#### Hortobágy National Park – The Puszta and it's Directorate



David Bogyo, PhD – Hortobagy National Park Directorate Europarc CEE Section meeting, Hortbágy, 02.05.2016.

#### Location



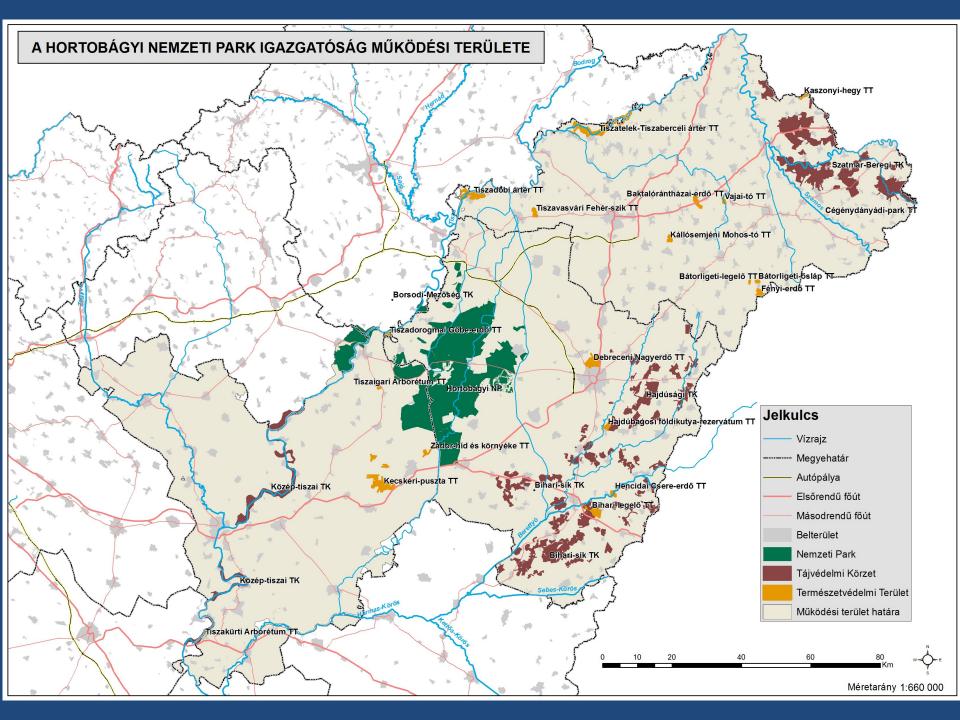
#### The National Park Directorate

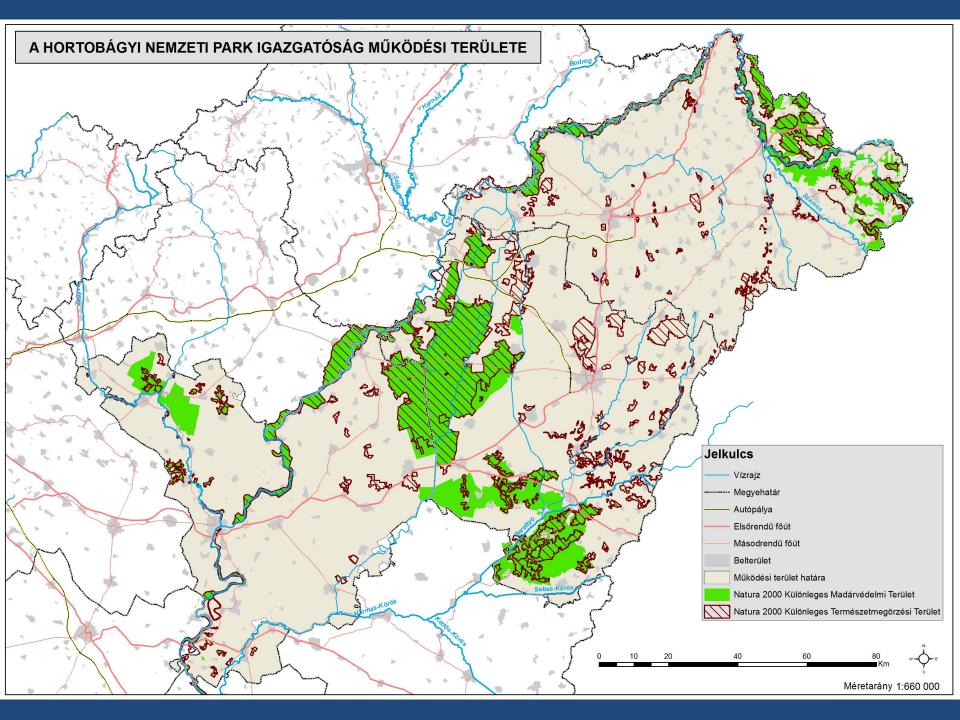
- Management area: 3 counties in NE Hungary
- Managing the Hortobágy NP and the UNESCO World Heritage Site (Cultural landscape)
- Protected areas (State level) 22 sites + special protection of bogs/sodiac pans/kurgans etc.
- **™**Biosphere and forest reserves 7 sites
- Natura 2000 130 sites! ca. 300.000 ha of SPA's and ca. 270.000 ha of SCI's
- Ramsar sites (Hortobágy and Tisza-tó + Felső-Tisza sites) 54.000 ha

