

***Ministry of Environment
of the Slovak Republic***



***STATE OF THE
ENVIRONMENT REPORT
SLOVAK REPUBLIC
2010***



Slovak Environmental Agency

• FLORA, FAUNA AND PROTECTED PARTS OF NATURE

Key questions and key findings

◆ Key questions

- What is the state of protection of plant and animal species of European importance?
- What is the situation in the protection of habitats of European importance?
- What is the trend in the state of protected areas?

◆ Key findings

- Assessment of the situation with the protection of species of European importance suggests unfavourable state of protection. Half of the assessed vascular plants together with half of the assessed mammals, 70% of reptiles, and 90% of amphibians, show unsatisfactory or adverse situation.
- Assessment of the state of habitats of European importance shows unsatisfactory or adverse level of protection for 60% of forest habitats. The same situation exists for half of the shrubs habitats, 70% of grassland habitats, and also for 70% of freshwater habitats.
- State of protected areas has significantly improved - approximately 82% of the size of small-sized protected areas was in the optimal state in 2010, compared to 55% of these areas in 2000.

Flora

◆ Endangerment of plant taxons

State of endangerment for individual taxons is elaborated on the basis of the *Red List of Plants and Animals of Slovakia, 2001*.

Group	Total number of taxons		Endangered (IUCN cat.)						Ed
	World (global estimation)	Slovakia	EX	CR	EN	VU	LR	DD	
Cyanophytes and Algae	50 000	3 008	-	7	80	196	-	-	-
Lower fungi	80 000	1 295	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Higher fungi	20 000	2 469	5	7	39	49	87	90	-
Lichens	20 000	1 585	88	140	48	169	114	14	-
Bryophytes	20 000	909	26	95	104	112	85	74	2
Vascular plants	250 000	3 352	77	266	320	430	285	50	220

Source: SNC SR

Level of **endangerment of non-vascular plants** in Slovakia is presently **17.6%** (including fungi). Level of **endangerment of vascular plants** is **42.6%** (for all endangerment categories), or **30.3%** (for the CR, EN, and VU categories).

Comparison of the vascular plant endangerment* in selected countries

	Slovakia	Austria	Hungary	Poland	Czech Rep.
Vascular plants (%)	30.3	33.4	19.8	11.0	42.5

Source: OECD Environmental Data Compendium, 2008

* Among "endangered" taxons are those taxons classified under categories: CR, EN, and VU under IUCN. Czech Rep.: Data include extinct species.

◆ **Protection of plant taxons**

Protection of plant taxons is in the presence regulated by the **Resolution of MoE SR No. 24/2003 Coll.** to the *Act on Nature and Landscape Protection No. 543/2002 Coll.* as amended by Resolution 492/2006 Coll., Resolution 638/2007 Coll and Resolution 579/2008 Coll.. Number of the **state protected taxons** is now **1 418** (vascular plants – 1 285; bryophytes – 47; higher fungi – 70; lichens – 17). Also the species of European importance classified under the **Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora** not found in Slovakia are protected by pertinent legislation. Of total number of 1 418 protected taxons, **823 taxons** are found in **Slovakia** (713 of vascular plants, 23 of bryophytes, 70 of higher fungi, 17 of lichens).

Wild-growing plant taxons in Slovakia protected by international conventions and EU regulations

	Cyanophytes and Algae	Fungi	Lichens	Bryophytes	Vascular plants
In attachment II of Habitats Directive	-	-	-	9	40
In attachment IV of Habitats Directive	-	-	-	-	42
In attachment V of Habitats Directive	-	-	-	2*	3**
In attachment I and II of CITES	-	-	-	-	110
In attachment I of Bern Convention	-	-	-	8	35

* *Leucobryum glaucum* and the entire genus *Sphagnum*

Source: SNC SR

** *Artemisia eriantha*, *Galanthus nivalis*, including the entire genus *Lycopodium*

State of protection of plants of European importance, 2004-2006¹⁾ (%)

Taxons	Favourable	Inadequate	Bad	Unknown	Total
Vascular plants	10	40	10	40	100
Other plants	20	40	30	10	100

1) Assessment of 200 species registered pursuant to article 17 of the Habitat directive

Source: MoE SR

Within the implementation of **transfers, reintroductions and restitutions** of endangered species of plants, there was a transfer of seeds and 147 cruciferous leaf formations of the Rose Campion (*Lychnis coronaria*) and 2 clusters of the Roundhead bulrush (*Scirpoides holoschoenus*).

