

SGSII-23 the Eastern Pasque Flower



Ministerstvo životního prostředí

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Project name: Preparation of the Action Plan for the Eastern Pasque Flower (*Pulsatilla patens*)

Project Nr.: MGSII - 23

Project location: The Doupovske Mountains and their environs, the Ceske stredohori region, Krasna Lipa town, the Hradcanske steny formation, Bela pod Bezdezem town, the Klinec-Lisnice boroughs (Ustecky Region, Liberecky Region, Central Bohemia Region, Prague)

Financial support: EEA Grants, Small Grants Scheme (SGSII) entitled “Action Plans for Endangered Species II”, support area 2: “Revision and Preparation of New Action Plans and Management Plans for Endangered Plant and Animal Species”

Total Resources: 634,169 CZK incl. VAT

Financing: Financial resources from EEA Grants are assigned in the amount of 539,044 CZK, which is 85% of the anticipated total project expenditure. The state budget grants financial resources in the amount of 95 125 CZK, which is 15% of the anticipated total project expenditure.

Project duration: 1.2.2015 – 30.4.2017

Project partners:

- Silva Tarouca Research Institute for Landscape and Ornamental Gardening (RILOG)

Project guarantee:

- Mgr. Eliška Blažejová, AOPK ČR, Division of species protection, E: eliska.blazejova@nature.cz

Overall Project Summary and Effect of the Project on the Relevant Species

The project fulfilled the anticipated objectives and outputs and was officially closed as of 30.4.2017.

We consider the main benefits of the project to be the completion of the action plan for the Eastern Pasque Flower (*Pulsatilla patens*), aiming to preserve this declining species in the Czech Republic. The action plan summarises current information on the species, defines long-term and medium-term objectives as regards its conservation, and proposes measures which should improve the populations of the species at each site.

Besides the actual contents of the action plan, the project focused on obtaining information on the recent occurrence of the

species and its genetic variability. Current data on the population density of the Eastern Pasque Flower were obtained in 2015 and 2016 as part of the monitoring which was carried out at all its sites in the Czech Republic. The data from the monitoring are used as important underlying facts for the evaluation of conditions of each site and determining their trends. We have not succeeded in determining the genetic variability of the researched populations; however, we obtained valuable information to determine the genetic variability of the species. It will be used within the action plan.

An important prerequisite for the successful performance of all conservation activities is public support. As part of the project publicity, four different promotion materials were created, two information seminars were held and two field excursions for members of the public were organised.

Project Objective and Scope:

This project aimed at preparing an action plan for the Eastern Pasque Flower (*Pulsatilla patens*). It is listed as a critically endangered species in Decree of the Ministry of the Environment 395/1992 Coll. It is also listed as critically endangered (C1t) in the Red List of Vascular Plants of the Czech Republic (Grulich 2012). Given the major decline in historical sites and reduction in populations at existing sites, an action plan was proposed to rescue the plant in the Czech Republic, which was the main objective of this project. The objectives and measures implemented in the action plan will contribute to the preservation of the species in the Czech Republic.

Activities within the Project

Monitoring of Populations of *Pulsatilla patens*

Regular monitoring of the species is an important activity which allows us to follow the development of the populations of this species at the relevant sites as well as throughout the Czech Republic. Monitoring was carried out in the vegetative season in 2015 and 2016 at all sites where the species occurs, consisting of counting the blooming bunches (or non-blooming bunches), identifying the condition of the plants (damage by nibbling, pests, etc.) and assessing the habitat condition.

Genetic Variability Analysis

An analysis using the Simple Sequence Repeat method was made with 160 plants of *Pulsatilla patens* and the *Pulsatilla* × *hackelii* (*P. patens* × *P. pratensis* subsp. *bohemica*) hybrids. The samples were taken from 6 sites.

Preparation of the Action Plan Draft

The draft of the action plan has been prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for the Preparation of Action Plans and Management Plans for Specially Protected Plant Species (MoE & AOPK CR 2014: Concept of Action Plans and Management Plans for Endangered Animal and Plant Species in the Czech Republic. The objectives and measures implemented in the action plan will contribute to the preservation of the species in the Czech Republic.

Professional Review of the Action Plan Draft

The completed draft of the Action Plan was submitted for review by two experts. The comments from the reviewers were subsequently addressed and the proposed changes were incorporated into the revised version of the Action Plan. The summary of the action plan for the Eastern Pasque Flower (*Pulsatilla patens*) can be found here.

Publicity

Introductory and closing informational seminars were held as part of the project publicity. Promotional materials were also created – the Pairs game, trays, notepads and scarves. Other information on the project implementation can be seen in the news section here.

Photos:



Partners' logo:

