhiv NRP / Photo: archive NRP

## 01 OBNOVA VODOTOKA STRŽEN

Obnova v preteklem stoletju izravnane struge Stržena je izjemen gradbeni poseg. Dodaten izziv pri obnovi sta bila nepredvidljiv vodostaj Cerknškega jezera in muhasto vreme, ki sta se vmešala že v obsežna pripravljala dela. Nekdanji dvojni meander v Ključih, ki v dolžino meri 2,1 km, v širino pa od 15 do 20 m, smo izkopal leta 2019, nismo pa ga še povezali z obstoječo strugo Stržena. Poleti leta 2021 je Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije s pomočjo Ribiške družine Cerknica iz ravnega kanala v dolžini 600 metrov s pomočjo nastavljenih vrš in vab izločil rake, po predhodnem črpanju vode pa še ribe s saki in mrežami. Živali smo preselili v novo izkopana okljuka, nato pa še isto poletje ravni kanal zasuli.

Struga Stržena na območju Ključev je danes daljša za 1,5 km. Stržen se je vrnil v Valvasorjeve čase.



Izjemen pionirski gradbeni poseg je bil nagrajen s slovensko nagrado Natura 2000. *This exceptional pioneering construction intervention was awarded the Slovenian Natura 2000 award.*

## RESTORATION OF THE STRŽEN RIVERBED

*The restoration of the Stržen riverbed, which was straightened in the past century, is an extraordinary construction intervention. The unpredictable water level of Cerknica Lake and the capricious weather, which already interfered with the extensive preparatory work, presented an additional challenge in the reconstruction. The former double meander in Ključi, which measures 2.1 km in length and 15 to 20 m in width, was excavated in 2019, but has not yet been connected to the existing Stržen riverbed. In the summer of 2021, The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia and the Cerknica Fishing Family, caught crayfish from the 600-meter-long straight channel using set tops and baits, and after pumping out the water, also caught fish with seines and nets. We moved them to the newly dug pits, and then filled the canal the same summer.*

*Today, the Stržen riverbed in the Ključi area is 1.5 km longer. Stržen returned to the form it had in Valvasor's time.*



Foto: arhiv NRP (levo), Jošt Stergaršek (desno) / Photo: archive NRP (left), Jošt Stergaršek (right)

## 02 MIREN DOM ZA BOBNARICO

Bobnarica potrebuje za svoje bivanje prav posebne pogoje. Pri izbiri prostora za svoje gnezdo išče območja trstišča v bližini večjih površin globoke vode, ki niso zaraščene in ne presahnejo niti v suhem delu leta. Poleg tega se v času gnezdenja nivo vode v trstišču ne sme pretirano spreminjati, pomembno pa je tudi, da je njen dom miren in tih.

Na širšem območju Ključev smo vzpostavili 219 ha veliko mirno cono za bobnarico, znotraj katere smo na območju obnove dvojnega okljuka uvedli še ribiški rezervat, ki je zamejen s količki in v katerem ribolov ni dovoljen. Znotraj 54 ha velikega ribiškega rezervata smo uredili 2,7 ha veliko vodno okno v malem meandru Mali Ključ, kjer se bo voda zadrževala celo leto in bodo imele ribe, glavna hrana bobnarice, ustrezne življenjske pogoje.

S tem, ko urejamo ustrezno gnezditveno in prehranjevalno okolje za bobnarico, urejamo tudi življenjski prostor drugih vrst ptic, ki prebivajo v trstičju.

### A PEACEFUL HOME FOR THE EURASIAN BITTERN

*The Eurasian bittern needs special conditions for its habitat. When selecting a place to nest, it looks for areas of reeds near large areas of deep water that are not overgrown and remain wet even during the dry part of the year. In addition, the water level in the reed bed should not change excessively during the nesting period, and it is also important that its home is calm and quiet.*

*In the wider area of Ključ, we have established a 219 ha quiet zone for the Eurasian bittern, within which we have also introduced a fishing reserve in the area of the reconstruction of the double meander, which is demarcated by stakes and in which fishing is forbidden. Within the 54 ha of the fishing reserve, we created a 2.7 ha water window in the small meander Mali Ključ, where the water will stay all year round and where the fish, the main food of the Eurasian bittern, will have suitable living conditions.*

*By creating a suitable nesting and feeding environment for the Eurasian bittern, we have also created a habitat for other types of birds that live in the reed beds.*



Foto / Photo: Alen Ploj



Foto / Photo: Damjan Intihar





## 03 TEMATSKA POT DRVOŠEC IN TEMATSKI VIKENDI

Usmerjanje obiska na prav posebnem koščku sveta, kjer domuje Cerknško jezero s svojimi številnimi obrazy, je nujno potrebno. Da bi razbremenili pritisk obiskovalcev na najobčutljivejše dele Cerknškega jezera skupaj z mirno cono za bobnarico in zasebnimi kmetijskimi zemljišči, smo bili aktivni v več različnih smereh.

