

Brod ecological society- BED

Annual report 2017.

1. Strategic objectives of BED 2015.-2017. and their implementation through
 - A. Projects and programs of BED in 2017.
 - B. Lobbying and advocacy in the field of environmental protection and nature
 - C. The commons and the mechanisms of the direct democracy
 - D. Institutional development of the association
2. Financial report



Strategic objectives 2015.- 2017.

A) Programs/projects related to environmental protection and nature, and sustainable development

1. Conservation and management of significant landscape Gajna
2. Interpretation of nature protection
3. Biodiversity and indigenous breeds of domestic animals
4. Education activities in the environment and nature protection and sustainable development

B) Lobbying and advocacy in the field of environmental protection and nature

1. Participation in working groups and bodies that influence legislation
2. Directly commenting on the laws and regulations
3. Networking at national and international level

C) The Commons and the mechanisms of direct democracy

1. Community Conservation (ICCA)
2. Coordinations Councils in protected areas and Pasturing Communities

D) Institutional Development

Sustainability, the development of activities that will ensure stable operation of our organizations, strategic positioning, visibility actions

A

B

C

D

Protection and management of Gajna since 1990.

2007.-2017. – Preservation of biodiversity on protected pasture Gajna by breeding original Croatian breeds



Gajna is a multifunctional area – a natural retention, a protected area, a common pasture and a place of education. Securing conditions for ecological livestock grazing is crucial to preserve the biodiversity of the protected pasture Gajna so much of BED's activity is currently focused on maintaining conditions and grazing on this pasture.

When the livestock disappears and the invasive species prevail, grasslands lose their special diversity of the plant and animal world.



Gajna through months in 2017.



January



February



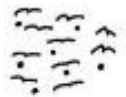
March



April



May



June



July



August



September



October



November



December

Treasure of BED - original Croatian breeds

BED through its own breeding of original Croatian breeds of Podolian cattle (40), Posavina horses (4), Cigaja sheep (7), Black Slavonian pigs (3) and Posavina goose (5), provides an example of good practice and encourages the local population to keep cattle on pasture with a series of measures and activities



Podolian cattle



Posavina goose



Posavina horse



Cigaja sheep



Black Slavonian pig



Croatian sheepdog

Work on Gajna - 2007-2017 Preservation of biodiversity on protected pasture Gajna by breeding original Croatian breeds – Many day-to-day activities related to animal care (feeding, health care, marking, communication with the relevant services for the purpose of records and registration of cattle, winter food provision, veterinary inspection services, ecological certification ...).