Rescue programmes (RP) were developed and implemented in 2010 for the following species of vascular plants (VP):

	VP taxons
Developed in 2010	-
Implemented in 2010	<i>Liparis loeselii</i> , <i>Tephrosieris longifolia</i> ssp. <i>moravica</i> , <i>Carex pulicaris</i> , <i>Glaux maritima</i> , <i>Herminium monorchis</i> , <i>Spiranthes spiralis</i> , <i>Drosera anglica</i> , <i>Radiola linoides</i> , <i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>

Protection of the natural taxonomic composition of ecosystems through **regulation of the occurrence of non-native plant species** was carried out in 2010. Elimination of the non-native invasive and invasive-like plant species was carried out at 99 sites within the scope of 20 organisation units of the SR State Nature Conservancy. Interventions were carried out in the area of 77.03 ha and were focused primarily on 3 species: *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, *Solidago canadensis*, and *Fallopia japonica*.

Overview of the most spread invasive plant species as of 2010

	Name	
The most spread invasive species	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	
	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>	
	<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>	
	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	
	<i>Impatiens parviflora</i>	
	<i>Solidago gigantea</i>	
	<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	
	<i>Aster novi-belgii</i>	
	<i>Aster lanceolatus</i>	
	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	
	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	
	<i>Stenactis annua</i>	
	<i>Galinsoga parviflora</i>	
	<i>Bidens frondosa</i>	
	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>		
<i>Negundo aceroides</i>		
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>		
Total	number of known taxons of invasive sp. in the SR	% of total number of vascular plants taxons
	125*	3.7

Data as shown in the publication **Gojdičová, E., Cvachová, A., Karasová, E., 2002: Zoznam nepôvodných, invázných a expanzívnych cievnatých rastlín Slovenska 2.** and includes categories of invasive taxons (neophytes - 28, archaeophytes - 19) potentially (regionally) invasive taxons - 49, and expansive taxons - 29.

Fauna

◆ Endangerment of animal species

State of endangerment for individual animal species is elaborated on the basis of actual red lists (2001, 2005, 2008).

State of endangerment of the particular invertebrate taxons

Taxons Group	Number of taxons		Categories of endangerment (IUCN)								Endanger- ment total*	Endang. %
	World	SR	EX	CR	EN	VU	LR	DD	NE			
Mollusca	128 000	277	2	26	22	33	45	8	135	134	48.4	
Aranea	30 000	934	16	73	90	101	97	45	-	406	43.5	
Ephemers	2 000	132	-	8	17	16	-	-	-	41	31.1	
Odonata	5 667	75	4	-	14	11	13	5	-	43	57.3	
Orthoptera	15 000	118	-	6	7	10	20	10	-	53	44.9	
Heteroptera	30 000	801	-	14	7	6	4	-	-	31	3.9	
Coleoptera	350 000	6 498	2	15	128	490	81	2	-	716	11.0	
Hymenoptera	250 000	5 779	-	23	59	203	16	-	-	301	5.2	
Lepidoptera	100 000	3 500	6	21	15	41	17	11	-	105	3.0	
Diptera	150 000	5 975	-	5	10	71	19	93	-	198	3.3	

* without the category of EX and NE

Source: SNC SR

Endangerment of invertebrates in Slovakia is now about 8.4% (or **5.4%** just within CR, EN and VU categories). For **vertebrates**, 59% of them are endangered (or **23.5%** when limited to only CR, EN and VU categories).

State of endangerment of the particular vertebrate taxons

Taxons Group	Number of taxons		Categories of endangerment (IUCN)							Endangerment total*	Endang. %
	World ¹⁾	SR	EX	CR	EN	VU	LR	DD	NE		
Lampreys		4	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	3	75.0
Pisces	25 000	79	4	-	6	9	40	-	-	55	69.6
Amphibians	4 950	18	-	-	3	5	10	-	-	18	100.0
Reptiles	7 970	12	-	1	-	4	6	-	-	11	91.7
Birds ²⁾	9 946	219	2	7	23	19	47	4	19	100	45.7
Mammals	4 763	90	2	2	6	12	27	15	4	62	68.9

* without the category of EX and NE

Source: SNC SR

¹⁾ Source: UNEP – GBO

²⁾ only nesting birds – of total number of 341 birds of Slovakia, only the all 219 species of nesting birds were assessed

 Comparison of animals endangerment¹⁾ in selected countries (%)