Na Cerknškem jezeru smo vzpostavili nadzor in opozarjali obiskovalce o kršenju predpisov, ki veljajo na tem območju. Pri tem so nam bili v veliko pomoč inšpektorat za okolje in medobčinsko redarstvo, Policijska postaja Cerknica, Občina Cerknica in Uprava RS za varno hrano, veterinarstvo in varstvo rastlin.

Gradnja infrastrukture na obrobju Cerknškega jezera se je izkazala za še posebej uspešno zgodbo. Postavili smo opazovalnico v naravi s pogledom na obnovljeni dvojni okljuk in mirno cono za bobnarico ter uredili novo tematsko pot Drvošec, katere izgradnjo je poleg projekta LIFE STRŽEN omogočil tudi projekt KRAS.RE.VITA. Učna pot ob Cerknškem jezeru s čudovitimi razgledi, opazovalnicami za ptice, razglednim stolpom, številnimi informacijskimi tablami in zanimivimi skulpturami je s strani Turistične zveze Slovenije prejela nagrado za NAJ tematsko pot leta 2020, leta 2023 pa še nagrado JAKOB, mednarodno nagrado za inovativnost, kakovost in odličnost v turizmu, ki jo podeljuje Gospodarsko razstavišče.

Med leti 2019 in 2021 smo izvajali interaktivne delavnice za lokalne turistične vodnike. Skupaj z njimi smo oblikovali nove, trajnostne turistične produkte, ki smo jih v praksi preizkušali ob vikendih. Preverjali smo zadovoljstvo udeležencev aktivnosti in slednje skozi leta dopolnjevali. Skupno smo organizirali več kot sto vodenih izletov. Produkti so bili v času trajanja projekta izpopolnjeni do te mere, da danes vodnikom omogočajo samostojno trženje.

## THE DRVOŠEC THEME ROUTE AND THEME WEEKENDS

*Directing your visit to a very special part of the world, home to Cerknica Lake with its numerous appearances, is absolutely necessary. In order to relieve the pressure of visitors on the most sensitive parts of Cerknica Lake, including the quiet zone for the Eurasian bittern and private agricultural lands, we have been active in several different directions.*

*We established control on Cerknica Lake and warned visitors as regards the violations of the regulations that are in force in this area. The Environmental and Intermunicipal Inspectorate, the Cerknica Police Station, the Municipality of Cerknica and the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection were of great help in this regard.*

*The construction of the infrastructure on the outskirts of Cerknica Lake has proven to be a particularly successful story. We built an observatory in the midst of nature, overlooking the restored double meander and the quiet zone for the Eurasian bittern, as well as the new Drvošec theme trail, the construction of which was made possible by the LIFE STRŽEN and the KRAS.RE.VITA projects. In 2020, the Tourist Association of Slovenia awarded the educational trail alongside Cerknica Lake with its wonderful views, bird observatories, observation tower, numerous information boards and interesting sculptures the award for the BEST theme trail, and in 2023 the JAKOB award, an international award for innovation, quality and excellence in tourism, was awarded by Gospodarsko razstavišče.*

*Between 2019 and 2021, we conducted interactive workshops for local tourist guides. Together with them, we designed new, sustainable tourist products, which we tested in practice on weekends. We checked the satisfaction of the participants and supplemented the activities over the years. In total, we organized more than one hundred guided tours. During the project, the products were perfected to such an extent that the guides can now market them independently.*

## PODPORA

Za uspešno izvedbo projekta LIFE STRŽEN je bilo potrebno učinkovito sodelovanje z različnimi lokalnimi interesnimi skupinami. Za podporo in pomoč se zahvaljujemo vsem lokalnim prebivalcem, še posebej pa lastnikom zemljišč na Cerknškem jezeru, turističnim ponudnikom, lokalnim lovskim družinam in agrarnim vaškim skupnostim, Ribiški družini Cerknica in Občini Cerknica. Podporo projektu so izrazili še Turistično društvo Notranjska Cerknica, Društvo ljubiteljev Križne jame, Medobčinski inšpektorat in redarstvo občin Postojna, Cerknica, Pivka, Loška Dolina in Bloke, Biebrzański Park Narodowy Poljska. Finančno so projekt podprli Evropska komisija preko finančnega mehanizma LIFE, ministrstvo za naravne vire in prostor, Občina Cerknica, ebm-papst Slovenija, Alpod, Elgoline in DS Smith Slovenija. Iskrena hvala!