Renovation of the fence



Infrastructure works



Mowing and setting up the educational path



Feeding the animals during the flood



Preparation of food for animals



Animal vaccination

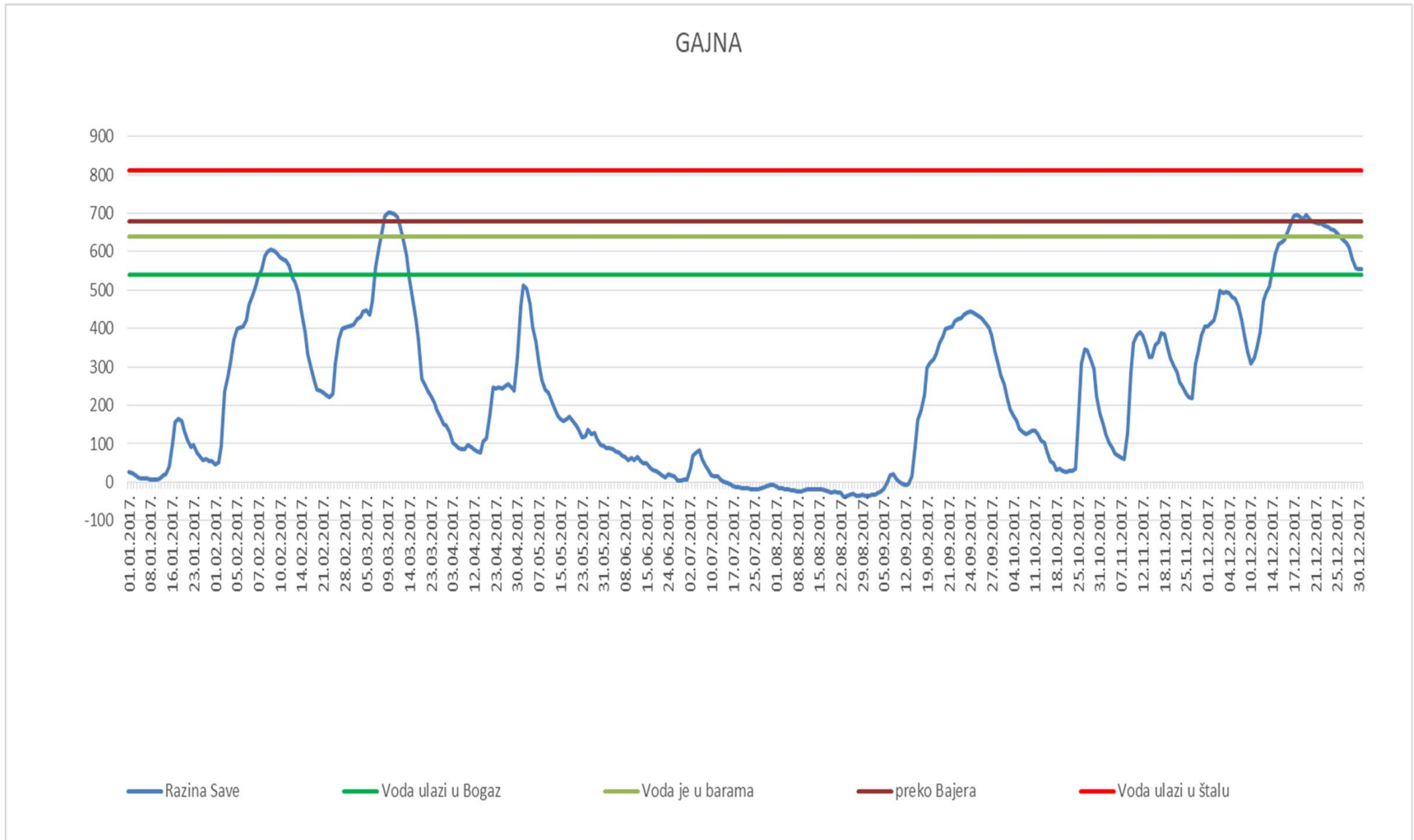
FLOODS IN 2017.

On the Oprisavci part of Gajna ,the water started entering the depressions on the 07.02.2017., it reached its maximum on the 08.02.2017. (605) and then it started withdrawing.

In March the flood was complete, Sava covered Gajna 09.03.2017. with the water level being the highest at 702 on the 10.03.2017.

On the Poljanci part, Sava floods when the water level is around 680.

In December, (14.12.2017.) Sava entered Velika Gajna and it stayed high until the end of the month – the maximum being 695. Green lines are regular floodings that bring water to the depressions, red lines mean extraordinary conditions –e.g. cattle evacuations



SMART SCHOOLS— INTERREG CBC CRO-BIH-MNE

A transboundary project called 'Innovative minds for smart schools', INTERREG-IPA CBC Cro-Bih 2016. deals with energy efficiency schools with the total value of 1.644.127,82 EUR. It started on 1st June 2017.

Brod Ecological Society BED, joined with the Green Action, Brod-Posavina County, the Tuzla Canton under the leadership of the Centre of Development and Support (CRP) with their headquarters in Tuzla, take part in the project.

The project lasts 27 months, in which an energy efficiency renovation of a school in Brod-Posavina County (OŠ Sibinj) is planned as well as 6 elementary and high schools in the Tuzla Canton. More than 29.000 students, teachers and headmasters are involved in the project.

The main focus of the project is educating and bringing to the public eye the uses of energy efficiency and using renewable sources of energy.



SMART SCHOOLS – INTERREG CBC CRO-BIH-MNE

Apart from energy efficiency renewals of schools, the project includes

- a four month competition of elementary and high schools in saving energy in the project area,
- a competition of elementary and high school students(individuals) in the project area u IT/technical innovations in the jurisdiction of renewable energy sources,
- two fairs of innovations/solar festivals which will take place in newly-equipped solar laboratories in winner schools,
- energy saving competitions during which the students-participants of the seven-day summer camp for young innovators will present themselves to the public,
- two six-day seminars for training energy managers from the project area
- seven opening ceremonies for renewed school objects, seven follow-up round tables and two final forums (one in Slavonski Brod and one in Tuzla – both with transboundary participation) all of them focusing on environmental, financial i bussines benefits of increasing energy efficiency in construction of buildings.