	Slovakia	Austria	Hungary	Poland	Czech Rep.
Invertebrates	5.3	-	> 0.9	-	13.1
Pisces	24.1	50.6	43.2	21.0	41.5
Amphibians	44.4	60.0	27.8	-	61.9
Reptiles	38.5	64.3	33.3	33.3	72.7
Birds	14.0	27.7	14.5	7.8	50.0
Mammals	21.7	22.0	37.8	13.5	20.0

Source: OECD

¹⁾ "endangered" taxons include species under categories: CR, EN, and VU under IUCN

Austria) invertebrates: *insecta*, *decapoda*, *mysidacea* and *mollusca*, birds: only nesting birds

Czech Rep.) data refer to autochthonous species and EX including, birds: only nesting birds, pisces: including lampreys

Hungary) birds: all species recorded in Hungary since 1800

Poland) pisces: including lampreys.

♦ Protection of animal species

Protection of animal species is regulated by the **Resolution of MoE SR No. 24/2003 Coll.**, which implements the *Act on nature and landscape protection No. 543/2002 Coll.* as amended. The number of **animal taxons under state protection** is now **813 taxons** on the level of species and subspecies and to **12 taxons** on the level of genus.

Animal wildlife in Slovakia protected by international conventions and EU regulations

	Invertebrates	Pisces	Amphibians	Reptiles	Birds	Mammals
In annex II of Habitats Directive	53	23	5	1	-	24
In annex IV of Habitats Directive	50	1	10	9	-	46
In annex I of Birds Directive ¹⁾	-	-	-	-	114	-
In annexes I and II of CITES	2	2	-	1	53	5
In annexes II and III of Bern Convention	33	38	19	12	357	65
In annexes II and III of Bonn Convention	-	3	-	-	209	24
In annex of AEWA ²⁾	-	-	-	-	129	-

¹⁾ including migratory birds

Source: SNC SR

²⁾ AEWA – African-Eurasian Migratory Water Bird Agreement

 State of protection of animals of European importance¹⁾, 2004-2006 (%)

	Favourable	Inadequate	Bad	Unknown	Total
Mammals	5	30	20	45	100
Pisces	10	10	0	80	100
Amphibians	5	70	20	5	100
Reptiles	30	60	10	0	100
Mollusca	30	10	30	30	100
Arthropoda	30	10	30	30	100
Other species	0	100	0	0	100

Assessment of 200 species registered pursuant to article 17 of the Habitat directive

Source: MoE SR

◆ Care of protected and threatened animal species

Rescue programmes (RP) in 2010 were processed for the following taxons: *Bison bonasus*, *Castor fiber* and butterflies of *Maculinea* genus.

In **rehabilitation stations** operated by the nature and landscape protection organizations there were **adopted** in 2010 altogether **361** injured individuals or otherwise disabled animals. Back to wild nature there were **released** altogether **230** individuals and there was spent 4 840 EUR. No animals were bred (and released) in maturation facilities in 2010.

Due to the lack of funds, **guarding the nests of the bird of prey** in 2010 was carried out only occasionally, hence, also the data on the number of brought up 128 nestlings are incomplete. Expenditures associated with guarding the nests of the bird of prey were assumed partly by non-government organisations.

In term of in situ animal preservation in 2010 there were organized **transfers and restitutions** of protected and endangered animals into proper nature biotopes by nature and landscape protection organizations. There were these animals – *Spermophilus citellus*, *Marmota marmota latirostris*, *Emys orbicularis*, *Felis sylvestris* and *Amphibia*.

In the area of practical care of the protected animal species, the SR State Nature Conservancy ensures the **installation of foil barriers** in the problematic areas of roads at the time of spring migration of amphibians and the subsequent carrying of amphibians, mainly frogs, across the road. In total, **53 399 of amphibians were carried over** in 2010 and 20 980 m of barriers were installed, with 4 927 EUR funded.

◆ Game stock and hunting and fishing

To 31st March 2010, the **spring stock numbers** of the ungulate game species were higher in comparison to the previous year. Hunting for the rare animal species is strictly regulated.