Staff – ca. 180 people

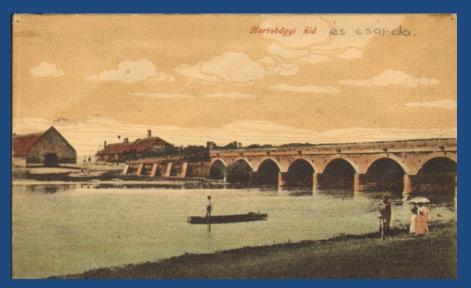


- Ranger service: 40 people
- Department of Nature Conservation
- Department of Projects & Development
- Department of Property Management (Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry)
- Department of Tourism
- Department of Administration
- Technical Department
- Financial Department





#### The NP: more than 82.000 ha







### Natura 2000 SPA, SCI, Ramsar-site, UNESCO World-heritage







## **Brief description**

- Hortobágy National Park, located on the Great Hungarian Plain in the eastern part of Hungary
- outstanding example of a harmonious interaction between nature and people
- practices such as animal husbandry, including grazing, hardy livestock adopted to the natural conditions represented by alkaline pastures, steppes, meadows and wetlands.



### Zsámboki János / Johannes Sambucus Map of Hungary 1571





## Brief description 2

- Its most determining scenic quality is the unbroken horizon
- \*\*Csárda-s, that were built in the XVIII-XIXth century, the Nine Arch Bridge, and the herdsmen's buildings fit harmoniously into this seemingly monotone landscape.
  - Out of the relics of previous historical periods, *kurgan*-s are one of the important elements in the landscape (nomadic people)
  - There is almost no permanent human population within the NP itself, except the grazing season

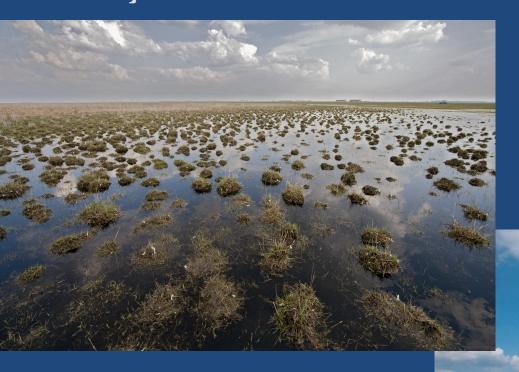


#### Szálkahalom

(halom=Kurgan or kunhalom =Kumanian mound)



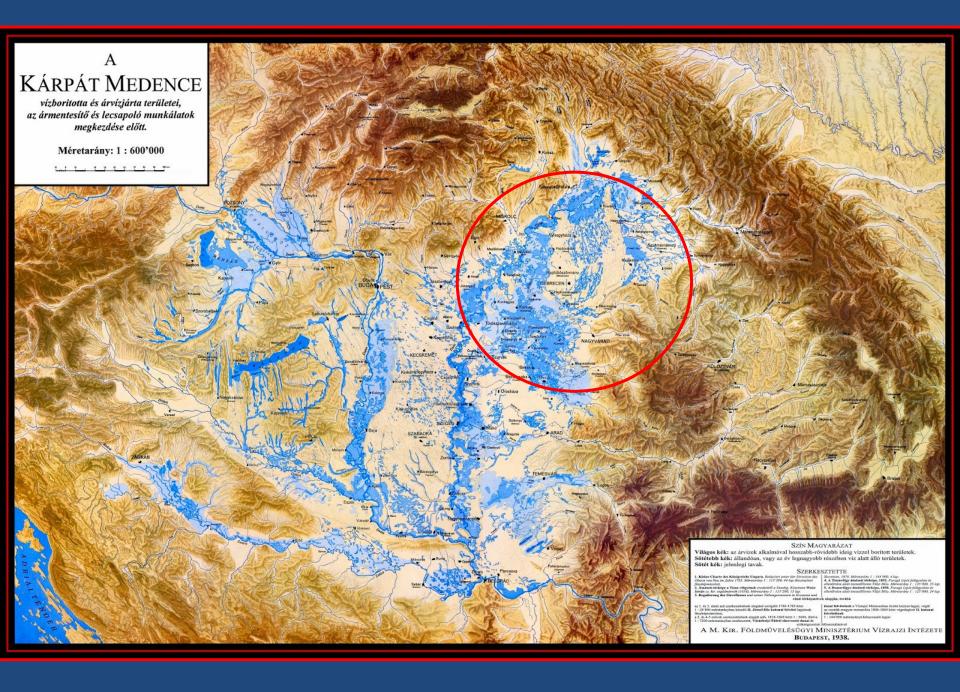
A complex mosaic of natural grasslands, loess ridges, alkaline pastures, meadows, smaller or larger wetlands, mostly marshes.



"Pannonic salt steppes and salt marshes, code \*1530







#### Protection and management - some of the goals...

- to maintain the traditional land use practices, especially common grazing (grey cattle, sheep (racka), horse, water buffalo);
- to extend the scope of the nature conservation oriented horizontal agricultural subsidies as much as possible;
- the buffer zone could remain the location for the more modern arable and grassland farming practices;
- Note a short-term goal is the completion of landscape rehabilitation projects already in progress: elimination of linear establishments (canals, dikes), replacing open wire lines with underground cable, restoring wetlands;
- combating invasive plant species, renewing the cadastre of pastoral buildings...etc.

# Large scale habitat restorations

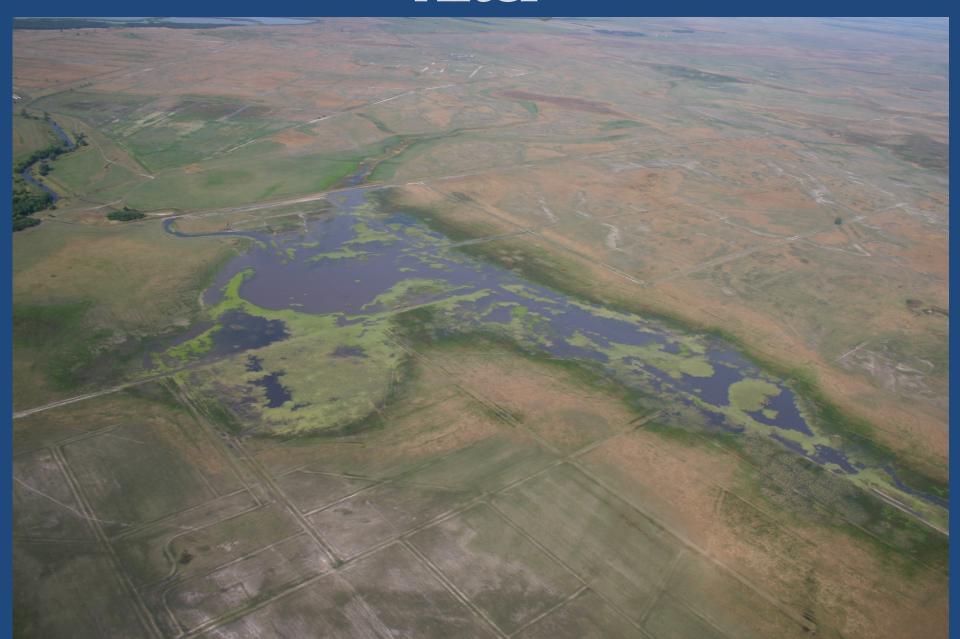
- **©**F.e. from 2002 to 2014
- Length of eliminated irrigation canals of abandoned rice fields and grasslands irrigation systems: 1057km
- Restored protected area: 292300 ha



