



## **The importance of bird fauna monitoring in the hydro-ecological evaluation of wetland status**

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We have been carrying out bird fauna monitoring in the floodplains of the Danube-Drava National Park (Gemenc) since 1992. One of the main aims of our studies is to determine the nature of dependence of the bird fauna on the hydrological circumstances or, more precisely, on the water regime. Main habitat characteristics related to the water regime have been determined, water management-related problems have been identified. Habitat preferences of native bird species as well as optimal hydrological conditions for bird migration can be given based on the analysis of the data gathered during bird monitoring. The results can be used as reference conditions for the planning of the water-related management of the habitats in this floodplain National Park, and, to some extent, conclusions can be generalized.