Spring stock of game and game hunting as of March 31 (pieces)

Species	2008		2009		2010	
	stock	hunting	stock	hunting	stock	hunting*
Deer	44 316	16 889	46 207	18 854	51 856	19 374
Fallow deer	9 068	3 210	10 511	3 654	11 240	4 214
Roe deer	92 680	24 704	96 650	27 035	100 080	22 382
Wild boar	29 290	29 700	31 652	31 473	34 577	38 903
Brown hare	203 123	34 470	205 028	32 570	196 994	11 965
Grey partridge	13 453	462	12 562	342	10 956	419
Pheasant	190 279	135 332	200 863	115 730	186 494	88 694
Chamois	661	12	882	11	823	0
Bear	1 939	34	1 940	27	2 001	47
Wolf	1 563	121	1 698	130	1 823	149
Otter	680	0	742	0	933	0

* Actual hunting in numbers, excluding other kills

Source: SO SR

Amount of the fish **caught** in the fish ponds, water dams and water flows for economic and sport purposes achieved **2 295.9 t** in 2010. The waters were **stocked by 35 721 366 pieces of setting**.

Fishing for the economic and sport purposes in 2010 (t)

Fish species	2008		2009		2010	
	total	of this SFA*	total	of this SFA*	total	of this SFA*
Fish total	2 734	1 639	2 584.2	1 751.5	2 295.9	1 596.3
Of these:						
Carp	1 430	1 166	1 394.6	1 235.4	1 275.7	1 151.9
Trouts	833	52	698.6	58.4	608.8	55.9
Crucians	94	62	76.0	70.4	51.9	50.2
White amur	41	36	61.5	50.2	39.9	34.9
Bighead carps	10	3	14.4	4.5	11	3.1
Sheat fish	37	36	40.2	39.1	36.6	35.2
Maskalonge	55	54	51.1	50.6	52.4	51.5
Sand-eel	63	63	62.2	61.5	62.1	61.7
Grayling	7	6	5.9	5.8	3.9	3.3
Huchen	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Breams	70	69	81.6	81.6	65.6	65.5
Torgoch	2	0	2.2	0.8	2	0.0
Chevins	14	14	13.9	13.9	11.6	11.6
Other fish species	78	76	81.5	78.7	74	71.1

SFA – Slovak Fishing Association

Source: SO SR

Protected trees

The network of protected trees in 2010 was created by 459 protected trees and their groups including alleys - protected objects (in 2009 it was 462). Physically it is represented by 1 271 solitary trees of 67 taxons, including 32 domestic and 35 alien taxons (there are 3 less individual protected tree species than in the last year).

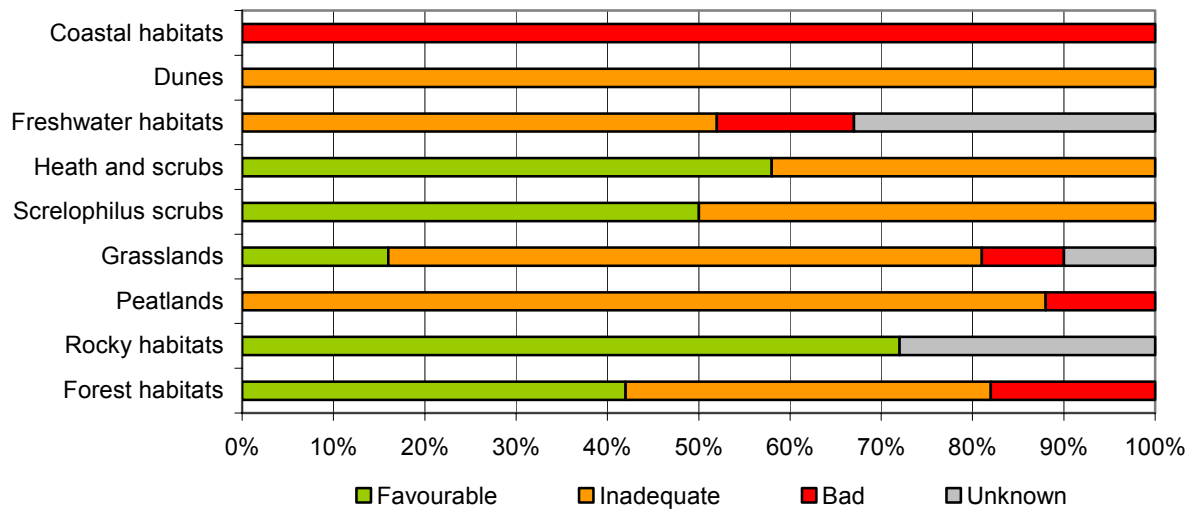
There were 295 in the **optimal** state (64.3%), 139 were **endangered** (30.3%) and 25 **degraded** (5.4%) of the protected trees and their groups. This is a slight improvement in the situation, compared to the previous year.

14 protected trees and their groups were **treated** in 2010. The funding involved the owners of individual lots where the trees grow, municipalities, non-government organisations and part of the money came from revitalisation measures applied to damaged habitats.

Habitats

Most endangered in Slovakia are saline habitats, which is the result of the decline in the level of ground water, extinction of traditional farming and secondary succession. On the other hand, best characteristics are recorded for rock habitats thanks to their inaccessibility and forest habitats thanks to a relatively sensible management of forests. The endangered habitats within the whole of Central Europe include peats and bogs, wetlands, flooded meadows, saline grassland, and sands.

Conservation of the condition of habitats of the European importance*



* data from reporting pursuant to article 17 of the Habitat directive - assessment of 66 habitats

Source: MoE SR

Protected minerals and fossils

Protection of minerals and fossils is regulated by § 32 and § 38 of **Act No. 543/2002 Coll.** on nature and landscape protection and **Resolution of MoE SR No. 213/2000 Coll.** on protected minerals and protected fossils and on their social evaluation, which stated the list of protected minerals and protected fossils and their social value.

The list of **protected minerals** includes:

- 12 typological minerals, first time scientifically documented from the Slovak territory,
- 61 significant minerals or rare occurrence in Slovak sites, and having European significance, or minerals with specific morphological shape or trend,
- meteorites found in Slovakia's territory.

The list of **protected fossils** includes:

- 655 typological fossils that represent an irreplaceable, unique material of extinct plants and animals that served to describe the specific taxonomic group for the first time,
- selected groups of fossils with rare occurrence that thanks to their characteristics and degree of preservation are unique testimonies of the evolution of organisms in the Slovak geological past.

The samples of protected minerals and protected fossils are deposit especially in the collections of state nature scientific museums.

Care of the protected nature parts

◆ Implementation of the CITES in 2010

CITES scientific body of the SR, pursuant to the national and EU legislation in 2010, **commented** 39 applications filed by the SR Ministry of Environment to import of species exemplars belonging to the species listed under the CITES convention, 7 applications of the MoE SR to export such species, 49

applications of the MoE SR or local environmental offices for consultation regarding the origin of exemplars and 20 applications of the MoE SR at issuing certificates. Further, the body **produced**, upon the request of the MoE SR, local environmental offices, custom offices and police, other 48 position papers that relate to the implementation of the CITES convention. At the same time, the SR scientific body in 2010 **provided** assistance to state authorities in 69 cases of identification of species exemplars categorised in annexes of the CITES convention.

◆ **Protection of caves**

There are **more than 5 400 caves** registered in Slovakia. They are natural monuments at the same time. Of these, 44 most significant were classified among the national natural monuments. Protective zone was also declared for 18 caves.

Presently, there are **17 accessible caves**, 12 of them are administered by the Slovak Caves Administration, while 5 are administered by other subjects. Beside this, there are 30 caves that were declared publicly accessible caves.

In 2010, 12 proposals for declaration of freely accessible caves for the public were processed and sent to locally pertinent Regional Environmental Offices.

◆ **Protected areas**

8 new protected areas were **declared** in 2010 (8 PS, all being part of the Natura 2000 network) and 3 of them came into effect as late as in 2011. Also, 11 special protection areas were declared, 3 of which came into effect as late as in 2011. 2 protected areas were **updated** (1 NR and 1 NM) and 1 protective zone was declared. 1 nature monument was **cancelled**.

Comparison of protected areas in the SR in 2002 and 2010

Category	2002				2010			
	Number	Area (ha)		% of SR territory	Number	Area (ha)		% of SR territory
		core area	protective zone			core area	protective zone	
Protected landscape areas	14	525 547	-	10,7	14	522 582	-	10,66
National parks	9	317 821	238 124	12,1	9	317 890	270 128	11,99
Large-size protected areas	23	843 368	238 124	22,8	23	840 471	270 128	22,65
Protected sites	189	7 001	2 263	0,19	172	5 534	2 419	0,16
Nature reserves	376	11 767	243	0,25	388	13 175	247	0,27
National nature reserves	231	85 905	3 383	1,82	219	84 130	2 239	1,76
Nature monuments	230	1 531	208	0,04	254	1 585	496	0,05
National nature monuments	60	59	27	0,002	60	59	2 352	0,05
Protected landscape fragment	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	0,00
Small-size protected areas	1 086	106 263	6 124	2,3	1 094	104 486	7 752	2,29

Source: SNC SR

In total, **in the territory of PLA** there are **245 small-size** protected areas (SSPA) (this represents 2.3% of total PLA territory), **in the territory of NP** there are **206 SSPA (22.5%** of the NP area), while **in the territory of NP protective zones (PZ)** there are **66 SSPA (0.9%** of the NP protective zones area). **Outside PLA, NP, and NP PZ**, which means **the open landscape**, there are **577 small-size** protection areas (0.7% of the open landscape area).

