



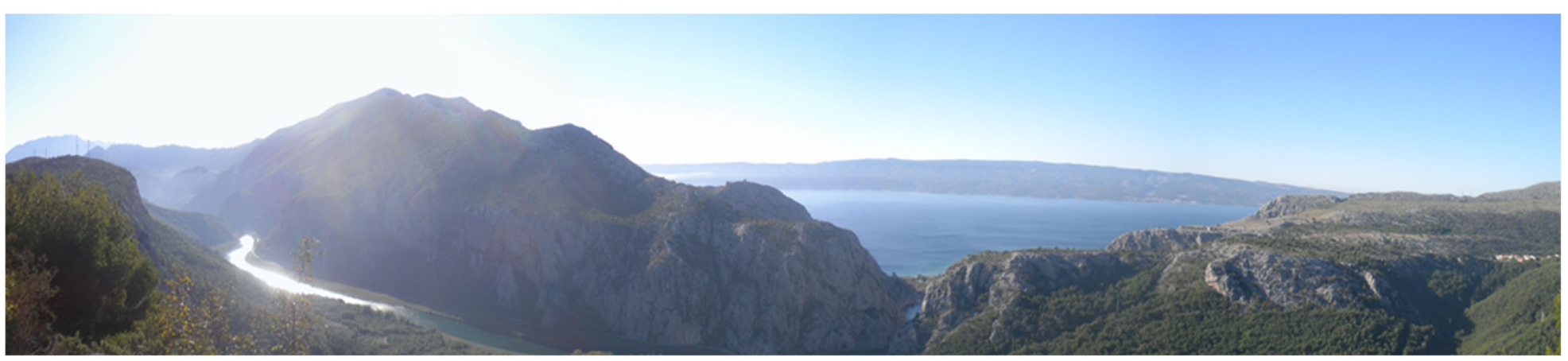
REPUBLIC of CROATIA
Ministry of Economy and
Sustainable Development



Effective Management of Natura 2000 (Croatian experiences)

Daniel Springer, Head of Service for Protected Areas

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK



CROATIA



- territory: 56 594 km²
- territorial sea: 31 757 km²
- 1246 islands
- population: 3 871 833
- 21 counties

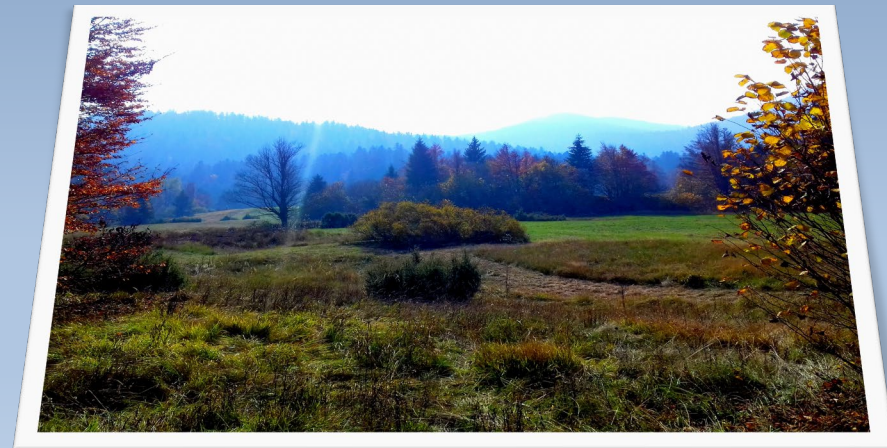


Biogeographic regions in Croatia

A Continental bioregion

B Alpine bioregion

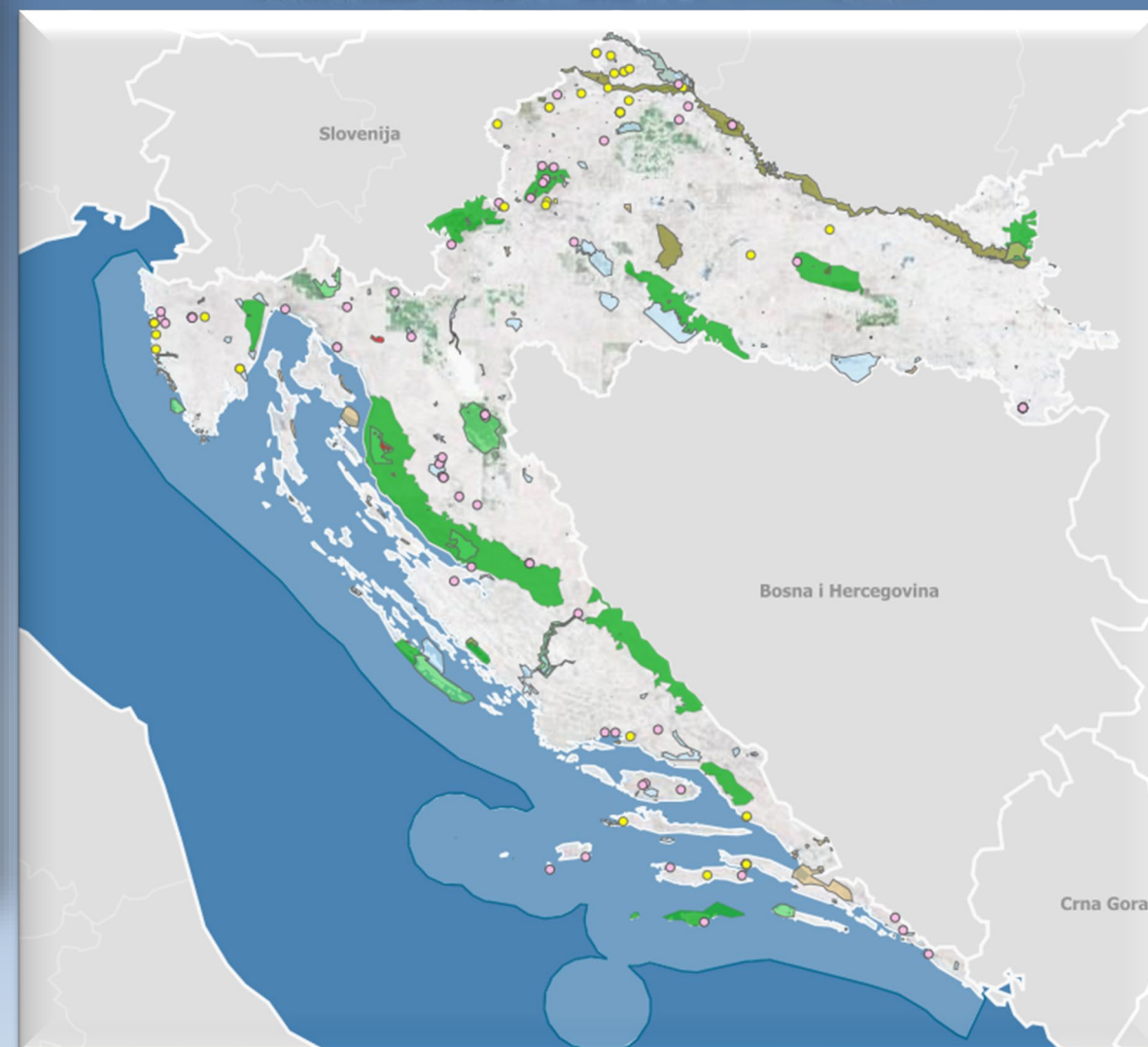
C Mediterranean bioregion



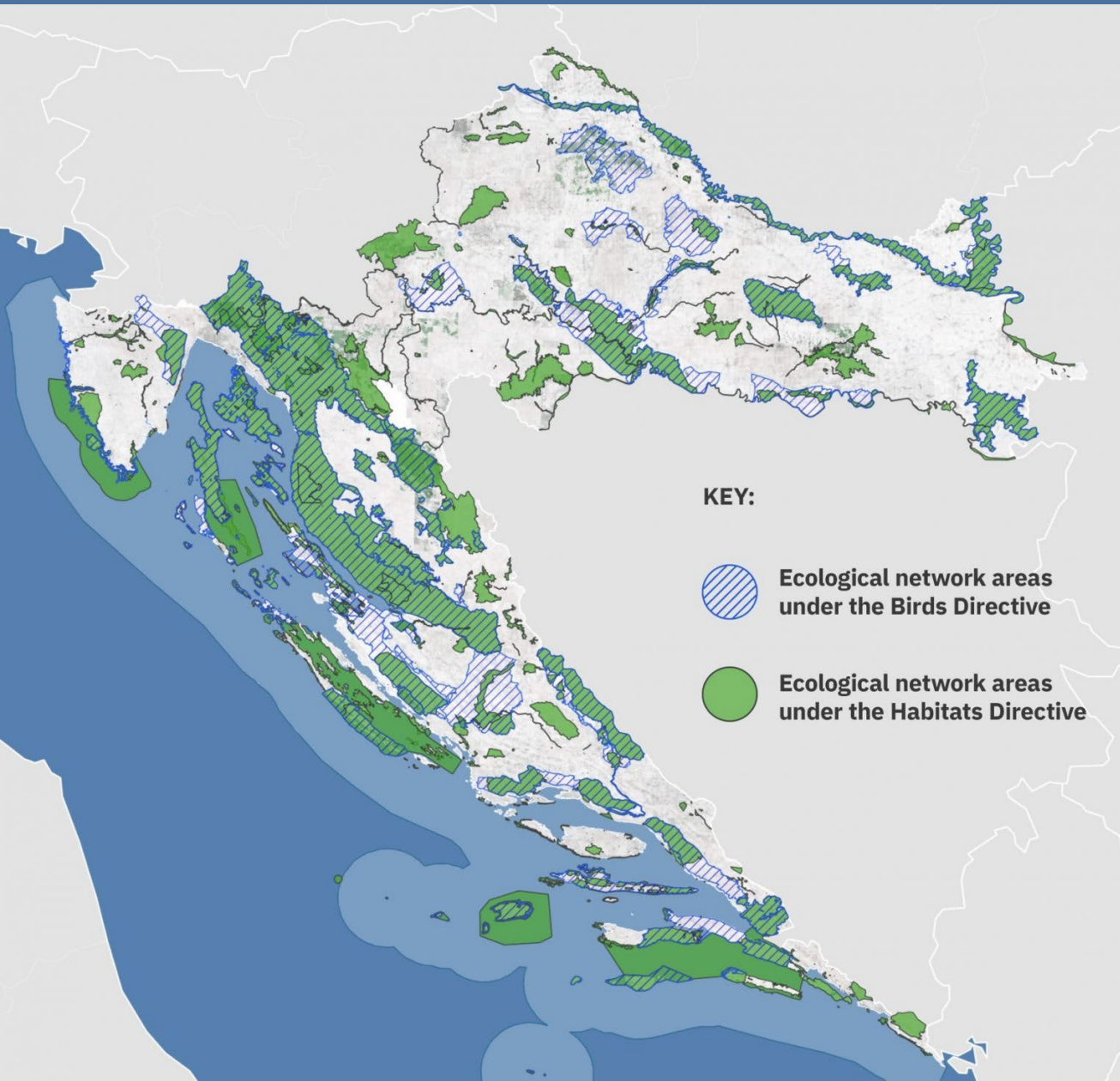
National categories



Protection category	No. of PAs	Mainland	Sea
Forest Park	27	2866.10 ha	0.00 ha
Significant Landscape	80	129520.25 ha	9714.55 ha
Strict Reserve	2	2413.03 ha	0.00 ha
National Park	8	76221.04 ha	21652.13 ha
Special Reserve	80	29676.56 ha	11038.86 ha
Nature Park	12	475835.87 ha	18902.28 ha
Regional Park	2	102556.31 ha	0.00 ha
Natural Monument	79	925.80 ha	0.00 ha
Horticultural Monument	120	1016.00 ha	0.00 ha
Minus sites inc. in other PA...		62656.33 ha	523.86 ha
TOTAL:	410	758374.63 ha	60783.96 ha
Percentage of Croatian territory		13.4 %	1.931 %



NATURA 2000 in Croatia

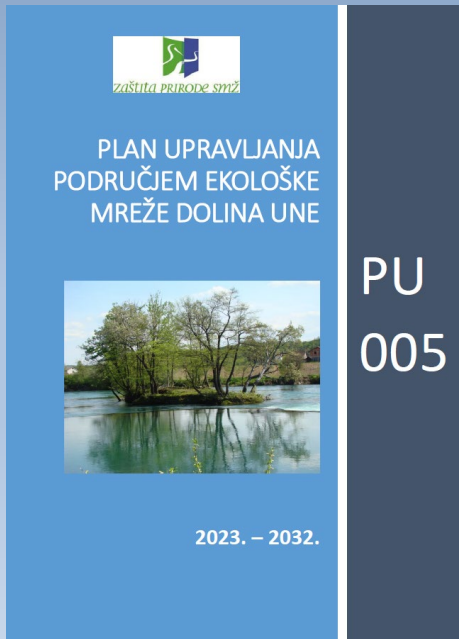


	Natura 2000 coverage (land)		Natura 2000 coverage (territorial sea and inland waters)		Number of Natura 2000 sites
	percentage	km ²	percentage	km ²	
SCI (Sites of community importance)	28,5%	16.117,9	8,8%	4.865,5	745
SPA (Special protection areas)	30,2%	17.102,3	1,9%	1.054,4	38
TOTAL	36,8%	20.797,9	9,3%	5.158,2	783



