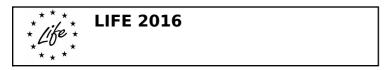


LIFE Nature and Biodiversity TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMS Part A – administrative information

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LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644

LIFE Nature and Biodiversity project application

Language of the proposal:

English (en)

Project title:

LIFE SAVING LASCA Urgent measure to conserve nearly extinct species Protochondrostoma genei

Project acronym:

LIFE for LASCA

The project will be implemented in the following Member State(s) and Region(s) or other countries:

Italy Lombardia Slovenia Goriska

Expected start date: 01/10/2017 **Expected end date:** 31/12/2021

LIST OF BENEFICIARIES

Name of the **coordinating** beneficiary: Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia

Name of the associated beneficiary: Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Tichino

LIST OF CO-FINANCERS

Name of the co-financer: HIDROTEHNIK Vodnogospodarsko podjetje d.d.

Name of the co-financer: Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor Republike Slovenije - The Ministry of the

Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia

PROJECT BUDGET AND REQUESTED EU FUNDING

Total project budget: 2,223,788 Euro

Total eligible project budget: 2,223,788 Euro

EU financial contribution requested: 1,331,160 Euro (= 59.86% of total eligible budget)

SECTOR

Nature

Coordinating Beneficia	ary Profile Informa	tion			
	E. I . B		CI :		
Legal Name	Fisheries Researc	n institute of	Siovenia		
Short Name	FRIS				Legal Status
VAT No	SI 83921419				Public body X
Legal Registration	5164117				Private commercial
Registration Date	11/01/1974				Private non- commercial
Pic Number					
Legal entity is SME					
Employee number					
Legal address of the C	Coordinating Bene	ficiary			
Street Name and No	Spodnje Gameljne	e 61 a			
Post Code	SI-1211		PO Box	N.A.	
Town / City	Ljubljana - Šmartr	10			
Member State	Slovenia				
Coordinating Beneficia	ary contact persor	information			
Title	Dr.	Function	B.Sc.Biol	ogy, Pł	n.D., expert
Surname	Pliberšek				
First Name	Kaja				
E-mail address	kaja.plibersek@zz	rs.si			
Department /	Research Departn	nent			
Street Name and No	Spodnje Gameljne	e 61 a			
Post Code	SI-1211		PO Box		
Town / City	Ljubljana - Šmartr	10			
Member State	Slovenia				
Telephone No	38631652089		Fax No	386	512443405
Website of the Coording	nating Beneficiary				
Website	http://www.zzrs.si				

Brief description of the Coordinating Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the

Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia (FRIS) was reorganized into a public institution in 2001. As a public institution, FRIS performs activities in freshwater and marine fisheries in accordance with the Freshwater Fishery Act, the Marine Fisheries Act, as well as regulations on nature conservation and environmental protection. FRIS also actively engages in research projects in the field of fisheries biology. In addition, FRIS carries out marketing activities in the field of sport and recreational fishing, including fish farming. The main responsibilities and duties of the institute are:

- development of fisheries management plans (PFM) which are a legal obligation for all district fisheries managers in Slovenia,
- supervision of the FMPs which is performed through yearly programs. A yearly program summarizes all the fisheries management actions in watercourses of the previous year and is published by contractors of fisheries management (angling clubs),
- implementation of a yearly monitoring of fish populations in the Natura 2000 sites. Reports are available on the web link: http://www.natura2000.si/index.php?id=211,
- management of database.
- development of methodology and implementation of monitoring fish community sampling for the purposes of evaluating the ecological status of waters,
- issuing of agreements and professional opinions in case of interventions in watercourses.

FRIS also operates with two fish farms, fish farm in Kobarid and a fish farm in Stari trg pri Ložu. In these

farms, indigenous salmonid species are bred. Production of fish is intended for repopulation of watercourses, as a backup supply of specimens for watercourses, or for sale to angling clubs and/or local markets.

LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644 - A3



COORDINATING BENEFICIARY DECLARATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

- The specific actions listed in this proposal do not and will not receive aid from the European Structural
 and Investment Funds or other European Union funding programmes. In the event that any such funding
 will be made available after the submission of the proposal or during the implementation of the project,
 my organisation will immediately inform the Contracting Authority.
- My organisation Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor
 has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in
 Articles 106(1) and 107 of Council Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the
 Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L298
 of 26.10.2012).
- 3. My organisation (which is legally registered in the European Union) will contribute 614,128.00€ to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions: A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, D1, D2, D3, E1, E2, E3, F1, F2, F3. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is 1,933,228.00 €.
- 4. My organisation will conclude with the associated beneficiaries and co-financers any agreements necessary for the completion of the work, provided these do not infringe on their obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the Contracting Authority. Such agreements will be based on the model proposed by the Contracting Authority. They will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by each associated beneficiary and define the financial arrangements.
- I commit to comply with all relevant eligibility criteria, as defined in the LIFE Multiannual Work Programme 2014-2017 and the LIFE Call for Proposals including the LIFE Guidelines for Applicants.

I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation.

I have read in full the Model LIFE Grant Agreement with Special and General Conditions and the Financial Guidelines (provided with the LIFE application files).

I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

Signature of the Coordinating Beneficiary:

Name(s) and status of signatory:

* When this form is completed, please print, sign, scan and upload it in eProposal

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ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY PROFILE

Associated Beneficiary	/ profile informatio	on				
Legal Name	Consorzio Parco L	ombardo dell	a Valle del Tichino			
Short Name	PARCO			Legal Status		
VAT No	IT08914300150			Р	ublic bod	ly X
Legal Registration	86004850151			Private c	ommerci	al
Registration Date	09/01/1974			Private non- c	ommerci	al
Pic Number	928912450					
Legal entity is SME						
Employee number						
Legal address of Asso	ciated Beneficiary	/				
Street Name and No	Via Isonzo, 1				PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	20013	Town/City	Pontevecchio di I	Magenta (MI)		
Member State or oth	er Country	Italy				
Website of Associated	Beneficiary					
Website	http://www.parcot	cicino.it				
Distribute in the second of the					of the co	

Brief description of the Associated Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the

Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino is the oldest regional park in Italy. The park functions as a public institute which was founded by the Lombardy region. The surface of the park is 91,800 hectares, of which 20,500 carry the status of protected nature park. The park spreads over the area of 47 municipalities, along the Ticino river, between Lake Maggiore and the river Po.

The function of the public institute is management of the park by implementing measures that enable conservation of river ecosystems, their environment and the life in them. By doing so, the institute promotes and supports scientific research, carries out various programs for the conservation of wild animals, and raises awareness among local population.

In the context of the park, a fish farm with a hatchery is also in operation, intended for reproduction, fish farming and repopulation of threatened indigenous fish species. Fish farm La Fagiana was built in 2004 in the framework of the project LIFE00 NAT/IT/007268 for the marble trout (Salmo marmoratus) and the Pigo (Rutilus pigus).

Currently, the project LIFE 11 NAT/11/188 is undergo in the park, with the aim of farming and repopulating the Adriatic sturgeon (Acipenser naccari), as well as cyprinids species, among which Lasca (Protochondrostoma genei) is included as well. The experience acquired from participating in LIFE projects, especially regarding fish breeding, will prove valuable in establishing a broodstock of Lasca.



ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY DECLARATION and MANDATE

I, the undersigned, **DELTRAM GIPNATURE** (1), representing, Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Tichino PARCO, Public body, 86004850151, Via Isonzo, 1, Pontevecchio di Magenta (MI), 20013, Italy, VAT number IT08914300150, hereinafter referred to as "the associated beneficiary", for the purposes of the signature and the implementation of the grant agreement LIFE SAVING LASCA Urgent measure to conserve nearly extinct species Protochondrostoma genei with the Contracting Authority (hereinafter referred to as "the grant agreement") hereby:

- 1. Mandate Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia (FRIS), Public body, 5164117, Spodnje Gameljne 61 a, Ljubljana Smartno, SI 1211, Slovenia, VAT number SI 83921419, represented by (hereinafter referred to as "the coordinating beneficiary") to sign in my name and on my behalf the grant agreement and its possible subsequent amendments with the Contracting Authority.
- Mandate the coordinating beneficiary to act on behalf of the associated beneficiary in compliance with the grant agreement.

I hereby confirm that the associated beneficiary accepts all terms and conditions of the grant agreement and, in particular, all provisions affecting the coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries. In particular, I acknowledge that, by virtue of this mandate, the coordinating beneficiary alone is entitled to receive funds from the Contracting Authority and distribute the amounts corresponding to the associated beneficiary"s participation in the action.

I hereby accept that the associated beneficiary will do everything in its power to help the coordinating beneficiary fulfil its obligations under the grant agreement, and in particular, to provide to the coordinating beneficiary, on its request, whatever documents or information may be required.

I hereby declare that the associated beneficiary agrees that the provisions of the grant agreement, including this mandate, shall take precedence over any other agreement between the associated beneficiary and the coordinating beneficiary which may have an effect on the implementation of the grant agreement.

I furthermore certify that:

- The associated beneficiary has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in Articles 106(1) and 107 of Council Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L298 of 26.10.2012).
- The associated beneficiary will contribute 60,000 € to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions: A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, C2, C4, E1, E2, E3, F1. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is 290,560 €.
- 3. The associated beneficiary will conclude with the coordinating beneficiary an agreement necessary for the completion of the work, provided this does not infringe on our obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the Contracting Authority. This agreement will be based on the model proposed by the Contracting Authority. It will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by my organisation and define the financial arrangements.
- 4. I commit to comply with all relevant eligibility criteria, as defined in the LIFE Multiannual Work Programme 2014-2017 and the LIFE Call for Proposals including the LIFE Guidelines for Applicants.

This declaration and mandate shall be annexed to the grant agreement and shall form an integral part thereof.

