Natura 2000 Sites in Hungary

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What do you do in management planning process if you have not enough information for habitats & species distribution in the targeted site?

How do you manage natural processes in Natura 2000 site conservation? Is there place for ‘non-intervention management’ and wilderness in Natura 2000 site management?

How do you establish site conservation targets? How precise/generic are they normally?
Natura 2000 Sites in Hungary

- 1.95 m ha – 21%
- (39% protected by national legislation)

- 55 SPA sites
- 467 SCI sites
- 45% overlap between SPA and SCI
Management Planning Process

1 ranger - 7-900 km² (5-10 settlements)

• Communication problems
  (management, farmers, public)
• No capacity for data collection
  => current features refer to earlier land use
• Goal: diminishing threats
  re-establishing earlier methods of use
Natural Processes

Human interaction for more than a 1000 years (in the Carpathian Basin)

Intact areas:
- impossible to reach for heavy machinery
- bothanical research
Establishing Site Conservation Targets

In general: either habitats or species

Focusing on certain species:
- Artificial nature conservation
- Protected species may battle for the habitat

=> Management should concentrate on the whole ecosystem, not on specific species.

saker falcon  
red-footed falcon
Bad Practices

The EU supports goals opposing to nature protection:

- Highway M8 crossings the natural habitat of great bustards
- Audi factory being built on Natura 2000 site
Pásztó puszta (Pannonic salt steppes)
Thank you for your attention!