SMART SCHOOLS – INTERREG CBC CRO-BIH-MNE

A four-month competition of elementary and high schools in the project area (energy saving).

The opening ceremony was held in Tuzla, 05.12.2017.

105 schools have applied to the competition, 81 schools from the Tuzla canton (BiH) and 24 schools from Brod-posavina county (HR), a obuhvaća ukupno 37 596 korisnika objekata osnovnih i srednjih škola.

The goal of the competition is promotion of energy efficiency and energy and water saving, without any additional investments, just by changing the behaviour of the users of the object.



Project proposals and fundraising– submitted and/or signed in 2017.

Innovative minds for smart schools (INTERREG-IPA CBC CRO-BIH 2016.) - submitted project proposal in which we participate with the Zelena akcija from Zagreb and the Center for Development and Entrepreneurship (CRP) from Tuzla, Brod-Posavina County and Tuzla Canton. The theme of the project is rebuilding energy efficient schools, total budget is around 1,600,000.00 EUR, of which approx. 50.000 EUR is for BED

Institutional support - The request was submitted on 12.09.2016; 23.09.2016. we received a confirmation that the administrative check ran in order; 24.11.2016. we had field check-up from the National Foundation for Civil Society Development, which contributed to the positive endorsement of the Institutional Support for 2017. Requested HRK 199,990.10 and approved 147,690.00 HRK

Keeping the tradition - preserving nature – Brod/Posavina County and Public Institution Natura Slavonica have submitted the project proposal for a call “Promotion of the sustainable development and natural heritage”. BED contributed to the project as a partner. The entire project was worth 3.481.556,36 HRK, and BED’s co-financing share was 26.511,74 HRK. The project was not approved.

Advocacy and legislation-working groups, councils, committees - participation in working groups, councils and commissions in the field of nature protection and rural development in 2017. :

2 independent commentaries on strategic documents,

4 independent commentaries on laws

4 supported commentaries on laws

1 independent commentary on a ordinance

1 independent commentary on a by law

13 participations in boards, working groups and councils

1 participation on the parliamentary committee

12 participations in public actions

- **Monitoring Committee for the implementation of the Rural Development Program of the Republic of Croatia 2014-2020.** - BED represents Green forum network

National Council for Civil Society Development – in front of associations for nature protection and sustainable development (substitution)

+ participation in two working groups: visibility of the Council's work and tracking strategies for development of the rural society

- Partner Council of Slavonski Brod (the city's urban area)
- National Council for the implementation of a program for the conservation of native and protected breeds of domestic animals in the Republic of Croatia (the mandate ended in 2017.)
- Coordination Committee of the EU Integration Project for Natura 2000 (the mandate ended in 2017.)

Participation and membership in national and international networks and initiatives and cooperation with other sectors

Constant cooperation:

5 national networks,

8 international

1 national i 4 local associations

1 public institution

3 JLRS

1 state agency



mreža za
ruralni
razvoj

- SAVA PARKS mreža
- European Livestock Breeds Ark and Rescue Net
- Forum za food sovereignty

SEENET

SOUTH EAST EUROPE NETWORK
FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT



PLATFORMA
ZA HRVATSKA VLADAVNA PRAVA



European Forum on
Nature Conservation
and Pastoralism



**The ICCA
Consortium**

Support to associations in a rural space– administration, equipment, logistics, organisation



Organisation of the yearly assembly of the Association of breeders of the slavonian-srijem cattle