I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation. I have read in full the Model LIFE Grant Agreement with Special and General Conditions and the Financial Guidelines (provided with the LIFE application files). I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

AT TOUTE VECOMO DI MAGENTA

Signature of the Associated Beneficiary:

Name(s) and status/function of signatory:

1. Forename and surname of the legal representative of the future associated beneficiary signing this mandate.

2. When the form is completed, please print, sign, scan and upload it in eProposal

DE DIE PARO (a No Lo H3 + R) inture associated beneficiary signing this mandate.

In pload it in eProposal

Page 1 of 1

CO-FINANCER PROFILE AND COMMITMENT FORM

Legal Name	HIDROTEHI	NIK Vo	dnogospodar	sko podjetje	d.d.			
Street Name and No	Slovenčeva	ulica	97			P	РО Вох	N.A.
Post Code	1000		Town/City	Ljubljana				
Member Stat	te or other Co	ountry	Slovenia				- 200	
inancial commitment			BANKE THE	Marie Marie	HEN-THE	11000		
We will contribute the amount to	ne following the project:	1,500	Euro					
tatus of the financial	commitmen	it	BEAL STATE	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	CONTRACT	NAME OF STREET	THE PERSON	-
Confirmed								
To be confirmed								
AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON								
			ALC: UNKNOWN	Section 2	No of Street, or other Designation of the least	THE REAL PROPERTY.		
IIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo nd Gorška Brda. As vatercourses. IIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo or LASCA project cont	the operate	oodieti	as a right a	nd an obliga	ortance of n	ature cons	servic	es on t
HIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo and Gorška Brda. As vatercourses. HIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo or LASCA project cont 1.500 EUR.	the operate ospodarsko p tribution to	oodjetj the Pri	as a right a	nd an obliga	ortance of n	ature cons	service servation e the pr	es on the
HIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo and Gorška Brda. As watercourses. HIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo for LASCA project contactor EUR. Signature of the authory and the LASCA At	ospodarsko p tribution to orised perso	podjetj the Pri	as a right a e d.d. is awa morska regi	nd an obliga	ortance of neason it will	ature cons	service servation e the pr	es on t
HIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo and Gorška Brda. As vatercourses. HIDROTEHNIK Vodnogo or LASCA project cont 1.500 EUR.	ospodarsko p tribution to orised perso	podjetj the Pri	e d.d. is awa	nd an obliga are of the imp on. For this r	ortance of neason it will	ature cons	service servation e the pr	es on t

^{*} When the form is completed, please print, sign, scan and upload it in eProposal

CO-FINANCER PROFILE AND COMMITMENT FORM

Legal Name and full a	ddress on the co-	inancer				
Legal Name	Ministrstvo za oko Environment and	olje in prostor Spatial Plann	Republike Sloving of the Repu	venije - The Ministr ublic of Slovenia	ry of the	
Street Name and No	Dunajska 48				PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	1000	Town/City	Ljubljana	200		
Member Sta	te or other Country	Slovenia	35	19	1300	
Financial commitment				(4)		
We will contribute the amount to	the project: 217,0	00 Euro				
Status of the financial	commitment					
Confirmed						
To be confirmed						
Comments						
Ministrstvo za okolje i measure to conserve i Slovenije«, če ga bo za 10% končne pogodben	nearly extinct spec sofinanciranje po	cies Protocho	ndrostoma ge	nei, ki ga prijavlja	»Zavod z	za ribištvo
The Ministry of the Env LIFE SAVING LASCA Urg by Fisheries Research Commission. The proj	gent measure to co Institute of Slov	nserve nearly enia if the p	extinct specie roject is appr	es Protochondrosto oved for financin	ma genei	submitted
Signature of the autho	rised person					
At	AMALLANIA			onఓక్ <u>కి</u>	. 2016	
Signature of the Co-fi	nancer: ()	Jen .		<i>2</i>		
Name(s) and status or	f signatory:		WY YEEW.	mim ====	£.⊋Tæl	a



^{*} When the form is completed, please print, sign, scan and upload it in eProposal

OTHER PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR EUROPEAN UNION FUNDING

Please answer each of the following questions:

 Have you or any of your associated beneficiaries already benefited from previous LIFE cofinancing? (please cite LIFE project reference number, title, year, amount of the co-financing, duration, name(s) of coordinating beneficiary and/or partners involved):

LIFE97 NAT/IT/004134; Valle del Ticino - Restoration of alluvial woods and oak woods along the Ticino River; Project budget: 688.029,05 €, co-financed by EU: 337.134,23 €. Duration: 1.4.1997-31.3.2001.Coordinator beneficiary: **Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino**. Partner: AGIP DICR-IT Autorità di Bacino del Fiume Po-IT.

LIFE00 NAT/IT/007268; Salmo Ticino - Conservation of Salmo marmoratus and Rutilus pigus in the River Ticino; Project budget: 534,000.00 €, co-financed by EU: 240,300.00 €. Duration: 1.10.2001-30.9.2004. Coordinator beneficiary: **Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino**. Partner:/

LIFE00 NAT/IT/007159; Conservazione di Austropotamobius pallipes in due SIC della Lombardia. Project budget: 505,464.00 €, co-financed by EU: 224,729.00 €. Duration: 1.10.2001-30.9.2004. Coordinator beneficiary: Consorzio Parco Regionale della Valle del Lambro. Partner: **Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino**.

LIFEO3 NAT/IT/000113; ACIPENSER TICINO-LOMB - Conservazione di Acipenser naccarii nel fiume Ticino e nel medio corso del Po. Project budget: 891,224.00 €, co-financed by EU: 534,734.00 €. Duration: 1.10.2003-31.10.2006. Coordinator beneficiary: **Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino**. Partner: Parco Oglio Sud.

LIFE04 NAT/SI/000240; NATSLOMPIS - NATURA 2000 in Slovenia - management models and information system. Project budget: 1.686.077,00 EUR, co-financed by EU: 843.039,00 EUR; Duration: 1.1.2005-31.12.2007; Coordinator beneficiary: The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation; Partners: Ministero dell' Ambiente e Tutela del Teritorio, The Institute for Forests of Slovenia, The Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia; The Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia, **The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**, Municipality of Šentjur, local community Kapele, The Notranjska Museum Postojna.

LIFE09 NAT/SI/000374; WETMAN - Conservation and management of freshwater wetlands in Slovenia. Project budget 2.144.376,00 EUR, co-financed by EU: 1.072.188,00 EUR; Duration: 1.2.2011-1.2.2015; Coordinator beneficiary: The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation; Partners: The Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia, The Institute for Forests of Slovenia, Municipality of Kranjska Gora, Radio-Television of Slovenia, **The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**, Municipality of Ruše.

LIFE11 NAT/SI/000880; SI Natura 2000 Management - Natura 2000 Management programme for Slovenia for the period 2014-2020. Project budget: 1.706.914,00 EUR, co-financed: 853.457,00 EUR; Duration: 20.8.2012-30.3.2015; Coordinator beneficiary: Ministry of Agriculture and Environment; Partners: The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, **The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**, The Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia, Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia, and The Institute for Forests of Slovenia.

LIFE11 NAT/IT/000188; CON.FLU.PO. - Restoring connectivity in Po River basin opening migratory route for Acipenser naccarii* and 10 fish species in Annex II. Project budget: 7,088,476.00 €, cofinanced by EU: 3,496,809.00 €. Duration: 1.12.2012-30.6.2017. Coordinator beneficiary: Regione Lombardia - DG Agricoltura. Partner: **Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino**, Regione Emilia-Romagna - Direzione Generale Agricoltura, Economia Ittica, Attività Faunistico venatorie; Agenzia Interregionale per il fiume Po; Autorità di bacino del fiume Po; Provincia di Piacenza; Provincia di Rovigo; G.R.A.I.A. srl - Gestione e Ricerca Ambientale Ittica Acque.

LIFE15 NAT/IT/000989; LifeTicinoBiosource - Enchancing Biodiversity by Restoring Source Areas for Priority and Other Species of Community Interest in Ticino Park. Project budget: 3,877,000.00 €, cofinanced by EU: 2,326,000.00 €. Duration: 1.11.2016-31.10.2020. Coordinator beneficiary: **Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino** Partner: Fondazione Lombardia per l'Ambiente; G.R.A.I.A. srl - Gestione e Ricerca Ambientale Ittica Acque.

LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644 - A
 Have you or any of the associated beneficiaries submitted any actions related directly or indirectly to this project to other European Union funding programmes? To whom? When and with what results?
No.
 For those actions which fall within the eligibility criteria for financing through other European Union funding programmes, <u>please explain in full detail</u> why you consider that those actions are better suited to financing through LIFE and are therefore included in the current project:
PARCO is involved in the project manly to provide Lasca specimens for FRIS for a Natura 2000 site repopulation. LIFE CON.FLU.PO. LIFE project, in which PARCO was involved, will support these activities and for such purposes no eligibile Italian founds exists.
European Fisheries Fund (EFF)
With its financial resources the EFF helps the fishing industry and coastal communities in adapting to the changed circumstances in such a way that makes it possible for the fishing sector to survive economically in an environmentally friendly way. Financial resources are available to all sectors of the fishing industry – open sea fishing and inland fishing, fish farming (fish, shellfish and aquatic plants), including fish product processing and marketing. Special attention is dedicated to those fishing communities that have been affected most by the recent changes in the fishing industry sector. Projects are funded in accordance with the strategic plans and operational programs that are prepared by each Member State and/or region. Due to being a public institution, the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia is not eligible for EU funding (particularly in the sense of fish farm renovation) in any Slovenian national public tenders and calls.
European Regional Development Fund
The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) contributes to bridging the gap between the development levels of various regions. The ERDF carries out the tasks of the Council, especially in enhancing competitiveness through innovation, creating and preserving long-term jobs, and ensuring sustainable development. Nevertheless, none of the proposed project actions can be financed by the European Regional Development Fund, since the project actions are oriented specifically on the reintroduction of the endangered species of Lasca (<i>Protochondrostoma genei</i>).
Cohesion Fund
As part of the Cohesion Fund, projects from the area of municipal waste management, waste water collection and treatment, drinking water supply, flood protection, as well as the area of efficient energy use and renewable energy, but also projects on transport infrastructure for the construction and development of transport infrastructure, can be financed as defined in the guidelines for the development of the Trans-European Transport Network. With our project subject, we consequently cannot apply.
The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
Through use of the Rural Development Program – Axis 2 (Improving the Environment and the Countryside), The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development supports maintenance of agriculture in areas with limited opportunities for agricultural activities and encourages environmentally friendly good agricultural practices also in the area of NATURA 2000, including areas that are especially important in biodiversity conservation. However, our project activities do not comply with this program.

