

SUMMARY FORESTRY

Analysis of the Operational programme - Natura 2000 management programme for the period from 2007 to 2013 (Operational programme) for the forestry sector comprises of several lots. The base paper is a substantive overview of the most important legal instruments that enable the management of Natura 2000 sites in the forest area. Emphasis is given to the Forest Act and subordinate regulations (Rules on the protection of forests, Rules on financing and co-financing the forest investments).

In the forestry sector, adapted use of natural resources is implemented through forest-management planning of forest-management plans for forest-management units, which contain objectives, measures and concrete guidelines to achieve conservation objectives. The analysis further presents the system of preparing the nature conservation guidelines and their integration into the forest-management plans of forest-management units.

The preparation of the nature conservation guidelines for forest-management plans of forest-management units is conducted in accordance with Operational programme. In the period 2007-2012 74 such nature conservation guidelines were produced based on management zones, set in 20 complex Natura 2000 sites. Spending 20,100 work hours, a total of 140 nature conservation guidelines were prepared, which covered 57.3% of the forests in Natura 2000 sites.

The evaluation of implementation of the Operational programme and of nature conservation guidelines were made through the analysis of data, which are collected by the Slovenian Forest Service within their regular assignments. 12 thematic sets were created, for which an analysis was made for complex Natura 2000 sites. Thematic sets are specifically designed for the qualifying species and habitat types.

The analysis also includes the financing of measures on Natura 2000 sites. Thus, in the period 2007-2012 for forest artificial regeneration € 9650 was spent and € 220,675 for biomeliorative works (maintenance of shrubs, feeding grounds and water resources; and planting of fruit-bearing vegetation). For specific measures, such as preservation of biotopes (logging for specific ecological needs of qualifying species and habitat types, natural development of biotopes, leaving dead wood, placing nesting structures), € 32,428 have been spent.

Based on the analysis of objectives and measures of the Operational Programme and on the experience gained in the preparation of the nature conservation guidelines for forest-management plans of forest-management units recommendations were given to improve the management of Natura 2000 sites. In the future, more attention should be paid to the implementation level. Management of Natura 2000 sites should be financially supported with measures to improve the specific requirements of certain qualifying species or habitat types.