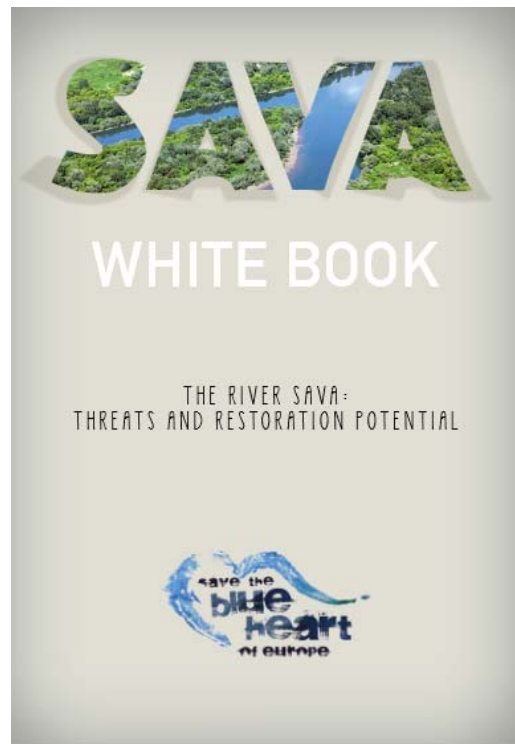
UUSSP – 31.03.2017. – it was held in Oprisavci, and afterwards the guests and breeders visited Gajna



BED is still a constant logical, administrative and program support to associations of breeders of original breeds on a state and regional level to those who use BED's technical equipment, space and office supplies. Members of BED do financial, administrative and advocacy activities for those associations voluntary.

GAJNA as a case study

28.03.2017. Iris Beneš with her colleagues from Sava Parks network (which BED is a member of), held a presentation about Gajna within the presentation of the White book on Sava in the EU parliament.



GAJNA as an example

BED is active in international arena in networks concerning common governance- 23.-25.10.2017. workshop on natural common governance for Europe and Middle East in Granada, Spain and 24.-29.11.2017. the Office of high representative of human rights as on of UN bodies organized UN forum on Buisness and human rights in Geneve. As one of the members of the global alliance ICCA Consortium BED advocates rights of local communities and indigenous peoples in effort to preserve nature by governing its territories.



ICCA Consortium skupština i UN forum Geneve 24.11.-29.11.2017.



Pasturing community veterans' cooperative Eko-Gajna

Gajna is currently the only place in Croatia, which has with the advocacy of Brod ecological society BED, kept the **common model of governance** on the traditional common grassland and has adjusted such governance to the existing legal framework

BED is the main driver and member of the Pašnjačka zajednica braniteljska zadruga Eko-Gajna in the Oprisavci Municipality near Slavonski Brod and for years has been advocating for alternative models of use and management of protected areas and areas of Natura 2000, especially regarding the traditional use of common pastures that still exist in some parts of the floodplain of the River Sava. The PZBZ Eko-Gajna has adopted the Gajna Management Program which serves as a base for annual programs which contains measures and conditions of nature protection. We have succeeded in amending the Agricultural Land Act in 2015 in that way that the possibility of joint management on common pastures by accepting a collective as a renter of a state owned by Croatia was finally recognizing .



The Coordination council of significant landscape Gajna

21.02.2017. The third Coordination council of the significant landscape Gajna was held in municipality Oprisavci. The Public institution Natura Slavonica and the municipality Oprisavci and the representatives of: Pasturing community veterans' cooperative Eko-Gajna, Croatian waters, the border police, LAG Slavonian plain, the Museum of Brod Posavlje, the University, the Croatian agency for the environment and nature and many more.



BED, together with the Public institution Natura Slavonica, nourishes cooperation between sectors and participatory ways of governing protected areas.

Visibility



26.01.2017. SBTV – 30 minute show PRESING on SB TV, dedicated to BED's work

11.01.2017. recording a reportage for HTV – airing 15.01. on Dnevnik, and on Plodovi Zemlje **22.01.2017.**



11.01.2017. recording a report about Gajna for HTV – aired 15.01. on Dnevnik, and in Plodovi Zemlje **22.01.2017.**



26.01.2017. Večernji list has shown the breeding of Podolian cattle on Gajna in Oprisavci, and the local portal SB Plus **27.01.2017.**

27.09.2017. Articles on lokalni.večernji.hr and Sbplus about Gajna and autochthonous breeds.

17.05. -19.05.2017. recording the show Alpe Dunav Jadran on Gajna, shown on HRT **14.10.2017.**