Yes X No

• Has this proposal been submitted before?

LIFE15 NAT/SI/000876 LIFE for LASCA

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Optional: in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

Name and legal status	
Ministry of the Enviror	nment and spatial Planning
ull address:	
Dunajska 48 SI-1000 Ljubljana	
Fel: +386 1 478 740	Fax: +386 1 478 7425
mail: gp.mop@gov.	si
Contact person (name	and function):
мапја магкез, РПД, Н	ead of the Nature Conservation Sector
lease specify whethe	r, why and how you will support this project:
	e repopulation of the Natura 2000 site, Dolina Vipave (SI 3000226). For Slovenia, Lasca (Natura 2000 species) better conservation status in its only declared Natura nost importance.
At GOBLY	on 5.9.2016 Setent Authority:
Signature of the Comp	etent Authority:
Name and status of signatory:	Tanja Bolte, MSc, Director of the Environment Directorate
	OTOLIE IN PAG
	ROW STANTANT
	Page 1 of 1

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DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Optional: in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

Slov	renian Environment Age	ency			
Full a	address:				
	cova 1b 000 Ljubljana				
Tel:	+386 1 4784 000		Fax:	+386 1 4784 052	
Emai	il: gp.arso@gov.si				
Cont	act person (name and f	function):			
Natu	eja Blažič ure Conservation Divisio tact person at the heari		n for the	authorization.	
Pleas	se specify whether, why	and how you will s	upport t	his project:	
is av	ware of the importance	of the Natura 2000	species	d with LIFE for LASCA project conten- conservation. For that reason FRIS*	application
is av	ware of the importance	of the Natura 2000	species	d with LIFE for LASCA project conten conservation. For that reason FRIS* ra 2000 site, Dolina Vipave (SI 3000)	application
is av	ware of the importance authorization for the Las	of the Natura 2000 sca reintroduction i	species nto Natu	conservation. For that reason FRIS*	application
is av for a cons	ware of the importance authorization for the Las sidered as a priority.	of the Natura 2000 sca reintroduction i	species nto Natu	conservation. For that reason FRIS* ra 2000 site, Dolina Vipave (SI 3000)	application

Page 1 of 1

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Optional: in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

Name and legal status:
IUCN Global Species Programme Red List Unit
Full address:
IUCN UK Office, The David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street Cambridge CB2 3QZ, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)1223 331199 Fax: /
Email: redlist@iucn.org
Contact person (name and function):
Jörg Freyhof European chair of the IUCN/WI Freshwater Fish Specialist Group.
Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:
Lasca / Sauth European Nase (Protochondrostoma nasus) populations are declining in the entire areal. In some areas, the species has practically disappeared. In our opinion it is very important to take action now, until there are still larger groups of the specimens in the wild. After all, early action enables us to save the species and it gives us a greater opportunity to establish a favorable conservation status of the species in the wild. This is the reason why IUCN highly supports LIFE for LASCA project.
At Buin
Signature of the Competent Authority:
Name and status of signatory: Jörg Freyhof, European chair of the IUCN/WI Freshwater Fish Specialist Group

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Optional: in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

Name and legal status:		
The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for N	lature Co	onservation
Full address:		
Tobačna ulica 5 SI-1000 Ljubljana		
Tel: 00386 01 2309 500	Fax:	:: N.A.
Email: zrsvn.oe@zrsvn.si		
Contact person (name and function):		
Tjaša Djokič, Nature Conservation Advisor		
Please specify whether, why and how you will	support t	this project:
special attention to the most valuable natural species. Through nature conservation guideling planning and use of natural resources. The Ir conservation for decisions of government an planning procedures of plans and projects in areas. IRSNC is highly concerned regarding of populations at their whole area. We fully sup to improve the conservation status of Protocisite Dolina Vipave (SI 3000226).IRSNC is read	I parts of nes, the institute produced to the	institute has a significant impact on land use provides professional support in the field of nature public institutions, prepares expert opinions in and participates in the management of protected ecline of Lasca (Protochondrostoma genei) wities of the LIFE project LIFE for LASCA, which aim oma genei as a qualifying species for Natura 2000 p the leading partner to achieve project goals. We calcium processes and the improvement of public
At Gulfamp	1/2010	on 13.9, 2016
Signature of the Competent Authority:	po	
Name and status of signatory: dr. Darij Krajčič	director	Ana, Tobacca and Ball

Page 1 of 1

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Optional: in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

	ersità degli Studi di Trieste (Uni	versity of Trieste)		
ull a	ddress:			
Piazz	ale Europa, 1 - 34127 - Trieste,	Italia		
el:	+39 040 558 8830	Fax: N	A.	
mail	pizzul@units.it			
Conta	ct person (name and function):			
Prof.	ssa. Elisabetta Pizzul Di Luca			
ease	e specify whether, why and how	v you will support this	project:	
At ["	TRIESTE			on 13/09/2016
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Page 1 of 1

LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644 - A8

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Optional: in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

Name	and legal status:				
UNIV	ERSITY OF PARMA				
Full a	ddress:				
	CO AREA DELLE SCIEI 24 PARMA	NZE 11/A			
Tel:	+39-0521-905643		Fax:	+39-0521-905657	
Email	francesco.nonnisi	marzano@unipr.it			
Conta	act person (name and	function):			
Prof.	Francesco Nonnis M	arzano – Project Leade	er LIFE 1	3 NAT/IT/001129 »Bar	bie«
Pleas	e specify whether, w	hy and how you will su	upport ti	nis project:	
as a the r that	support for Lasca po e-establishment of th we are actually man	pulations in the wild. I ne Lasca population in aging in the framewor	herefor Sloveni k of our	e, we fully support the a based on breeders for	y as a genetic back up and e LIFE for LASCA project and rom the wild populations authorization by the Emilia Areas public body).
At [PARMA	nt Authority:	fraue	eur Seoneis Cen	on 11.04.2017
Name signa	e and status of tory:	Prof. Francesco No (Italy)	onnis Ma	rzano Associate Profe	ssor University of Parma

Page 1 of 1

LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644 - A8

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

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Full address: Tolminskih puntarjev 4 5000 Nova Gorica Slovenia Tel:	Administration of the (UVHVVR)	Republic of Sloveni	ia for Food Safety, Veterinary Se	ctor and Plant prote	ction
Fax: +386 05 330 22 70 Fax: +386 05 330 22 80 Email: ingrid.zidaric@gov.si Contact person (name and function): Ingrid Zidarič, dr.vet.med; official veterinarian, UVHVVR, Regional Office Nova Gorica Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project: The Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection UVHVVR) has been acquainted with LIFE for LASCA (Protochondrostoma genei) project content. As to UVHVVR Regional Office competent veterinary authority, which supervises the operators of aquacult in accordance with the relevant EU and national legislation, we will also supervise trade and transport of animals associated with the project LIFE for LASCA in a non-discriminatory manner, as this is usu performed. At Nota Govica On 13.4.201 Signature of the Competent Authority:	Full address:				
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LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644

TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMS

Part B - technical summary and overall context of the project

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT (Max. 3 pages; to be completed in English)

Project title:

LIFE SAVING LASCA Urgent measure to conserve nearly extinct species Protochondrostoma genei

Project objectives:

Before starting the project description it is important to underline that a preparatory check on the main topics delineated by IUCN Guidelines for reintroduction was performed by FRIS in 2015/2016 following the multidisciplinary approach, considering also genetic analysis on the Italian (Ticino) stock compared with Slovenian specimens. The results of this preliminary check has given the green light (see the endorsement letter of the IUCN Freshwater fish Specialist Group) to the reintroduction program including the release of Ticino specimens.

The main objective of the project is **to conserve the extremely endangered species Lasca** (*Protochondrostoma genei*).

Lasca inhabits Northern Italy and Western Slovenia where it is considered close to extinction. Its populations on the entire areal are in a drastic decline. For this reason it is **urgent to take action quickly in order to conserve the species**.

First steps in preservation will be **to ensure back-up of Lasca genetic material in captivity**. This back-up would serve as a source of specimens for Lasca population reinforcement in the wild. Since Lasca populations are already extinct in some areas (regarding IUCN), species reintroduction is necessary to improve species conservation status. Thus, the final goal of the project is **to reintroduce Lasca in the Vipava river basin (Natura 2000 site)** and to improve the conservation status of the species in Slovenia. The next step in the preservation of this endangered species will be **establishment of Lasca conservation management throughout the species areal**. The main issue of the management will be the reduction of Lasca threats in the wild. The reason for Lasca population decline is its main competitor Common nase (*Chondrostoma nasus*). This invasive species in the Vipava river basin caused extinction of Lasca in the region, which is the only declared Nature 2000 site for this species in Slovenia. This is why it is highly important **to reduce the population of the invasive species** before the reintroduction.

Extreme decline of Lasca population is an indicative example of consequences from **entry of non indigenous species into an environment**. For this reason the project will include **key participants** (anglers and school youth) who will be acquainted with these environmental consequences. An active communication with anglers is planed. In long term, anglers and youth awareness will contribute and help to reduce negative anthropological activities in this field.

Actions and means involved:

1. **Back-up for wild Lasca population** will be assured by the modification of the Slovenian fish farm (A2, C1), where Lasca breeding will be established (C2).

2. Lasca reintroduction in Natura 2000 site

Lasca specimens raised in captivity (C2) will be used for the reintroduction into the Natura 2000 site (C4). A comprehensive reintroduction procedure will be determined in the Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin (A3). According to IUCN RSG the guidlines will also base on habitat analysis of target species.

3. Establishment of Lasca management

Action plan for Lasca conservation will be prepared in cooperation with the involved institutions responsible for Lasca management in Italy and Slovenia (A4) - Lasca areal. Conservation guidelines of action plan will be included in fisheries management plans, which are by law, obligatory for all fisheries managers in Slovenia.

4. **Reduction of invasive Common nase** will be executed through the entire year, more intensively during spawning period when specimens group together in shallower water (C3). A more detail procedure will be determined in the Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin

(A3).

5. Youth and anglers awareness

Personal meetings with all 64 Angler Clubs in Slovenia will be organized (C5). On the meetings concrete local examples will be exposed. The final goal will be to solve concrete environmental problems and to find solutions to prevent further negative consequences of non indigenous species entry into an environment.

Children and other interested public will be acquainted with functioning and meaning of Natura 2000 Network (E3). Contests will be organized to encourage active involving of stakeholders.

Local residents including youth and anglers will be invited to actual field work events (E3). Filed work activities will be linked with school curriculums.

A detailed procedure for awareness actions (C5, E1, E2, E3) will be determined in communication plan (A5) with aim to acquainted public with Natura 2000 Network and environmental consequences of non indigenous species entry into an environment.

To confirm the success of the project the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project will be measured (actions D1, D2 and D3).

Expected results (outputs and quantified achievements):

1. Back-up for wild population

The expected result is the establishment of Lasca broodstock in Slovenia. Lasca broodstock will be the source of Lasca juveniles for the reintroduction into Natura 2000 site. We expect at least two successful spawning periods (2020 and 2021) with sufficient recruitment (on average at least 50.000 specimens per year).

2. Lasca reintroduction in Natura 2000 site

We expect to release at least 150.000 Lasca specimens (on average at least 50.000 per year) in years 2019, 2020 and 2021. Since Vipava watercourses have no barriers and the mortality of young specimens is usually high in nature, we expect to find at least 500 of the released specimens. That is almost 3 times more than it is the current estimated population size in whole Soča (Isonzo) river basin.

3. Establishment of Lasca management

Action plan for Lasca conservation will be published and send to all institutions responsible for Lasca management (Institute Ente tutela Pesca FVG, University in Trieste, PARCO, Ministry of Environment and Spatial planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, The Institute of Republic of Slovenija for Nature Conservation and FRIS). In 2024 the plan will be implemented into the official legislative Fisheries management plans in Slovenia. Action plan will also be implemented for further Lasca management in Italy (PARCO).

4 Reduction of invasive Common nase

In the Vipava river basin watercourses, the number of Common Nase specimens will be decreased by at least 60%.

5. Youth and anglers awareness

We expect that the amount of non-indigenous fish release by angling clubs will decrease for at least 10%.

At least 1300 of people within target groups will be acquainted with project topics and results. With public awareness, we expect that long term impacts will reduce possibilities of non indigenous species entry into an environment.

Is your project significantly climate-related?	Yes No X	
/		

The proposal addresses the following project topic(s):

 Projects aimed at improving the conservation status of habitat types or species (including bird species) of Community Interest, targeting the Natura 2000 sites proposed or designated for these habitat types or species.

Reasons why the proposal falls under the selected project topic(s):

Project topic: LIFE Nature project; Habitats and species in Natura 2000 sites.

Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave, SI 3000226 will improve the species conservation status in its only declared Natura 2000 site in Slovenia (The Habitats Directive).

The project is in accordance with the Natura 2000 Management programme for Slovenia (LIFE 11 NAT/SI/880). The program framework recommends that projects are necessary to establish possibilities for Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave, SI3000226.

References:

Council Directive 92/43/EGS on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (The Habitats Directive). The Official Journal of the European Union, L Series, Number 206/1992.

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Is your project significantly climate-related?	Yes No X	
/		

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References:

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Natura 2000 Management programme for Slovenia 2015 -2020 (LIFE 11 NAT/SI/880), http://www.natura2000.si/index.php?id=330.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA / SITE(S) TARGETED BY THE PROJECT

Name of the project area:

Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226

Surface area (ha):

Surface description:

EU protection status:

SPA NATURA 2000 Code

pSCI X NATURA 2000 Code SI3000226

Other protection status according to national or regional legislation:

In Slovenia, freshwater fish are under the protection of Fisheries management plans (FMP). Every 6 years (next will be in 2023) FMP are prepared by FRIS and officially confirmed by Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food. FMPs are obligatory to all fisheries managers and are prepared for each fishing district separately. Consequently their contents are customized to local aquatic ecosystems.

Main land uses and ownership status of the project area:

Based on the actual land use data for 2013 in the Natura 2000 site, agricultural areas and permanent meadows (45%), forests (35%) and water bodies* (12%) prevail. Other areas include infrastructure (buildings, roads ect; 5 %), fields and gardens (under 1.1 %) and areas classified as other types of land use (1.9 %).

Water bodies in Slovenia are state property. Fish communities in the Vipava river basin are managed by local angling clubs, i.e. Soča Nova Gorica angling club, Renče angling club and Ajdovščina angling club. Their umbrella institution is the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia.

References:

*GERK, 2015. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food; http://rkg.gov.si/GERK/WebViewer/#map_x=500000&map_y=100000&map_sc=914285.

Scientific description of project area:

The Vipava Valley lies in the western Slovenia. To the north, the valley is surrounded by the Nanos Plateau, the Hrušica Plateau, Trnovo Forest Edge Plateau, and to the south by the Vipava Hills. In the west, the valley ends with Gorica field where the country borders with Italy. The area of the valley amounts to 310 km2 which is populated by 63,052 inhabitants with an average population density of 203 people per square kilometer. In direction of the valley from east to west, it is divided into The Upper Vipava Valley, The Central Vipava Valley, and The Lower Vipava Valley, among which the Upper one is most densely populated. The climate of the Vipava Valley is sub-Mediterranean with typically mild winters and relatively hot summers. Mean annual rain fall is about 1500 mm with peak seasons in late spring and autumn. The Vipava Valley is constantly influenced by the interchanging of warm, humid southwestern wind and cold northeastern wind locally called Bora. The reason why the valley's climate is sub-Mediterranean is mixing of inland and Mediterranean climate which influences hydrological cycles and consequently vegetation. Geologically, the valley is prevailed by the Eocene flysches.

Along the entire length of the valley, the river Vipava with all of its tributaries flows, and measures 44 km in length from the upper part of the stream Močilnik below the village of Razdrto to the state

border. After 5 km of river flow in Italy, the Vipava river flows into the Soča river. In 2004 Vipava river with its immediate surroundings was proclaimed as the Natura 2000 site. The area of the Natura 2000 site, which is also the actual area of the project, represents 0.05% of the area of the entire valley. In the context of the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave, the habitats of the following species are conserved: Protochondrostoma genei, Bombina variegata, Carabus variolosus fabricius, Cordulegaster heros, Rana latastei, Lethenteron zanandreai, Alburnus albidus, Rutilus rubilio, Barbus plebejus, Barbus meridionalis, Cobitis taenia, Cottus gobio, Vertigo angustior, Unio crassus, Maculinea teleius, Lycaena dispar, Euphydryas aurinia, Callimorpha quadripunctaria, Coenagrion ornatum, Emys orbicularis, Lutra lutra, Lucanus cervus, Triturus carnifex. In the conservation activities, also the Illyrian oak-hornbeam forests (Erythronio-Carpinion) are included.

The Vipava River is a typical karst watercourse with three major karst springs named Vipava, Hubelj and Lijak. It never runs dry and it has a moderate hydrologic regime with moderate discharge variability; 30 annual flow rate is 1 (lower flow rates): 9 (middle flow rates): 96 (highest flow rates) (reference: Slovenian Environment Agency - SEA, Ministry of the environment and spatial planning). The Vipava River basin is a system of main stream with lots of middle to small sized tributaries with gravel bottom that are suitable for Lasca reproduction. According to The chemical status of surface waters, the Vipava River is in a good condition and according to The ecological status of surface waters, the river is in a good/moderate condition (moderate applies only to a few km long lower Vipava stream flow) (reference: SEA). An average temperature of the Vipava River in 30 years is between 12 °C and 24 °C, middle value is 13 °C (reference is SEA).

The Vipava River in Slovenia is inhabitated predominantly with cyprinid fish species (Lasca is also a cyprinid) (reference: Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia biological database). Salmonid species are present but rare.

The Slovenian part of the Vipava River exhibits properties of the middle stretch of the lowland watercourse with a good water quality and is thus suitable for Lasca repopulation; beside the fact that Lasca inhabited the River basin in the past.

Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible):

Why we have selected the area

In the year 2004 the Vipava valley was declared as Natura 2000 site (SI3000226) for Lasca (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 49/2004).

In the past, Lasca densely populated the Vipava river basin (Povž, 1983). However, afterwards due to the introduction (1965) of its main competitor Common nase, a dramatic decrease in its population was documented. By 1990 it was already considered rare. In order to preserve the wild Lasca population, population reinforcement from other European countries was proposed (Sket and Povž, 1990). After 1990, only three finds of the species were reported, in 1996, 2003 and 2007 (Bertok et al., 2003; Valič, 2014). Today, Lasca is believed to be extinct in the entire Vipava river basin (RedList; Pliberšek et al., 2014; Podgornik, 2014). To preserve Lasca in Slovenia, the Lasca reintroduction in its original habitat, Natura 2000 site, Dolina Vipave must be implemented.

In the project LIFE 11 NAT/SI/880, PUN 2000, under the authority of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (letter of support - A8 form), the program of managing the Natura 2000 sites was implemented. Within the program, a research of the Lasca reintroduction possibility was proposed. We are following recommendations of the program to preserve the endangered species.

Why our choise is the most appropriate

In the past, Lasca populated the Vipava Valley which is the only Natura 2000 site for the species in Slovenia. By choosing the most appropriate habitat and by repopulating the species, a revival of Lasca will be enabled in its Natura 2000 site, which is also in accordance with the recommendations of the program on the management of Natura 2000 sites in Slovenia (LIFE 11 NAT/SI/880, PUN 2000).

Actions involved in the area/at what locations

C3 Reduction of Common nase population / Entire Vipava river basin (precise sites for reduction will be determined in Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin under action A3).

C4 Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226 (for the implementation of

this action also actions A2, A3, C1 and C2 need to be performed) / 3 Vipava watercourses Lasca inhabited in the past determined in Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin under Action A3.

- C5 Reduction of possibilities of non-indigenous species entry into an environment / Seats of Angling Clubs in Vipava Valley.
- D1 Measuring of concrete actions impacts / Vipava watercourses (sections) determined in Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin under Action A3 and in Assessment on the ecosystem function restoration under Action D2.
- D2 Assessment of the ecosystem functions restoration / Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226 inhabited by Chondrosoma nasus (the area of project influence).
- D3 Assessment of the socio-economic impacts of the project / Entire Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226
- E1 Public awareness / Entire Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226
- E3 Working with stakeholders and intense local public awareness / Entire Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226

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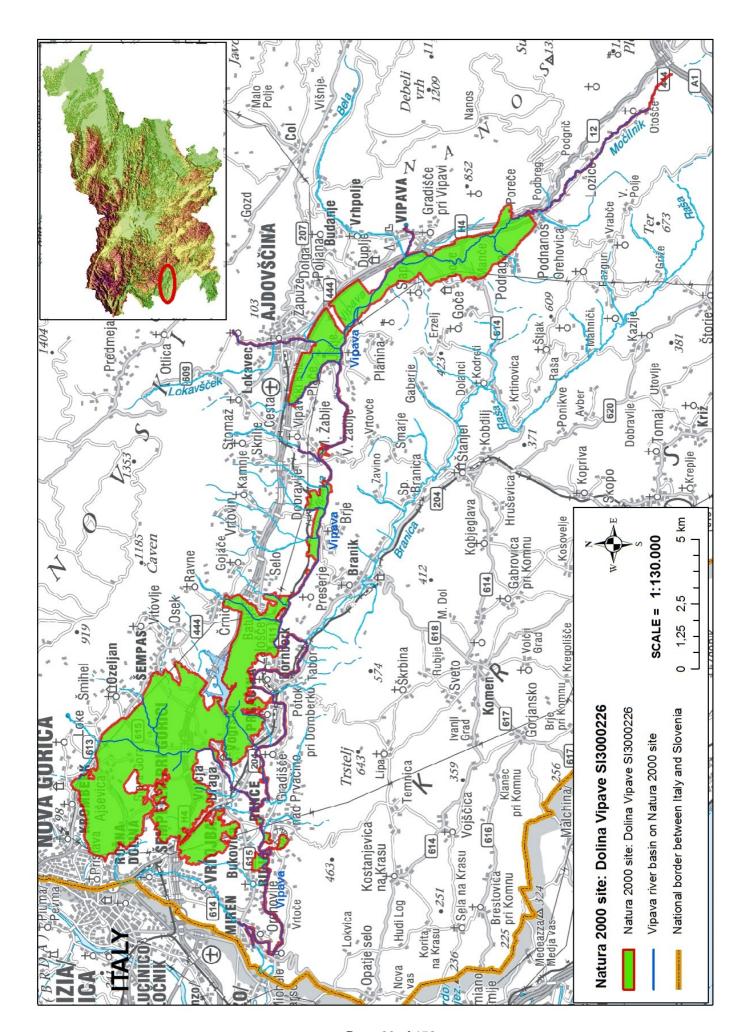
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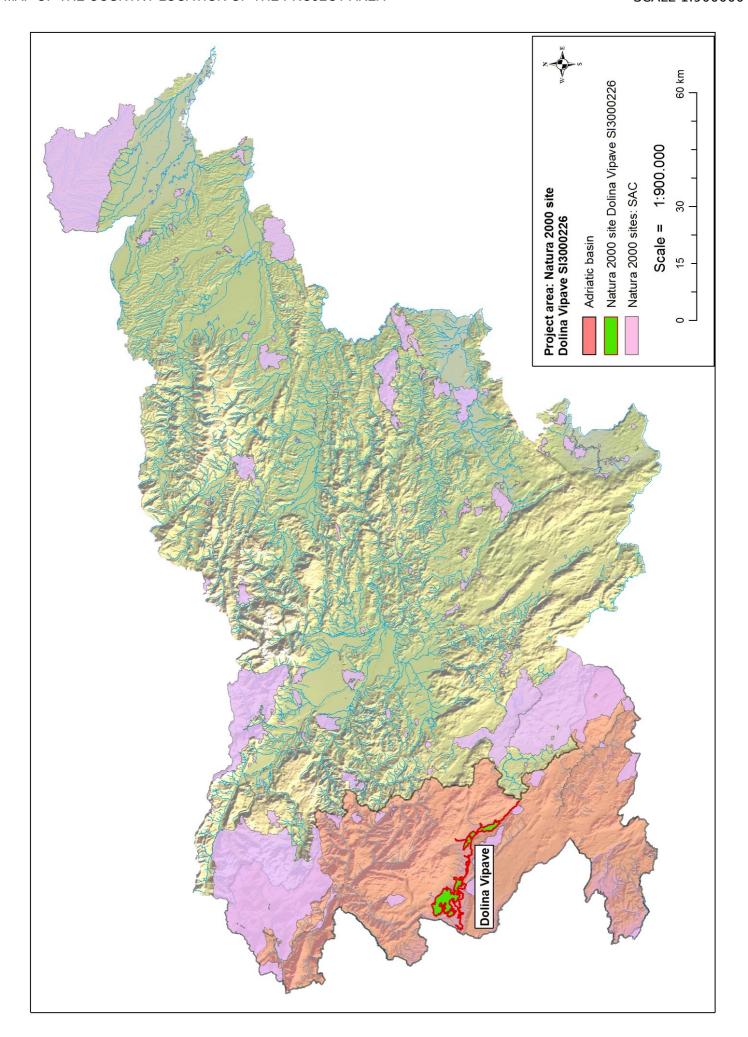
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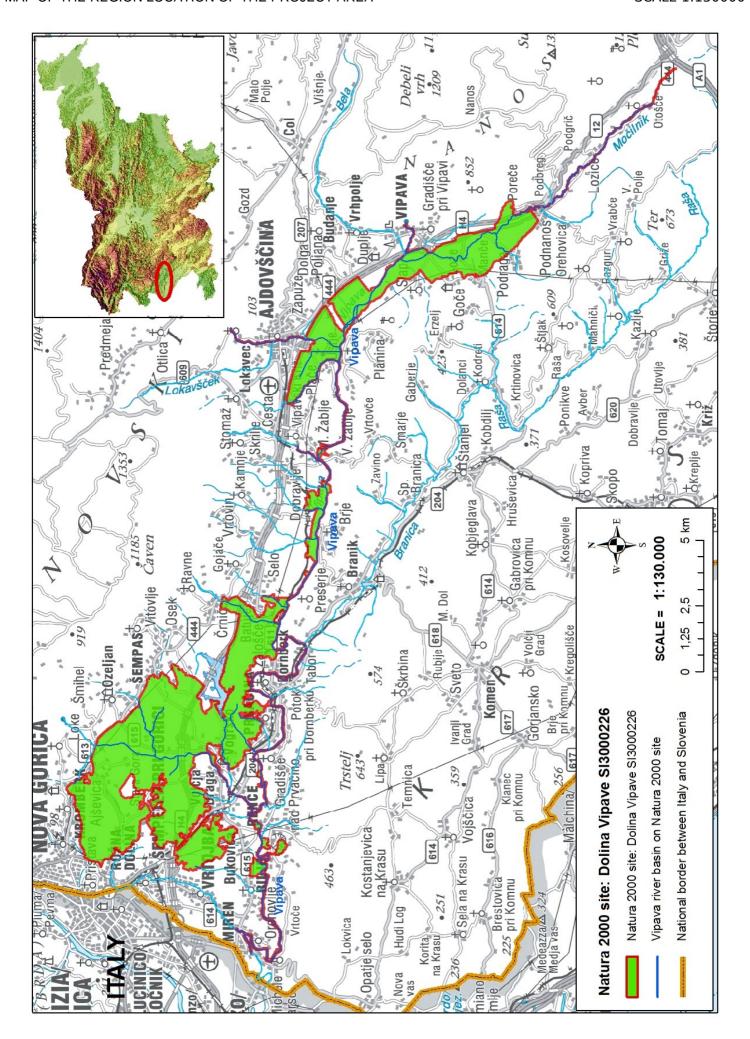
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DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES / HABITATS / BIODIVERSITY ISSUES TARGETED BY THE PROJECT

Scientific name:

Lasca (Protochondrostoma genei) also known as South European nase

previous scientific name Chondrostoma genei

Annex of Habitats Directive:

Annex II of The Habitats Directive

Population size:

In Slovenia the actual size of Lasca population is estimated on a few 100 specimens only. The population consists predominantly of small young specimens that are not able to spawn yet.

In the past, Lasca densely populated the Vipava river basin (Povž, 1983). However, at that time no quantitative sampling was performed. Today Lasca is extinct in entire Vipava river basin (Red List; Pliberšek et al., 2014; Podgornik, 2014); last find of the species was in 2007 (Valič, 2014). The only Slovenian Lasca population is present in a small watercourse Kožbanjšček (Soča river Basin). In 2013 its abundance was estimated at 20 specimens/100 m² (Podgornik, 2014; Pliberšek et al., 2014). Today, the size of the Slovenian population is esimated on only a few 100 specimens (FRIS internal data from fish samplings in 2016).

On a global scale, Lasca inhabits northern Italy and western Slovenia (Kottelat in Freyhof, 2007). Italian institutes report great populations declines in most of the water bodies. In Italian Soča river basin the last find of 1 Lasca specimen dates in year 2011 (Ente tutela Pesca del Friuli venezia Giulia, 2015 and University in Trieste, 2016). The species areal is rapidly shrinking. However, in Po river basin there are some larger groups of specimens present in few watercourses.

The conservation status:

<u>UNKNOWN for Slovenia and UNFAURABLE-BAD for Italy</u> (Summary Report according to The Habitats Directive).

For Slovenia the status is valid for the period before the discovery of the species in Kožbanjšček.

LEAST CONCERN; Population trend: DECREASING (IUCN Red List)

Ex - EXTINCT SPECIES (Slovenian Red List)

The status is valid for the period before the discovery of the species in Kožbanjšček.

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SPECIES in Slovenia

Based on field research preformed in years 2013-2016 (Pliberšek et al., 2014; Podgornik, 2014) the current conservation status of the species is estmated on critically endangered in Slovenia.

A brief description of the target species:

Lasca lives in small groups and populates middle stretches of lowland watercourses. It is a 20 cm long fish (Kottelat and Freyhof, 2007), identifiable by its arched inferior mouth with a cornified pad. It has a broad dark midlateral stripe from head to caudal base (Kottelat and Freyhof, 2007; Veenvliet and Veenvliet, 2006; Povž and Sket, 1990). The species spawns for the first time in third or fourth year of life (Povž and Sket, 1990). In time of spawning it migrates to fast-flowing waters and spawns on shallow gravel beds (lithophilic spawner). It spawns in larger groups from May to June (Kottelat and Freyhof, 2007). There is no data on species showing homing behaviour. It feeds on aquatic invertebrates, algae and aquatic plants (Kottelat and Freyhof, 2007).

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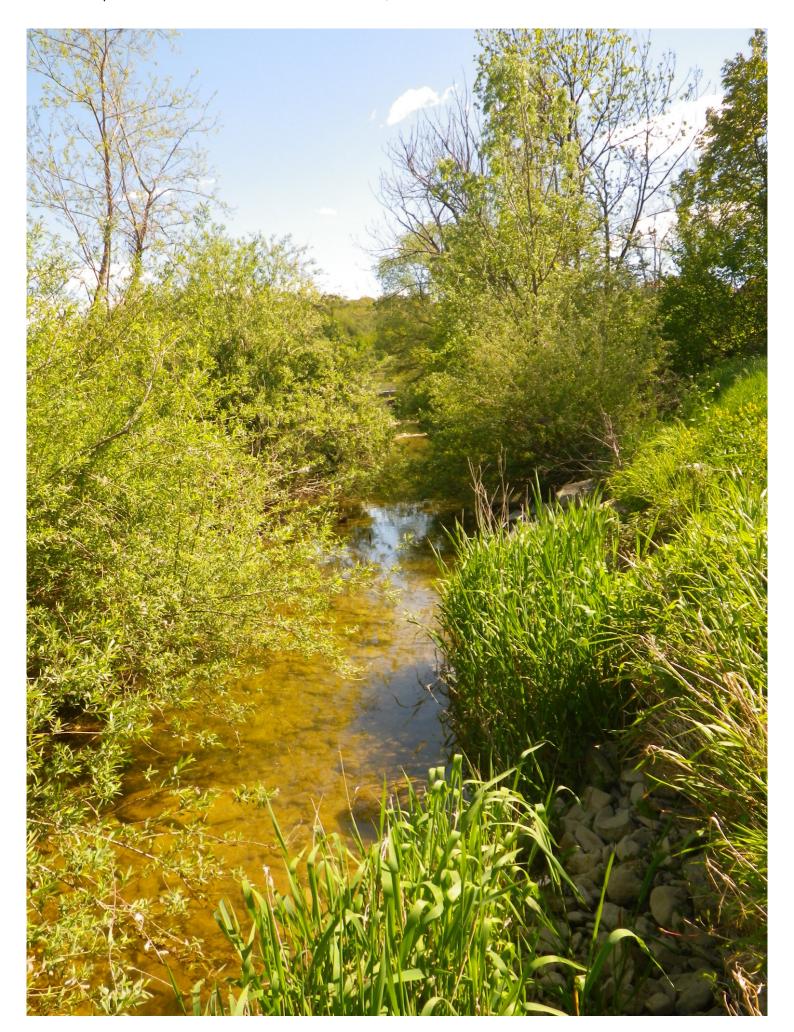
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Name of the picture: Lasca (Protochondrostoma genei)



Name of the picture: Kožbanšek watercourse, Goriška Brda Region. The location where the only Slovenian population lives.



CONSERVATION / BIODIVERSITY PROBLEMS AND THREATS & PREVIOUS CONSERVATION EFFORTS
Provide this information for those species / habitat types or biodiversity issue directly targeted by the project

1. The threat name:

SMALL NUMBER, LOW GENETIC VARIABILITY AND FALLEN AGE STRUCTURE OF THE LASCA POPULATION

Description of the threat and its impact on the species targeted:

Lasca populations are declining drastically in the entire species areal. Consequently, there is a high possibility of species disappearance despite intervention. In Slovenia Lasca has already disappeared from its only declared Natura 2000 site, Dolina Vipave (SI3000226). Today, on the entire territory of Slovenia only small isolated Lasca population, consisting of few 100 specimens, is present. This is the main reason why it is urgently necessary to ensure back-up of Lasca specimens (genetic material) in captivity (see point 1.1.). Lasca specimens bred in captivity would serve as a source for wild populations reinforcement. Beside that based on the experiences gained during the project, on the entire Lasca areal the species management has to be establish since the species is on the bring of extinction (see point 1.2.).

1.1. BACK-UP OF LASCA SPECIMENS IN CAPTIVITY AND REINTRODUCTION INTO NATURA 2000 SITE

The knowledge on Lasca species and its habitat is poor and inadequate. There is a lot of general data that are contradictory, especially on Lasca reproduction. Lack of knowledge on species reproduction is the main cause for problems on Lasca breeding in captivity. In the past only three Lasca breeding practices were successfully preformed, all in Italy. First ever, successful Lasca breeding was performed in a year 2014 by Marco de Marchi fish farm (Fiumelatte river), while the second and the third successful Lasca breeding were performed in years 2015 and 2016 by the Parco, during the LIFE project CON.FLU.PO.. Today Parco Fish Farm is the only Fish Farm where Lasca breeding takes place. Due to unforeseeable circumstances (diseases, failures in fish Farm system, ...), having only one Lasca back-up is far too risky. We need "copies" in more than one place to have an actual backup. Further on, merely by breeding in captivity a sufficient number of specimens for Natura 2000 site repopulation and for further reinforcement of wild Lasca populations can be provided to ensure viable Lasca populations on long term.

Location: The entire Lasca areal (northern Italy and western Slovenia) including Natura 2000 site, Dolina Vipave SI3000226

Project solutions:

To ensure Lasca backup in captivity, Lasca breeding in Slovenian fish farm will be established (actions A2, C1 and C2). Lasca breeding techniques provided by Parco will be accepted. At the end of the project there will be two Lasca breeding centers in different areas; one in Italy covering reinforcement of wild Lasca populations at Po river basin and the other in Slovenia covering reinforcement of Lasca populations at Soča river basin. During the project Lasca offspring bred in captivity will be reintroduced in Natura 2000 site. Thus Lasca conservation status will be improved.

1.2. ESTABLISHMENT OF LASCA MANAGEMENT

Lasca management has never been established since the species is considered unimportant. Due to this lack of interest, Lasca populations drastic decline has not been detected until the species has become rare.

Location: The entire Lasca areal (northern Italy and western Slovenia)

Project solutions:

To established Lasca management Action plan for Lasca conservation will be prepared (action A4). The preparation of the plan will base on the cooperation between the Italian and Slovenian specialists (multidisciplinary approach) including Institutions responsible for the Lasca management (Institute Ente tutela Pesca FVG, University in Trieste, Parco, Ministry of Environment and Spatial planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, PARCO and FRIS). The contact has been established and will be maintained. The plan will contain all the information developed during the project to conserve wild Lasca populations for the future. The plan will be included in the official legislative Fisheries management plans in Slovenia and

be implemented for long term Lasca management in Italy.

2. The threat name:

PRESENCE OF THE ALOCHTONOUS INVASIVE COMMON NASE

Description of the threat and its impact on the species targeted:

Until the introduction of the alochtonous Common nase, Lasca densely populated the Vipava watercourses (Povž, 1983). However, after the introduction, Common nase (around 1965) forced out Lasca completely since both species share the same habitat (Povž in Sket, 1990; Kottelat in Freyhof, 2007) (see point 2.1.).

Although there was a lack of research on Lasca population in the past, ichthyologists observed decline in its abundance. In 1980 there were around 200 specimens recorded in a Vipava watercourse Vogeršček (Povž 1983). In 1983 there was only one specimen of Lasca was found in the same tributary (Povž and Sket, 1990). Further findings (1996, 2003 and 2007) of Lasca were rare with only few specimens recorded (Bertok et al., 2003; Valič, 2014). After 2007, despite 98 samplings on the entire Vipava river basin, there were no specimens found (Podgornik, 2014). In the Vipava Valley Lasca is considered extinct (Red List).

Common nase was introduced to the Vipava river basin by local anglers for improvement of gamefish diversity. Thus to prevent further release of non indigenous species into an environment, anglers and other public awareness is of extreme importance (see point 2.2.).

Location:

Vipava valley, predominantly Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226

Project solutions:

2.1. ALIEN SPECIES REDUCTION ACTIVITIES

The final goal of the project is Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site. The reduction of the invasive species is necessary to assure the survival of the reintroduced Lasca population. Common nase population will be reduced by capturing fish in the entire Vipava river basin. Each year of the project the reduction will be executed throughout the year, more intensively during spawning time, when specimens group in shallow waters. The reduction needs to be carried out intensively in the whole Vipava river basin. Since the river basin is an open system (no barriers), reducing the population only on Lasca reintroduction sites would have no effect. The reduction will be executed by using non-invasive electrofishing techniques. Furthermore, we will implement a sustainable reduction of Common nase. Removed Common nase will be predominantly transported to its initial habitat in river Sava, where the reinforcement of the Common nase population is needed. Local angling clubs are informed of the removal of Common nase (letters of support are attached) and will be actively involved in the project activities.

2.2. AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

The main target groups of the project will be anglers and school youth who will be acquainted with environmental consequences of non indigenous species release into an environment.

FRIS will visit all 64 Angler Clubs in Slovenia to discuss issue of non-indigenous species in conjunction with an ecosystem functioning. Concrete local environmental problems will be exposed. Case by case we will try to solve the problems and find solutions to prevent further negative consequences of non indigenous species entry into an environment. This, more concrete approach, will lead to a better understanding of environmental problems.

Target groups will be actively involved in fieldwork where hands on experience will be offered (action E3). This will lead to a more comprehensive approach to understanding environmental problems involved. In long term, the knowledge gained will not only improve care for the environment, but will also be transferred onto next generations.

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PREVIOUS CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN THE PROJECT AREA AND/OR FOR THE HABITATS / SPECIES TARGETED BY THE PROJECT

- 1. On FRIS and PARCO initiative, University of Parma have performed **genetic analyses to confirm that Italian and Slovenian Lasca populations belong to the same cluster.** Data were analysed and interpreted, by geneticists from Parma University as well as by geneticists from University of Ljubljana. They agreed the source population for reintroduction into Natura 2000 site in Slovenia can be Italian population. The communication was conducted through e-mails. On the basis of genetic results **FRIS submitted an application for a permit** regarding Italian Lasca specimens reintroduction into Natura 2000 site, Dolina Vipave (SI 3000226). The application for authorization is considered as a priority see form A8, Slovenian Environment Agency letter of support.
- 2. **Based on the scientific research by FRIS** (Bertok et al., 2003), the Government of Republic of Slovenia (Official Gazette of Republic of Slovenia No. 49/2004) in 2004 determined **Vipava Valley as a potential Natura 2000 site (SI3000226) for Lasca**.
- 3. Lasca was before 2013 a poorly researched species (Povž and Sket, 1990; Pliberšek et al., 2014; Podgornik, 2014). In 2013, in the framework of fish species monitoring in the Natura 2000 sites, FRIS carried out intensive sampling in the Adriatic basin in search of Lasca (Podgornik, 2014). **FRIS** discovered the only known population of Lasca in Slovenia, more precisely in Kožbanjšček (Soča river basin) in Goriška Brda. The identity of the species was confirmed with genetic analyses funded by FRIS.
- 4. FRIS conducted at their own expense an intensive inspection of watercourses (Reka river basin including Kožbanjšček) in Goriška Brda (years 2007-2016). Data acquired from specimen sampling is kept in the FRIS database. The data will be used as part of this project to help us select the ecologically most appropriate watercourses (action A3) for the repopulation of the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave, SI3000226.
- 5. In 2016 FRIS performed another fish samplings of Slovenian Lasca population that revealed there is only few 100 Lasca specimens left in Kožbanjšček.
- 6. **The contact beetwen institution responsible for Lasca managment** (Institute Ente tutela Pesca FVG, University in Trieste, Parco, Ministry of Environment and Spatial planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, IRSNC and FRIS) **was established.**
- 7. In 2016 FRIS contacted IUCN group regarding written misalignment of the facts about Lasca situation. IUCN descriptions under Lasca have been changed. Jeorge Freyhof, the leader of IUCN group responsible for fish also written strong letter of support attached to the project.

- 8. **In 2015 FRIS placed** at their own expense **in the Reka river basin**, tributary of which is Kožbanjšček, seven **thermometers** which measure daily water temperature variation. In the context of the project, the acquired data will help to better understand the biology of Lasca and its temperature requirements, especially during spawning. The data are also of key importance for a successful breeding of the species as well as its reproduction in fish farm (action C2).
- 9. In time of the project LIFE for LASCA preparation, **FRIS in cooperation with angling clubs that operate in the Vipava river basin** reconciled the content of the project. Further cooperation of the two parties is planned. The submitted project documentation is supplemented with letters of support from all three angling clubs that operate in the area included in the project.
- 10. During the LIFE for LASCA project preparations, **FRIS visited the fish farm of the Italian partner Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino for 4 times**. The aim of the visit was to test the possibility of transferring the good practice of breeding Lasca to Slovenia. After the visit to their premises, it was ascertained that with certain modifications our fish farm in Kobarid could potentially be appropriate for breeding Lasca. In addition, the procedures of extracting and transporting fish from Italy to Slovenia were enquired (agreement attached to the project).
- 11. In the 90s of the previous century, **FRIS already carrying out a similar project,** the repopulation of isolated specimens of marble trout (*Salmo marmoratus*) to its initiative environment of the Soča river basin which is today the Natura 2000 site (Povž et al., 1996; Zabric, 2002; Kovačič, 2002). In the Soča river basin, marble trout was critically endangered by the alochtonous brown trout (*Salmo trutta* trutta). Brown trout inhabits a similar habitat and successfully spawns with marble trout. The aim of the project was to find the isolated populations of the genetically pure marble trout. Furthermore to breed the species at the Kobarid fish farm and then reinforce wild marble trout population in Soča river basin. The genetically pure marble trout was found in the Predelica and Zadlaščica watercourses. This lineage of marble trout is bred in fish farm and populated in the Soča river basin even today.
- 12. **FRIS already has experience with reduction of alochtonous fish species.** In the framework of the LIFE WETMAN project, FRIS cooperated as partner in intensive reductions of alochtonous species in two pilot areas, i.e. Gornji Kal and Mura backwaters.
- 13. In the period from 2004 to 2006 **FRIS was successful in breeding and reproducing Common nase** (*Chondrostoma nasus*) (Podgornik and Puklavec, 2004; Podgornik et al., 2005), which is a close relative of Lasca. Acquired knowledge and experience will be of great help in breeding Lasca.
- 14. The legal prohibition of introducing alochtonous species in inland waters of Slovenia in 2006 was the first step in reducing the threat of the presence of alochtonous species in watercourses in Slovenia (Nature Conservation, Article 17; Freshwater Fisheries Act, Article 5).
- 15. FRIS is familiar with the procedure of acquiring documents for fish farm modifications and for obtaining certificates. FRIS contacted all competent institutions to reveal detailed procedure steps in acquiring documents.
- 16. In 2015 FRIS visited Ente tutela Pesca del Friuli venezia Giulia, the manager of the Italian part of Soča river basin and presented them the idea of the project. They agreed to adopt Lasca management framework which will be gained after the project.

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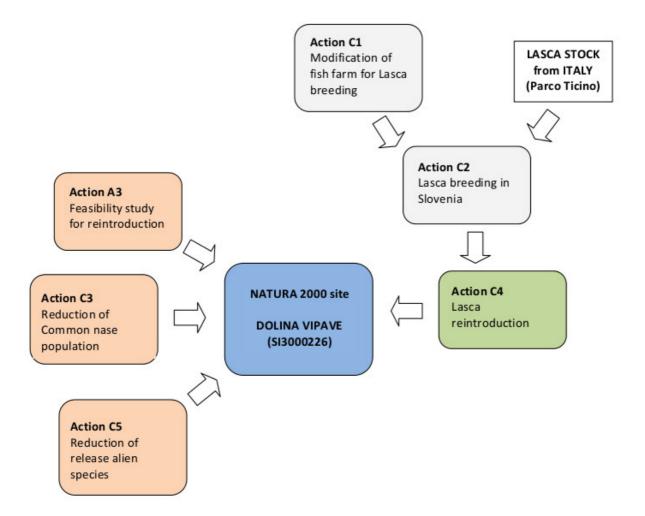
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DIFFERENT PROJECT'S ACTIONS CARRIED OUT TO FACE THE THREATS



Name of the picture: Common nase (Chondrostoma nasus)



BEST PRACTICE CHARACTER OF THE PROJECT

Our project predicts a transfer of good practices from the partly similar Italian LIFE project CON.FLU.PO. (LIFE 11 NAT/11/188) intended for breeding and repopulation of the Adriatic sturgeon (*Acipenser naccari*) and other cyprinds including Lasca (*Protochondrostoma genei*).

In the framework of the LIFE project CON.FLU.PO. initial breeding process of Lasca took place on fish farm premises provided by Italian partner Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino, which is a partner in the project. Their experiences with Lasca will be of great value for successful Lasca breeding. Their knowledge will also contribute to the conservation of the species.

In the context of transferring best practices, training of a FRIS staff in Italy, i.e. at the Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Ticino partner, is predicted. Knowledge will then be transferred to Slovenia. In the first weeks the Italian technician will offer assistance in Slovenia at the actual fish farm. Further transfer of best practices will take place by communication through electronic media.