# Before...



# After



Power line (22kV) laid underground (2006-2008) 72.5 km

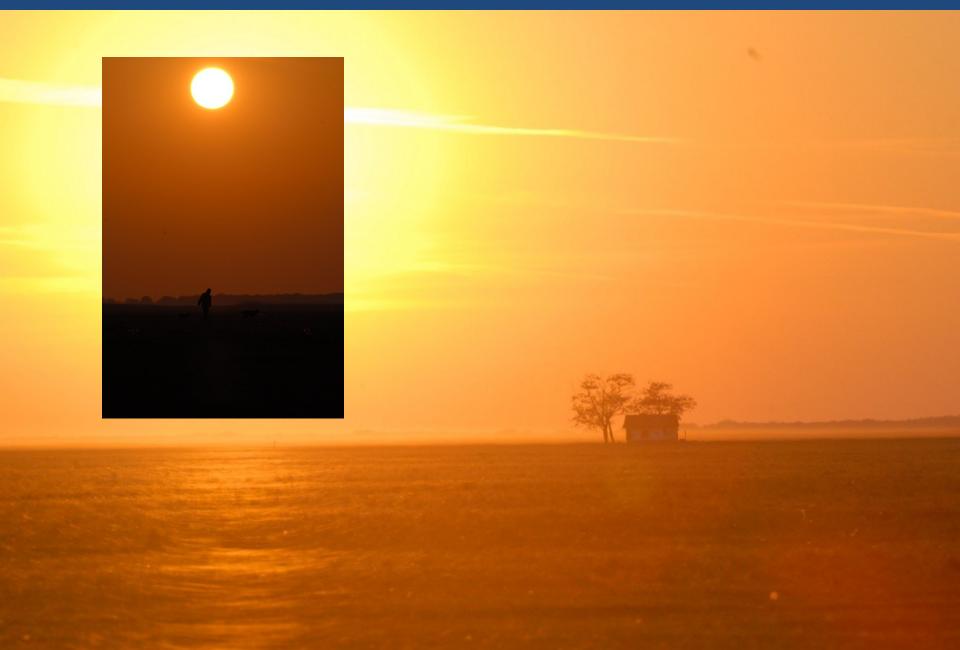
Power line (22 kV) laid underground (2010-2015) 49 km (a TOTAL of 121.5 km)

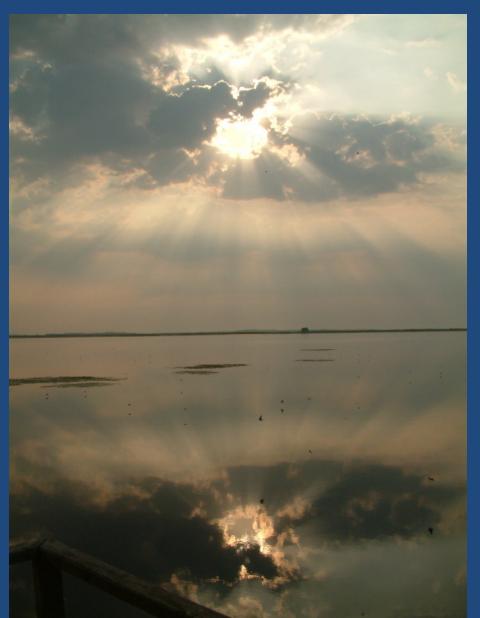






### Spirit and feeling















(Pulsatilla flavescens, P. hungarica) formerly (Pulsatilla pratensis subsp. hungarica)