Overview of protected areas in the SR by types and levels of protection (as of 31.12.2010)

Level of protection*	Category	Area (ha)	% of SR territory
1 th level	„ open landscape “	3 767 274	76.83
2 th level	PLA**, NP PZ**, D zones	759 267	15.48
3 th level	NP**, PS, PS PZ, NR PZ, NNR PZ, NM PZ, NNM PZ, C zones	265 686	5.42
4 th level	NNR, NR, NNM, NM, PS, NR PZ, NNR PZ, NM PZ, NNM PZ, B zones	18 045	0.37
5 th level	NNR, NR, NNM, NM, A zones	93 129	1.90
2-5 th level	special protected nature parts in the SR	1 136 126	23.17

Source: SNC SR

* excluding territories without the level of protection (SPAs and PZs of caves and natural waterfalls)

** area without SSPA

Endangerment and degradation of the protected areas

Of the total number of 1 094 small-size protected areas, there were **degraded** 24 territories of area of 283 ha (this area presents 0.3% of total area of SSPA), 435 were **endangered** of area of 20 303 ha (18.1% of SSPA) and in the **optimal condition** there were 635 territories of area of 91 652 ha (81.6% of SSPA).

Care of the protected areas

Professional nature protection organisations carried out **regulatory intervention** in the field of practical care of the specially protected nature and landscape parts, with total cost of over 174.7 thous. EUR. A number of measures were implemented at the same time within individual areas; just like in the previous years, the activities involved mainly cutting of volunteer trees and mowing, including the removal of the biomass from the area. Beside these activities, the other activities included mulching, grazing, fence building and fence repairs, elimination of invasive species, collection and disposal of waste, etc. Part of these regulatory interventions has been funded from the state budget, while another part came from donors. 14 protected tree types and their groups were treated.

During the year 2010 State Nature Conservancy of the SR elaborated 7 674 **expert viewpoints**. The biggest rate was created by the department of tree species protection and building and regional planning activities. Beside these, 745 so-called **declarations** (declarations by the body responsible for monitoring of the NATURA 2000 territories) were processed by all organisational units of the SR State Nature Conservancy on the basis of applications from the state government bodies, local governments or investors. These declarations concerned the projects applying for the EU funding, mostly from the operational programmes of environment, transboundary cooperation, and transport.

Professional nature protection organisations in 2010, due to the lack funding, did not carry out any **inventory surveys** within the small-size protected areas, or they were performed only occasionally as parts of other activities.

In 2010, 37 **education paths** or **education localities** were repaired or reconstructed. **13 information centres of nature protection** and the **Nature Protection School** in Varín were administered.

Protected areas within the international context

European Diploma of Protected Areas

So far, there have been 2 protected areas that received the European Diploma:

- NNR Dobročský prales (A category) and
- NP Poloniny (B category).

Man and the Biosphere Programme (MaB):

The following 4 protected areas have been included into the biosphere reserves in Slovakia:

- PLA - Poľana biosphere reserve
- NP - Slovak karst biosphere reserve
- NP - East Carpathian biosphere reserve (trilateral BR)
- Tatra NP - Tatra biosphere reserve (bilateral BR).

As of 2010, **14** wetlands were declared and registered in *List of Wetlands of International Importance* as **Ramsar sites** with total size of **40 697 ha** under the *Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention)*:

Name of wetland	Area (ha)	District	Date of registration
1. Parížske swamps	184.0	Nové Zámky	2.7.1990
2. Šúr	1 136.6	Pezinok	2.7.1990
3. NNR Senné - ponds	424.6	Michalovce	2.7.1990
4. Donau floodplains	14 488.0	Bratislava II, V, Senec, D. Streda, Komárno	26.5.1993
5. Flat of Morava river	5 380.0	Bratislava IV, Malacky, Senica, Skalica	26.5.1993
6. Latorica river	4 404.7	Michalovce, Trebišov	26.5.1993
7. Alluvium of Rudava river	560.0	Malacky, Senica	17.2.1998
8. Wetlands of Turiec	750.0	Martin, Turčianske Teplice	17.2.1998
9. Pojplie	410.9	Levice, Veľký Krtíš	17.2.1998
10. Wetlands of Orava basin	9 287.0	Námestovo, Tvrdošín	17.2.1998
11. Orava river and its confluents	865.0	Dolný Kubín, Tvrdošín	17.2.1998
12. Domica cave	621.8	Rožňava	2.2.2001
13. Tisa river	734.6	Trebišov	4.12.2004
14. Caves of Demänovská valley	1 448.0	Liptovský Mikuláš	17.11.2006

