



Habitat mapping of the Fertőmelléki-dombsor (Sites of Community Importance (SCI))

Barna Csilla¹ & Takács Gábor²

Fertő-Hanság Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság

e-mail¹: barna.csilla@fhnp.hu, e-mail²: takacs.gabor@fhnp.hu

INTRODUCTION

The habitat mapping of the HUFH20003 Fertőmelléki-dombsor Natura 2000 area was implemented with the support of the Vogelwarte Madárvárta 2 - Interreg V-A AT-HU Program. Both sides of the border has high biodiversity and a wide range of valuable ecosystems. Furthermore the Fertőmelléki-dombsor has an outstanding value in the diversity of habitats. Within the framework of the habitat mapping, the natural map of the Fertőmelléki-dombsor and the map of the Sites of Community Importance were prepared.

KEYWORDS: FERTŐMELLÉKI-DOMBSOR, HABITAT MAPPING, SITES OF COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE, NATURA 2000

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Fertőmelléki-dombsor Natura 2000 area mainly covers the natural and nature-like habitats of the Fertőmelléki-dombsor (DÖVÉNYI, 2010). The area belongs to the administrative areas of Fertőrákos, Sopron, Fertőboz, Hidegség and Hegykő.

During the survey, we followed the methodology given in the manual of the National Biodiversity Monitoring System (TAKÁCS G. & MOLNÁR ZS., 2009). We delimited the spots that can be considered homogeneous by visual interpretation on the infra aerial photograph which prepared in the framework of the Vogelwarte Madárvárta 2 project in 2017. During the field validation we made the characterization of the spots and than, if was necessary, modified the delimitations.

We recorded the habitat type characteristic of the patch (Á-NÉR), its naturalness-degradation value, the characteristic species and possible endangerment factors, as well as other remarks. Habitat types were given based on the work of J. BÖLÖNI J., MOLNÁR ZS., KUN A. (ed.) (2011). The Németh-Seregélyes modified scale was used in the naturalness-degradation assessment.

RESULTS

Habitat grouping and naturalness

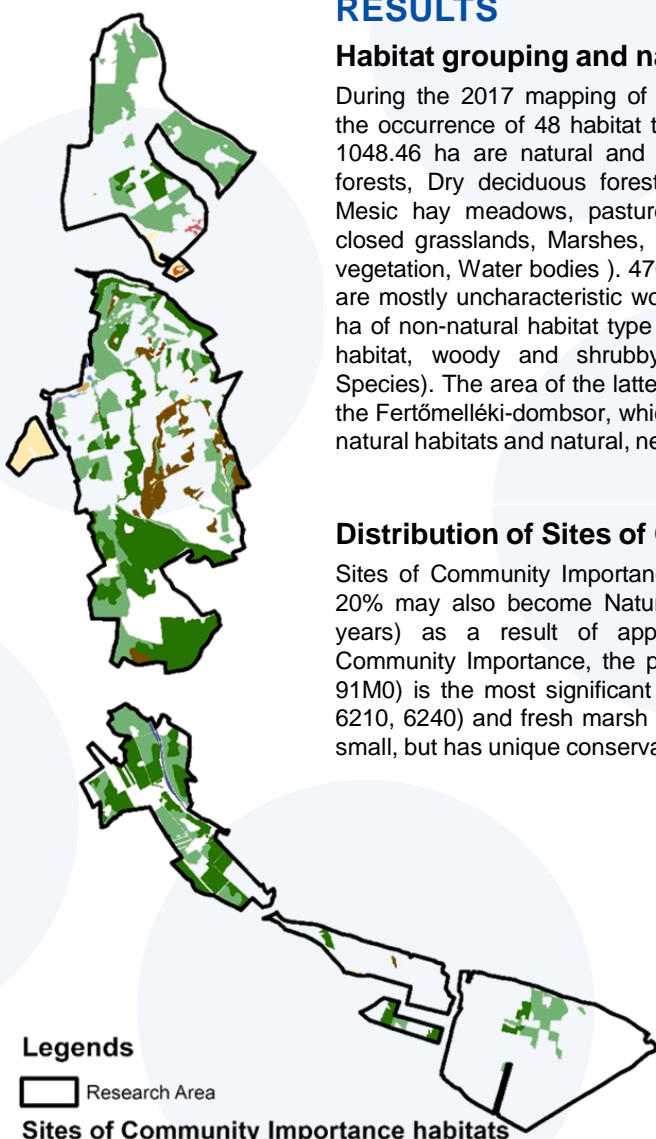
During the 2017 mapping of the Fertőmelléki-dombsor, we recorded the occurrence of 48 habitat types. The area is 2563.63 ha, of which 1048.46 ha are natural and near-natural habitats (Mesic deciduous forests, Dry deciduous forests, Shrub, Riverine and swamp forest, Mesic hay meadows, pastures and dry heaths, Dry and semi-dry closed grasslands, Marshes, Rich fens, wet grasslands and tall-herb vegetation, Water bodies). 470.67 ha of disturbed or secondary (these are mostly uncharacteristic woody and woodless habitats) and 1044.5 ha of non-natural habitat type (anthropogenic origin: agricultural, other habitat, woody and shrubby types dominated by Invasive Alien Species). The area of the latter is mainly increased by the vineyards of the Fertőmelléki-dombsor, which explains the equal percentage of non-natural habitats and natural, near-nature habitats.

Distribution of Sites of Community Importance

Sites of Community Importance occur in 40.62% of the area, another 20% may also become Natura 2000 habitats in the short term (5-15 years) as a result of appropriate management. Within Sites of Community Importance, the proportion of closed forests (91G0, 91H0, 91M0) is the most significant (38.55%). Various dry grasslands (6190, 6210, 6240) and fresh marsh and sedge meadows (7230) are relatively small, but has unique conservation value.

Distribution by main categories of Á-NÉR	Area (ha)	%
Mesic deciduous forests	408.88	15.9
Dry deciduous forests	573.45	22.4
Shrub	26.84	1.0
Riverine and swamp forest	0.54	0.0
Forests and plantations dominated by non native tree species	521.56	20.3
Other tree-dominated habitats	374.12	14.6
Mesic hay meadows, pastures and dry heaths	7.04	0.3
Other treeless habitats	96.55	3.8
Dry and semi-dry closed grasslands	14.28	0.6
Marshes	13.96	0.5
Rich fens, wet grasslands and tall-herb vegetation	1.30	0.1
Water bodies	2.16	0.1
Agricultural habitats	449.79	17.5
Other habitats	73.15	2.9
Total	2563.63	100.0

Code	N2000 habitats	Area (ha)	%
	Non Sites of Community Importance habitats	1522.47	59.38
3150	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition -type vegetation	1.79	0.07
6210	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)	39.13	1.53
6240	Sub-Pannonic steppic grasslands	2.39	0.09
6510	Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	7.04	0.27
7230	Alkaline fens	1.30	0.05
91E0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	1.37	0.05
91G0	Pannonic woods with Quercus petraea and Carpinus betulus	408.88	15.95
91H0	Pannonian woods with Quercus pubescens	73.41	2.86
91M0	Pannonian-Balkanic turkey oak –sessile oak forests	506.12	19.74
Total		2563.89	100.00



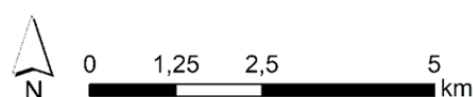
Legends

Research Area

Sites of Community Importance habitats

N2000

- 3150
- 6190
- 6210
- 6240
- 6510
- 7230
- 91E0
- 91H0
- 91G0
- 91M0



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