## SUPPORT

*Effective cooperation with various local interest groups was necessary for the successful implementation of the LIFE STRŽEN project. We would like to thank all residents for their support and help, especially the land owners on Cerknica Lake, tourism providers, local hunting families and village communities, the Cerknica fishing family and the Cerknica municipality.*

*The Notranjska Cerknica Tourist Association, the Križna Jama Afficionados Association, the Environmental and Intermunicipal Inspectorate of the municipalities of Postojna, Cerknica, Pivka, Loška Dolina and Bloke, and Biebrzański Park Narodowy Poland also expressed their support for the project. The project was financially supported by the European Commission through the LIFE financial mechanism, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, the Municipality of Cerknica, ebm-papst Slovenia, Alpod, Elgoline and DS Smith Slovenia. We are sincerely grateful!*



## OZAVEŠČANJE

Da bi širšo javnost informirali, obveščali in izobraževali ter ji na najrazličnejše načine približali naše aktivnosti in cilje, smo izbrali pisano paleto medijev, dogodkov in dejavnosti. Redno smo sodelovali z lokalnimi in nacionalnimi mediji, tedensko objavljali blog LIFE STRŽEN, posneli predstavitvene filme in ustvarili svoj hišni časopis, bilten Iz Tršče, ki ga je dvakrat letno prejelo vsako gospodinjstvo v občinah Cerknica, Bloke in Loška dolina.

Posebno pozornost smo namenili otrokom. Med leti 2017 in 2021 se je naših vodenih naravoslovnih dni udeležilo več kot 1500 predšolskih otrok, učencev, dijakov in študentov. Za tiste najbolj navdušene nad naravo smo organizirali večdnevne naravovarstvene taborne, na katerih so se zbuja in hodili spat v naročju skrivnostnega sveta Cerkniškega jezera. Še posebej smo ponosni na naš ustvarjalni natečaj, ki je presegel okvirje naše občine in postal pravi hit na nacionalni ravni.

OGLEJTE SI NAŠE PREDSTAVITVENE FILME / PLEASE FEEL FREE TO WATCH OUR PRESENTATION FILMS:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzCwwg8yUvg>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CB60-qAOs6Y>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDO23SOLh4A>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcdNBCUmGFI>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZ2ncUOwh8Q&t=26s>

## AWARENESS

We have chosen a diverse range of media, events and activities to inform and educate the general public and bring our activities and goals closer to them. We regularly cooperated with local and national media, published the LIFE STRŽEN blog weekly, created presentation films as well as our own newspaper, the newsletter "Iz Tršče", which was received twice annually by every household in the municipalities of Cerknica, Bloke and Loška dolina. We paid special attention to children. Between 2017 and 2021, more than 1,500 preschool children, pupils and students took part in our guided science days. For the more enthusiastic nature lovers, we organized multi-day nature conservation camps, during which they woke up and went to sleep in the arms of the mysterious world of Cerknica Lake. We are especially proud of our creative competition, which went beyond the boundaries of our municipality and became a big hit on the national level.



Risba / Drawing : Ema Diller

Foto: arhiv NRP / Photo: archive NRP

Risba / Drawing : Sara Čantala, Marcel Trahnik, Tiaž Nemec, Mark Šandor

Foto / Photo: Jošt Stergaršek

## LIFE PO LIFE<sub>U</sub>

Ob zaključku projekta naše delo še zdaleč ni končano. Potreben bo nadaljnji nadzor mirne cone za bobnarico in njeno redno vzdrževanje, slednjega bo deležna tudi vsa obstoječa infrastruktura na obrobju Cerkniškega jezera. Aktivni bomo v komunikaciji z lastniki zemljišč, lovci, ribiči, ponudniki turističnih storitev in širšo javnostjo, pri kateri bomo še posebej pozorni na naše najmlajše. Nadgrajevali bomo med projektom zasnovane turistične produkte, naša želja za prihodnost pa je, da postopoma obnovimo vse v preteklosti izravnane vodotoke in Cerkniškemu jezeru povrnemo podobo iz Valvasorjevih časov.