Review of Biosphere Reserves and Ramsar sites in selected countries

		Slovakia	Czech Rep.	Poland	Hungary	Austria
Biosphere Reserves (BR)	Number	4	6	9	5	6
	area (km ²)	407.0	546.8	1 450.8	2 354.1	2 524.0

CR) BR: one common with Poland

Slovakia) BR: one common with Poland and one with Poland and Ukraine together

Poland) BR: one common with Czech Republic, one with Slovakia and one with Slovakia and Ukraine together

Source: SNC SR

NATURA 2000 in Slovakia

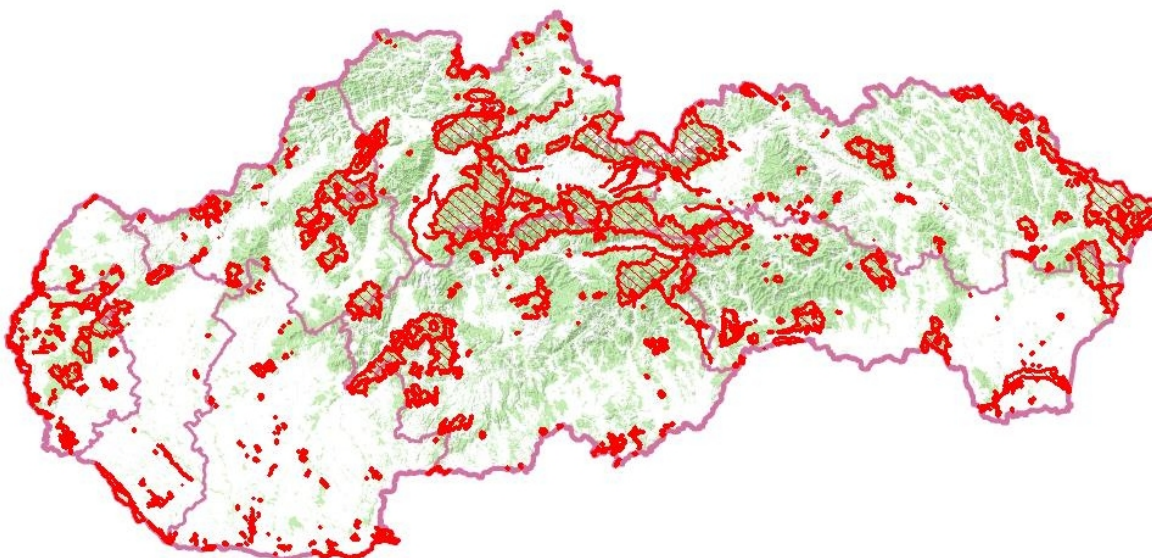
The NATURA 2000 network (pursuant to sect. 28 of the Act No. 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection uses the following wording: "*Coherent European Network of Protected Areas*" comprises two types of areas:



Sites of Community Importance (SCI)

- national list of SCI was approved on 17.3.2004 by the Slovak Republic government and published on the basis of the MoE SR Edict of July 14, 2004 and was sent to the European Commission for approval;
- SCI are proposed for **44 plant taxons**, **96 animal species** and **66 types of biotopes**;
- Into the **proposed list** of the SCI there were originally listed **382 territories** with the area of **573 690 ha**. The territories cover **11.7% of the SR area**, lapping with present network of protected areas is **86%**. From the total area of the SCI, there is 86% on forest land, 10% is on agricultural land, 2% is created by water areas and 2% are other areas;
- these territories are presently under the so-called **preliminary protection**, which means the proposed protection level;
- since 2008, or since the publication of decisions of the European Commission (EC) which adopted lists of the Sites of Community Importance in the Pannonian and Alpine bio-geographical regions, Slovakia has been in the **6-year time limit of SCI declaration** for protected areas under the national classification of protected areas, specifically in the category of nature reserve and protected site;
- on the basis of the outcomes of **bio-geographical seminars**, European Commission requires that the SCI national list be **completed**. State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic elaborated a scientific draft for adding 267 areas into the SCI national list and at the same time proposed to eliminate from the original list 5 areas that are considered scientific fallacy;
- of the present **381 areas** located in Slovakia, 204 fully overlap with the existing system of protected areas. Of the remaining 177 SCI, 74 are located outside the existing system of protected areas and 103 areas partly overlap with the system. These areas need to be **declared as protected areas by May 1, 2012**.