National PA's & Natura 2000

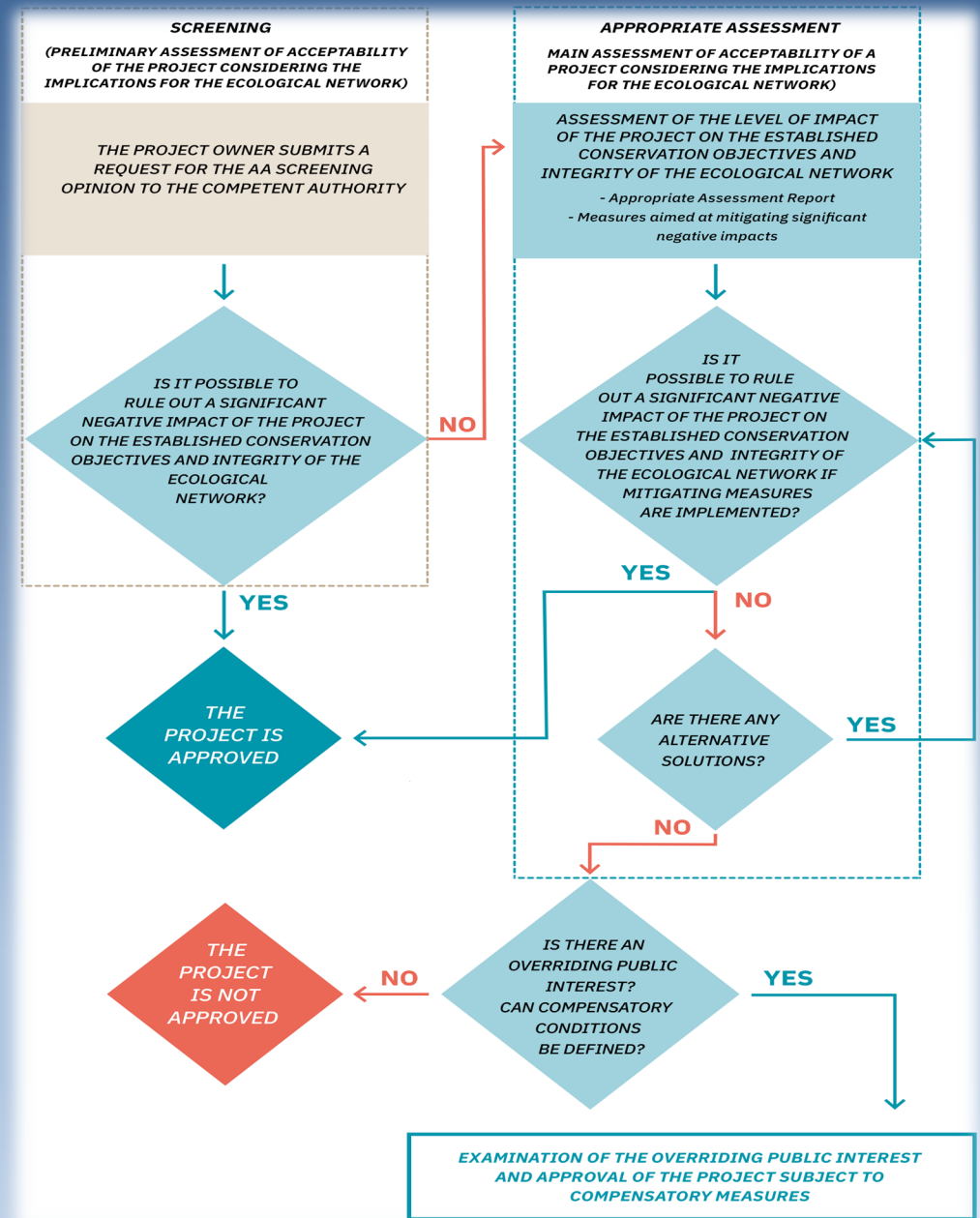
	Coverage on land		Coverage on territorial sea and inland waters		Number of sites/areas
	percentage	km ²	percentage	km ²	
Nationally protected areas	13,6%	7.685,1	1,1%	615,6	410
Natura 2000	36,8%	20.799,9	9,3%	5.158,2	783
TOTAL (without overlapping)	38,2%	21.597,0	9,4%	5.199,9	1193