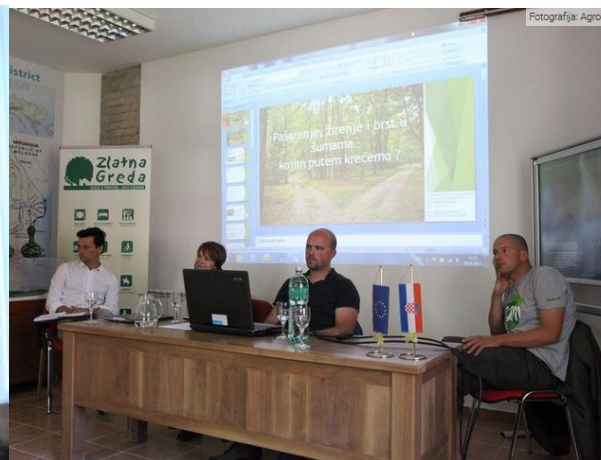


Visibility

U EKO CENTRU ZLATNA GREDA ODRŽAN OKRUGLI STOL

"Kakva je budućnost hrvatskih šuma?"

Agrovijesti | Piše: Agrobiz | 25. listopada 2017. u 10:24



Glavne teme okruglog stola bile su vezane uz donošenje novih zakona o šumama i lovstvu, prvenstveno mogućnost izgradnje golf igrališta s luksuznom apartmanizacijom u šumama posebne namjene te najava potpune zabrane pašarenja i žirenja u šumama i šumskom zemljištu.

Iris Beneš iz Brodskog ekološkog društva predstavila je problem potencijalne zabrane pašarenja i žirenja u šumama te navela i primjere dobre prakse suradnje između stočara i upravljača šumama i zaštićenog područja, poput Lonjskog polja. Sudionici okruglog stola složili su se da pašarenje i žirenje donosi puno više koristi nego štete za šume, a zabrana takvih djelatnosti bila bi dodatan udarac za već posrnulu hrvatsku poljoprivredu.