Sites of Community Importance in the SR



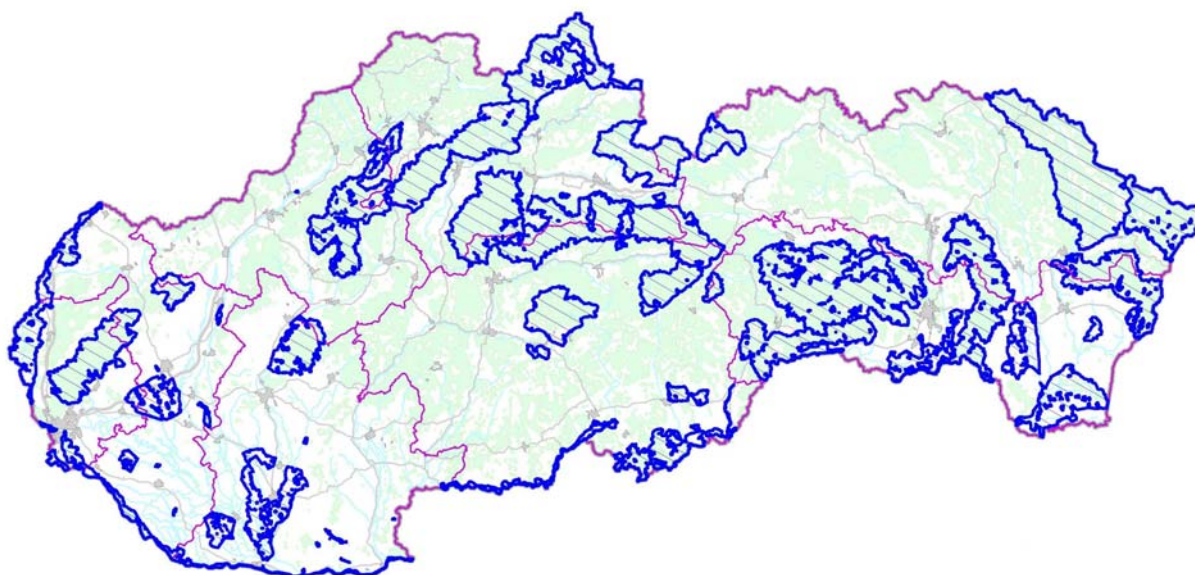
Source: SNC SR



Special protection areas (SPA)

- the Slovak Government approved the SPA national list on July 9, 2003. In 2004 began the process of creating resolutions and care programmes for individual SPA. National list includes **38 SPA** with total area of **1 154 111 ha** and covers **23.5% of the SR area** and lapping of SPA with the existing network of protected areas in the SR presents **55%**;
- Slovak Government Resolution 345/2010 of 25/05/2010 **revised and amended** the national list. **5 new** areas were added to the list and **2 areas** were **taken out**. At present, the national list contains **41 areas** with total size of **1 287 296 ha**;
- ongoing monitoring of birds within individual SPAs was focused on analysing the species composition as well as their number in particular SPA;
- as of 2010, 35 SPAs were declared (of the total number of 41) with the size of 1 032 930 ha.

Special protection areas in the SR



Source: SNC SR

Agricultural and forest land in the NATURA 2000 territories

NATURA 2000	Number	Area (ha)	Agricultural land area (ha)	Share of agricultural land (%)	Forest land area (ha)	Share of forest land (%)
SPA	38	1 287 296	365 102	28.4	802 204	62.3
SCI	381	573 690	54 657	9.5	497 295	86.7

Source: SNC SR

Comparison of the SCI and SPA areas in Slovakia with selected countries of EU (as of May, 2010)

Country	SPA			SCI		
	number	area (km ²)	% of country area	number	area (km ²)	% of country area
Austria	96	9 869	11.8	168	8 978	10.7
Czech rep.	39	9 684	12.3	1 082	7 854	10.0
Hungary	55	13 512	14.5	467	13 973	15.0
Poland	141	55 228	15.6	823	38 003	11.0
Slovakia	38	12 236	25.1	382	5 739	11.7
EU-25*	5 315	593 486	11.4	22 529	719 015	13.7

* only terrestrial NATURA 2000 sites

Source: EC (NATURA 2000 Barometer)