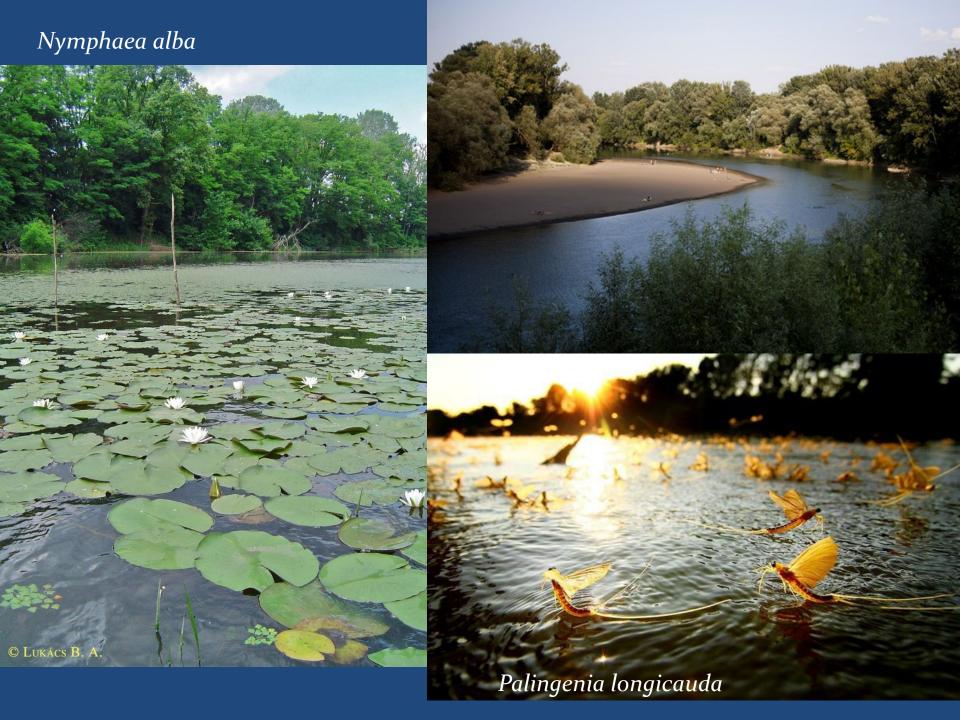










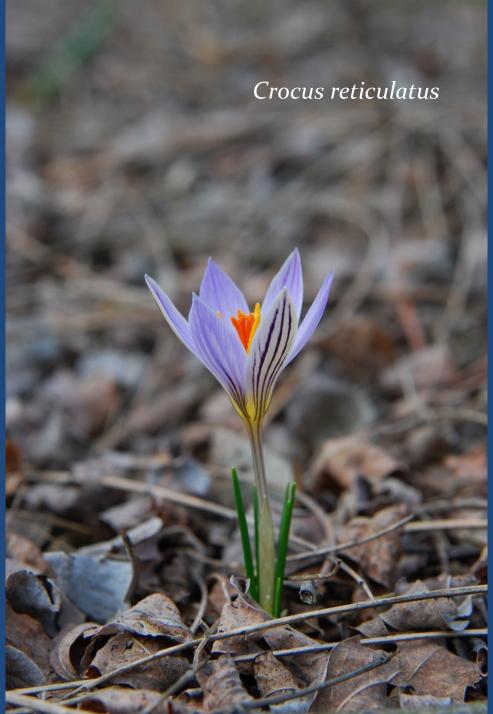
















Tilia argentea



Gortyna borelii





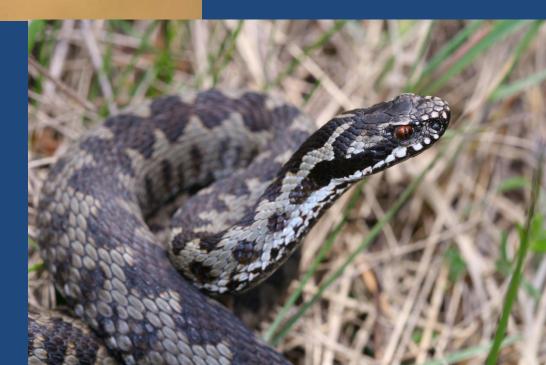
Spermophilus citellus



Falco vespertinus



#### Coracius garrulus



Vipera berus

# Thank you for your attention!

Umbra krameri