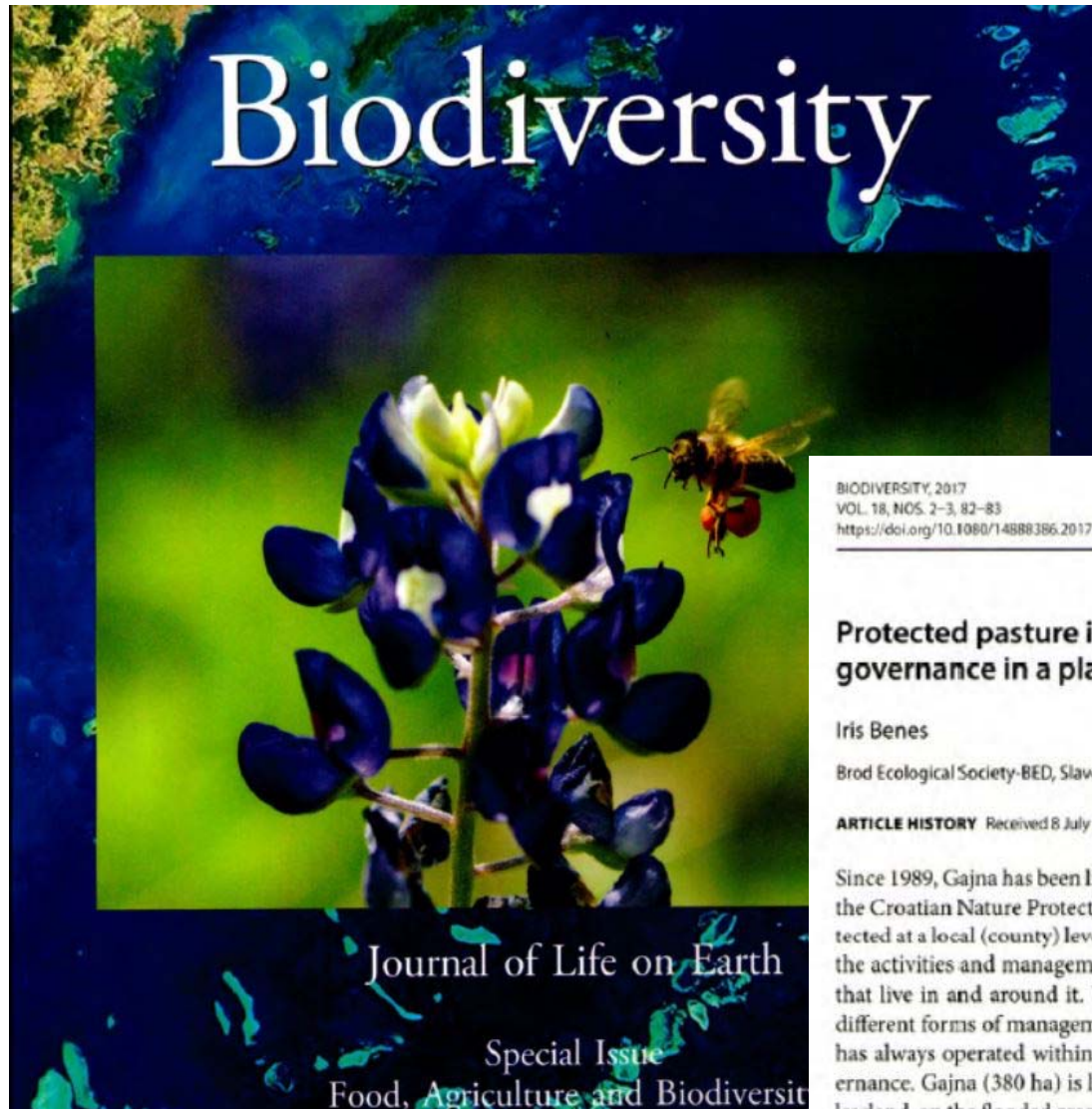


- As representatives of the Sava parks network BED have introduced the **White book of Sava river** in the European parliament 28.03.2017. It is important publication which demonstrates the ecological importance of Sava river, emphasizes the threats and offers positive scenarios in the renewal of the natural flood area of Sava.

BED in Zlatna Greda, Zadar and Zagreb about the Law about forests, food sovereignty, the role of agriculture in the low carbon strategy of Croatia.



Visibility



17.10.2017. an article was published in the international magazine Biodiversity

Protected pasture in Gajna, Croatia – a long battle for recognition of common governance in a place of rich natural and cultural heritage

BIODIVERSITY, 2017
VOL. 18, NOS. 2-3, 82-83
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14888386.2017.1366871>



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Protected pasture in Gajna, Croatia – a long battle for recognition of common governance in a place of rich natural and cultural heritage

Iris Benes

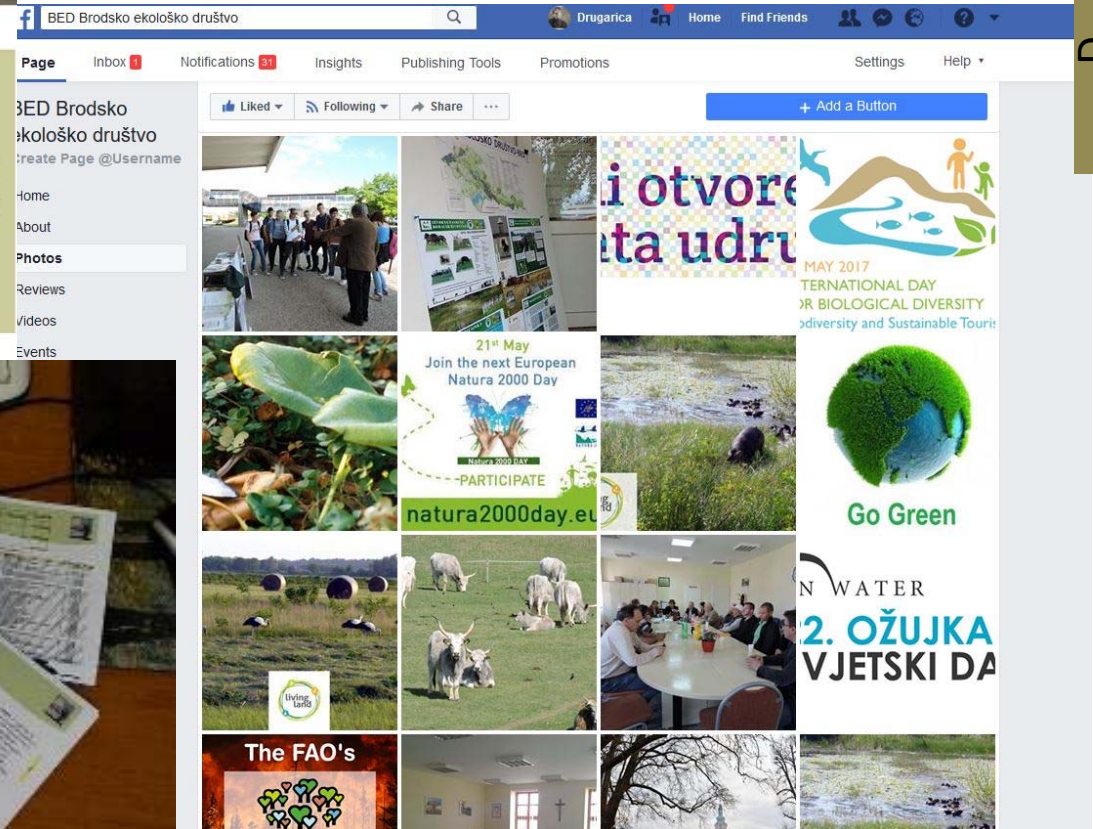
Brod Ecological Society-BED, Slavonski Brod, Croatia