## NATURA 2000 IN LIFE

Natura 2000 je orodje Evropske Unije (EU) za ohranjanje narave in biodiverzitete, s poudarkom na ogroženih vrstah in habitatih. Začetki Nature 2000 segajo v leto 1979 s prilagoditvijo Direktive o pticah (79/409/EEC; 2009/147/EEC), ki preko posebnih zaščitnih območij (SPAs) še danes ščiti približno 500 vrst evropskih ptic. Z namenom zaščite habitatov (233 tipov) in ogroženih vrst živali in rastlin (okoli 1.200) je bila leta 1992 sprejeta nova Direktiva o habitatih (92/42/EEC). Pod okriljem te direktive so bila ustanovljena območja, pomembna za Skupnost (SCIs), ki so naknadno razglašena kot posebna varstvena območja (SACs). V okviru obeh direktiv je razglašanih 27.312 zaščitnih območij, ki zavzemajo okoli 18 % teritorija EU in gradijo omrežje Natura 2000, katerega koristi imajo ocenjeni gospodarski učinek od 200 do 300 milijard EUR na leto. Program LIFE je bil ustanovljen leta 1992 kot finančni inštrument EU v podporo projektom, usmerjenim v izvajanje inovativnih in trajnostnih izboljšav kakovosti okolja in blaženje podnebnih sprememb. Od svojega začetka je sofinanciral že več kot 5.400 projektov in prispeval okoli 6,5 milijard evrov.

## MREŽENJE

Dobre prakse, znanje in izkušnje smo si izmenjevali s projekti s sorodnimi vsebinami: LIFE Coastlake (LIFE12 NAT/LV/000118) v Latviji, LIFE09 NAT/PL/000258 in LIFE13 NAT/PL/000050 na Poljskem, BurrenLIFE (LIFE04 NAT/IE/000125), GeoparkLIFE (LIFE11 ENV/IE/000922), Mulkear LIFE (LIFE07 NAT/IRL/000342) in KerryLIFE (LIFE13 NAT/IE/000144) na Irskem. Sodelovali smo na številnih konferencah, srečanjih in delavnicah. Izpostavljam samo najpomembnejše: SERE - European Conference on Ecological Restoration, International EURO-INBO Conference 2023, EBCC - Bird Numbers 2019 in Mišičevi dnevi.

## AFTER-LIFE PLAN

*At the end of the project, our work is far from over. Further monitoring and regular maintenance of the quiet zone for the Eurasian bittern will be required, and the same will be provided to all existing infrastructure on the outskirts of Cerknica Lake. We will be actively communicating with land owners, hunters, fishermen, tourist service providers and the general public, during which we will pay special attention to the young generation. We will upgrade our tourist products, specially designed during the project. Our wish for the future is to gradually reconstruct all the watercourses that were straightened in the past and restore the image of Cerknica Lake as it was in the times of Valvasor.*

## NATURA 2000 AND LIFE

*Natura 2000 is a tool established by the European Union (EU) which aims to conserve nature and biodiversity, with a special focus on endangered species and habitats. The origins of Natura 2000 date back to 1979, to the adaptation of the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC; 2009/147/EEC), which still protects around 500 European bird species in Special Protected Areas (SPAs). With the aim of protecting habitats (233 types) and endangered animal and plant species (approximately 1,200) the new Habitats Directive (92/42/EEC) was adopted in 1992. Under this directive, Sites of Community Importance (SCIs) were established, and subsequently declared as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). In the framework of both directives, 27,312 protected areas have been established, occupying around 18% of the EU territory and forming Natura 2000 - a network the benefits of which have an estimated economic impact of 200 to 300 billion EUR annually. The LIFE program was established in 1992 as a financial instrument for EU support projects for the purpose of implementing innovative and sustainable improvements in the quality of the environment and mitigating climate change. Since its inception, it has co-financed more than 5,400 projects and contributed around 6.5 billion euros.*

## NETWORKING

*We exchanged good practices, knowledge and experience through projects with related content: LIFE Coastlake (LIFE12 NAT/LV/000118) in Latvia, LIFE09 NAT/PL/000258 and LIFE13 NAT/PL/000050 in Poland, BurrenLIFE (LIFE04 NAT/IE/000125), GeoparkLIFE (LIFE11 ENV/IE/000922), Mulkear LIFE (LIFE07 NAT/IRL/000342) and KerryLIFE (LIFE13 NAT/IE/000144) in Ireland. We participated in many conferences, meetings and workshops. We are highlighting only the most important ones: SERE - European Conference on Ecological Restoration, International EURO-INBO Conference 2023, EBCC - Bird Numbers 2019 and Mišič's Days.*



Stržen na območju Ključev /  
The Stržen stream in the Ključ area  
Foto: arhiv NRP / Photo: archive NRP

Vodilni partner projekta /  
Coordinating beneficiary

Pridruženi partnerji projekta /  
Associated beneficiaries

Sofinancerji projekta /  
Project co-financers