- Management plans (currently in power)**
- 387 Natura 2000 sites
 - 123 nationally protected areas

Ecological network appropriate assessment

- one of the basic tools for managing the ecological network
- ensures that all programmes, projects, interventions, or activities that take place within and in the proximity of the ecological network areas do not have a significant adverse effect on the species and habitats protected within these areas



METT (Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool)

METT is the most widely used assessment system for management effectiveness in protected areas around the globe. It is used to monitor the progress and effectiveness of protected areas. The latest version is METT-4 from 2020.

In Croatia, METT was conducted three times (2012/2013, 2015 and 2017) in the national and natural parks (+ Natura2000 within the Park).

- in 2012/2013: METT was conducted through working meetings in the Parks (Ministry & PA Managers)
- in 2015: METT was conducted through an online questionnaire (**Not recommended**).
- In 2017: METT was conducted through working meetings in the Parks (Ministry & PA Managers)

In 2025/26 it is planned to apply METT-4 on all protected areas (national categories and Natura 2000 sites) within the new EU project (PROGRAMME COMPETITIVENESS AND COHESION 2021-2027)



Monitoring of Management Module (2023)

In 2023 a new module „ Monitoring of Management” is developed and functional ONLINE on Bioportal (Nature Protection Information System) for Public Institutions for Management of Protected Areas (national categories and Natura2000).

The Module is used for preparing basic management documents (Management Plans, Annual Programs and Reports on Annual Programs) which are interconnected. The main purpose of the Module is the creation and implementation of management documents as well as monitoring of management effectiveness.

Kod plana	Naziv plana ^	Razdoblje trajanja	Područja	Javne ustanove	Zaključan
PU 6105	HVAR	2023 - 2032	207, 208, 209, 6, HR2001338, HR2001343, HR2001421, HR2001425, HR2001427, HR2001428, HR2001429, HR3000095, HR3000114, HR3000115, HR3000116, HR3000119, HR3000135, HR3000136, HR3000137, HR3000138, HR3000139, HR3000140, HR3000141, HR3000142, HR3000143, HR3000149, HR3000451, HR3000456, HR3000457, HR3000464	JU MORE I KRŠ	-
PU 6034-1	KANJON RIJEKE CETINE	2024 - 2033	82, HR1000029, HR2000929	JU MORE I KRŠ	-
PU 1007	Park prirode Lastovsko otočje PLAN UPRAVLJANJA	2017 - 2026	-	JU PP Lastovsko otočje	-
PU 6042	Plan upravljanja geomorfološkim spomenikom prirode Vrlotvika i područjem ekološke mreže oko spilje Vrlotvke	2024 - 2033	68, HR2001372	JU NATURA VIVA	🔒
0000	Plan upravljanja Geoparkom Biokovo-Imotska jezera 2022-2026.	2022 - 2026	-	JU PP Biokovo	-
PU1003	Plan upravljanja JU NP Brijuni	2016 - 2025	345, HR1000032, HR2000604	JU NP Brijuni	-
PU6012	Plan upravljanja Nacionalnim parkom Kornati	2024 - 2033	333, HR1000035, HR4000001	JU NP Kornati	🔒
PU 1004	Plan upravljanja Nacionalnim parkom Mjet (2017-2026)	2017 - 2026	164, 49, HR1000037, HR5000037	JU NP Mjet	-

Effective Management - Key Ingredients



Effective management system:
45 public institutions
(conservation managers + rangers
+ staff)

Knowledge and data about the
condition of PA's + monitoring
system

- Marine habitats Map 51% (NEW)
- <https://bioportal.hr/gis> (online GIS public browser)
- education, communication, stakeholders involvement...

METT (Management Effectiveness
Tracking Tool)

Intersectoral cooperation

Legal framework for permission
system, surveillance and
appropriate assessment

Ensure the implementation of
Management plans



Thank you for your attention



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