ARTICLE HISTORY Received 8 July 2017; Accepted 9 August 2017

Since 1989, Gajna has been listed as a protected area under the Croatian Nature Protection Law. It is a grassland protected at a local (county) level and is wholly dependent on the activities and management of the local communities that live in and around it. Within this area, despite the different forms of management grazing over the years, it has always operated within a communal system of governance. Gajna (380 ha) is located in the Croatian fertile lowland, on the flooded grassland of the Sava River, on the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is an area enriched

Supported Organisation (CSO) known as Brod Ecological Society, or BED, has 80% of its membership coming from the two surrounding communities. BED has been actively protecting and maintaining the Gajna area since 1989 by engaging and stimulating the local population to stick to traditional grazing practices, ensuring a favourable water regime, removing the invasive species and preserving the biodiversity thanks to a series of projects they have implemented. After 1990 and the dissolving of the socialist regime, the land was formally listed as property of the

Visibility - Web i Facebook



Materials were prepared for a new website, which was not set up because of the lack of human capacity.

The association prepared this report in a shape appropriate for publishing on the website.

The annual report was printed out and given to members at the annual assembly.

The association's website and Facebook are active.

Structure and the association's regular work

- In 2017. three people were employed: program coordinator, administrative-technical secretary and guardian of Gajna. One person was additionally employed for professional training. The project team (the president, the program coordinator and the treasurer) makes monthly revisions of realised and planned activities and prepares reports for board meetings which are held at least once every two months.
6 were held in 2017.
- Number of volunteer hours in 2017. : **5295 – on average, 14,51 hours daily, every day of the year.** A report was filed to the Ministry of Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy.
- Percentage of self-financing: 48,28 %

BED's yearly assembly 2017.



The regular yearly assembly was held on the 26.05.2017. with the report for 2016.

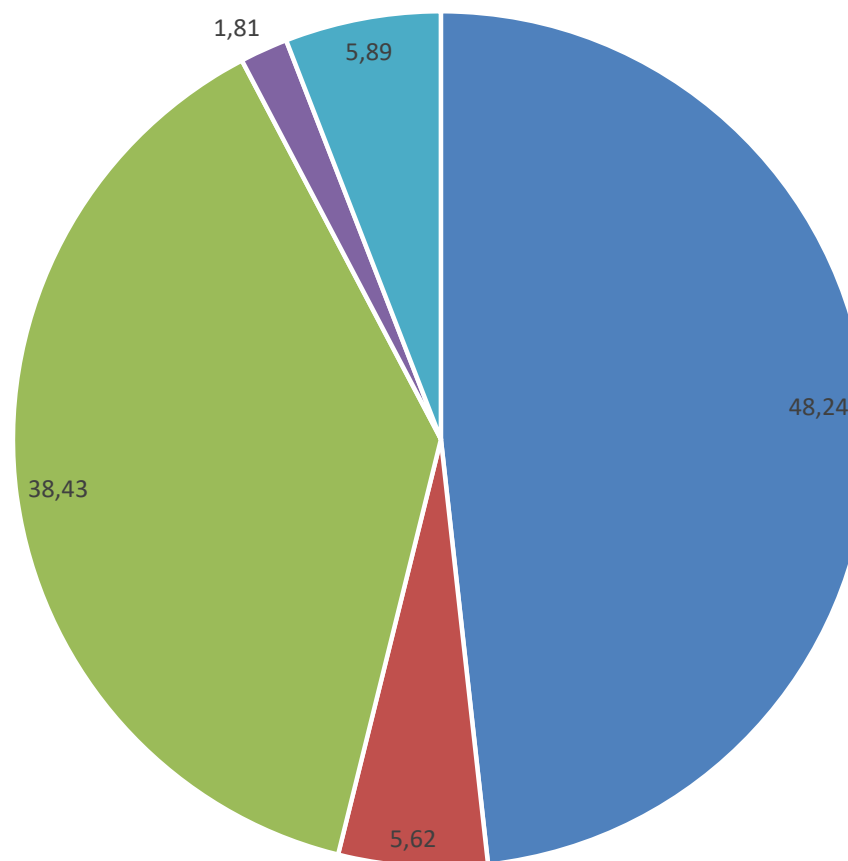
The new Strategic plan for BED (2018.-2020.) was adopted at the assembly.

An outstanding yearly assembly was held from 18. to 23.12.2017. electronically for accepting the financial and operative plan for 2018.

The financial report – sources of finances in 2017.

Izvori financiranja BED-a u %

- Samofinanciranje
- Brodsko-posavska županija
- Nacionalna zaklada za razvoj civilnog društva
- Privatne donacije
- Ured za udruge vlade RH (EU)



...tipični slavonski prisavski poplavni pašnjak obogaćen močvarnom florom i faunom istočno od Slavonskog Broda na području općine Oprisavci.

...dio sustava nacionalnih zaštićenih područja RH: Značajni krajobraz od 1990. godine.

...izuzetan spoj kulturne i prirodne baštine na terenu gdje je ispaša ključan ekološki proces za održavanje bioraznolikosti radi smanjenja invazivnih biljnih vrsta.

Gajna je ...

...mjesto osnivanja prve Pašnjačke zajednice u RH radi zajedničkog upravljanja pašnjakom.

...mjesto očuvanja (arka) hrvatskih izvornih pasmina domaćih životinja (slavonsko-srijemsko podolsko govedo, posavski konj, crna slavonska svinja, turopoljska svinja, ovca cigaja, hrvatski ovčar, posavska guska).



...mjesto očuvane tradicijske gradnje (štala, čardak, đeram, „Stan na Gajni“) i načina tradicijskog pašarenja.

...dio ekološke mreže koja je stupanjem RH u EU postala Natura 2000 mreža – i u sklopu toga je Područje očuvanja značajno za ptice (POP) i Područje očuvanja značajno za vrste i stanišne tipove (POVS).

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Izveštaj pripremila: Iris Beneš

Dizajn: Iris Beneš i Saša Matanović, BED 2017.

PLANS FOR 2018.

Apart from three programs, the project **INTERREG CRO_BIH – Smart schools** (funded by EU funds) is also planned, it began 01.06.2017. and it will last until 01.09.2019. – BED is a partner

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE GAJNA PROTECTED AREA – regular implementation (the basic activities– supplying food for the animals, infrastructure maintenance, mechanical removal of invasive plants in the most critical areas, monitoring biodiversity, veterinary and technical interventions, constant support for breeders and education related to subsidies and lobbying in bodies connected to rural development, ecological network and agri-environmental measures, finding a market for such products for long-term sustainability of the program, holding meetings for the Gajna coordination council)

SUPPORT FOR THE CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS – regular implementation (UUSSP – convened meetings with the Minister of Agriculture related to the subsidy payments for traditional breeds; establishment of the Alliance of native bovine breeds RH, communication with the breeders and the Agricultural Paying Agency for printing out Certificates and following the implementation of the breeding program, preparing the yearly assembly and financial and narrative reports, communication with the Office for Public Administration related to alignment according to the latest Law on Associations, forestry associations GAJ, Mrist, Smiljak, KKHPP – continue cooperation through the Gajna coordination council and explore the possibility of participation in joint projects)

PROTECTION OF COMMON GOODS – PASTURING COMMUNITY – regular implementation (monitoring the implementation of the yearly Common pasture management programme and contract on state property usage between the pastoral community and the Agricultural Land Agency, following the news on the new Agricultural Land Law, lobbying for the Pastoral community to stay within the law,)

Project on Social Entrepreneurship.