After the end of the project, the knowledge and experiences gained will be transferred to the whole Soča river basin where Lasca is highly endangered species. In Italy, last finding in the entire Soča river basin was in 2011 (University in Trieste, Ente tutela Pesca del Friuli venezia Giulia, 2015). Regarding this problem FRIS already contacted the managers of the area in Italy, Ente tutela Pesca del Friuli venezia Giulia and University in Trieste. They are highly interested for transferring best practices.

The knowledge and experiences gained in the project will be replicable in all cyprinid management practices. Specific procedures in Lasca breeding and management will be transferable to other institutes with similar species conservation problems.

REFERENCES:

LIFE 11 NAT/11/188; Restoring connectivity in the Po river basin, opening migratory route for Acipenser Naccarii and 10 fish species included in Annex II; 2011.

DEMONSTRATION CHARACTER OF THE PROJECT

PILOT ASPECTS OF THE PROJECT

1

EU ADDED VALUE OF THE PROJECT AND ITS ACTIONS

The aim of the project is to improve the conservation status of Lasca in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave. Lasca is critically threatened in Slovenia and consequently, if the current threat factors persist, its future existence in the area of Slovenia very much unlikely. The Regulation of enlisting of endangered plant and animal species onto Red List (Official Gazette of Republic of Slovenia, No. 82/2002) considers Lasca as extinct (EXT). The main problem in preserving the most favorable conservation status of the species is the co-existence of the alochtonous invasive Common nase which populates the same habitat as Lasca. In the past practically no measures were taken for reducing large numbers of Common nase in the Adriatic basin. The problem of the presence of alochtonous species which are gradually forcing out the indigenous Lasca has now spread also to Italy. Lasca in Italy is also in great decline. This is the reason why a unified management of the target species which includes eliminations of alochtonous species needs to be implemented. In addition, it is also necessary to predict a repopulation of those watercourses where the species is in poor conservation status. For reintroduction program, practices developed during Horizont 2020 projects has to be take into account. With this project we will attempt to systematically upgrade the Natura 2000 management on the project area of the Vipava river basin and transfer best practices to other Natura 2000 sites with similar problems. In case the project is not realized, the main threat factors to a favorable conservation status will continue to exist, while the conservation status of Lasca will remain unchanged and will most probably lead to the extinction of the species.

By implementing the actions that are foreseen in the project, we will help to improve the conservation

status of Lasca on its entire areal. This will contribute to the realization of The Habitats Directive objectives, Natura 2000 management programme (PUN-a), the bio-geographical seminar and also the EU 2020 strategy for biodiversity research. A successful implementation of the project would mean a long-term investment in the Natura 2000 sites.

The Fisheries Research Institute has a long tradition of fish breeding, fisheries management and repopulation of the Natura 2000 sites. This is also why the institute qualifies professionally for the implementation of the repopulation of the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave. The practical completion of the project will also help formulate and test a model of the Natura 2000 species management in the Natura 2000 site. Based on experiences and knowledge acquired from implementing project actions, it will be possible to facilitate the upgraded system of management in the entire Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave, as well as other Natura 2000 sites in Europe. The obtained experiences will be available to the establishment of the Natura 2000 species management in Italy, and with minor adjustments also to all European Union member as well as non members. The transfer will be realized by means of excursions and results dissemination of the project in Italy, including presentations at congresses (action E2).

In the context of the project, an optimization of performing the necessary measures with lowest possible financial consequences will be implemented. In addition, a methodology of management, breeding and repopulating the Natura 2000 species will be established which will prove useful in other EU member states, since they are facing issues with funding and implementing the measures that are needed for the conservation of species with specific ecological requirement.

The project will be an important contribution to the implementation of the Natura 2000 management. Inclusion of project solutions and findings in the existing fishery management plans will certainly ensure a long-term implementation of the appropriate measures for the target species. Incorporating of nature conservations topics into other policies contributes considerably to the realization of one of the main objectives of the Directive (ES) No. 614/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council concerning the Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE) and of the EU 2020 Biodiversity Conservation Strategy. Networking with other organizations both in Slovenia and especially in Italy, as well as setting up of a website for informing interested stakeholders of the project will enable exchange of information, transfer of knowledge, experiences and best practices. This approach helps build up European connections, by means of which opportunities for cooperation on common projects and thus also the assertion of common interests increases. Familiarizing stakeholders with environment policies of the EU contributes greatly to European connecting and merging. One of the main objectives of the Directive (ES) No. 614/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council on the Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE) is the support in formulating and implementing policies and instrument approaches for following-up on and assessing nature and biotic diversity. Achieving the objective is to stop the reduction of biotic diversity within/inside the community. Within the framework of the project, in order to achieve these objectives, the following will be developed:

- a system for improved management of the Natura 2000 species in order to enhance the species' conservation status in its entire areal. An establishment of international cooperation between institutions is also planned, which brings added value to the long-term management of the Natura 2000 sites and also means an upgrade of the system of management of the Natura 2000 species in Slovenia and Italy.
- by project implementation this area will become an example of best practice in managing Natura 2000 species and sites. The project stresses the importance of awareness-rising among youth, fishermen, media and general public. Raising awareness on the need for conserving the natural habitat of the Natura 2000 environment is in accordance with the Slovenia's environmental policies and the EU.
- -the formed system of managing the target Natura 2000 species in the Natura 2000 site will be included in the action plan for conservation of species. The action plan will be sent by email to all the professional institutes in Europe and elsewhere. These way best practices from our project will be spread inside professional public.

REFERENCES

Crivelli, A.J. 2006. *Protochondrostoma genei*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2015.2. <www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 26 August 2015

Direktiva Sveta Evrope 92/43/EGS o ohranjanju naravnih habitatov ter prosto živečih živalskih in rastlinskih vrst (Direktiva o habitatih). Uradni list Evropske

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Pravilnik o uvrstitvi ogroženih rastlinskih in živalskih vrst v rdeči seznam. Uradni list RS, št.82/2002.

PUN, Program upravljanja območji Natura 2000 v Sloveniji 2015 -2020 (LIFE 11 NAT/SI/880), http://www.natura2000.si/index.php?id=330.

Strategija EU za ohranjanje biotske raznovrstnosti 2020 - Target 1, Actions 1 to 4.

Uredba (ES) št. 614/2007 Evropskega parlamenta.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT

LIFE for LASCA project is strictly oriented towards nature conservation - saving Lasca, the Natura 2000 species. Beside that Lasca is not a game fish and is not a species of interest for anglers. It is not recognized amongst the locals due to its rarity and unattractive appearance. Thus, major socioeconomic impacts of the project can not be expected.

- 1. Undoubtedly, the occurrence of such a rare and almost extinct species as Lasca, can contribute greatly to the region. This in combination with awareness activities and media communication (E actions) gives the region recognizibility and a special significance. Lasca can become a protected trademark of quality products and services in the Vipava valley and Goriška brda region.
- 2. Furthermore, contemporary anglers are willing to pay more for fishing in the unspoiled nature. Consequentely, the investment in the nature conservation is a smart investment.

EFFORTS FOR REDUCING THE PROJECT'S "CARBON FOOTPRINT"

- by using Skype, email and similar communication media, the expenses of travel will be limited to a minimum.
- by purchasing a car, the EU strategy will be taken into consideration.
- the majority of reports will be issued and archived in electronic form only. The only exception will be reports that serve the promotion of project (Brochure; action E3 and Layman's report; action E1).
- natural and recycled materials, as are recycled paper for folded leaflets for information, will be used to the maximum extent possible.
- visits to locations for the purpose of fieldwork samplings will be, whenever possible, made with one transport vehicle.
- local fishing families will assist us in implementing the project, which will prevent any unnecessary extra journey and man power.
- green public procurement policy will be implemented in all procurement project activities.

FRIS: FRIS will address green procurement within the EU and Slovenian legislation regarding this matter focusing on the Public Procurement Act (ZJN-3) (Ur. I. RS, No. 91/15) which addresses this issue in Article 71 (Conditions including social and environmental aspects) and Decree on Green Public Procurement (Ur. I. RS, 102/11, 18/12, 24/12, 64/12, 2/13, 89/14 in 91/15 – ZJN-3). The Decree is binding for public purchasers (including Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia) and includes core environmental targets into all public procurement procedures.

We will follow the basic principles from the above mentioned legal acts and other national strategic documents regarding this matter also within the internal "Instructions for carrying out public procurement procedures in the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia" which are used for procurements with a value estimated to be less than the thresholds referred in the Public Procurement Act (ZIN-3).

Our strategy is to order supplies, services or works which compared to conventional supplies, services

and works have lower environmental impact throughout the lifetime and the same or better functionality. An important aspect is recognition of long-term benefits achieved through careful selection of purchased products and services via life cycle costs assessment methods (value for money) instead of short-term effects obtained by selection on the lowest cost basis only.

PARCO: Following the law n.221 of December 28, 2015 it is mandatory for the Public Administrations to buy almost the 50% of eco-sustainable products. Also the new regulation (Dlgs. n. 50 of 18 April 2016) introduces some "green" rules in the criteria for the Public Administrations regarding the announcements and the supplying of goods and services.

The Ticino Regional Park, as public entity, is following these directives and award the acquisition of green goods and services, due to their smaller impact on the environment.

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED AND TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE PROJECT

The execution of project activities will greatly affect local residents of the Vipava Valley and Goriška Brda. Within the project, awareness raising activities will help bring closer children, angling clubs and other important actors in the process. Angling clubs and youth will be actively involved in the implementation of the project. This is exactly what will contribute to increasing awareness. In the context of the project, the majority of work will be directed towards communication and personal approach to anglers as well as to local residents. General care for nature and biodiversity will be increased by raising awareness on the importance of nature conservation. In long term, youth and anglers awareness will contribute and help to reduce non indigenous species entry, as well as minimize negative anthropological activities in this field.

In addition, another important objective of the project is to raise the awareness of the local population on the importance of nature conservation and on the operation of the European Natura 2000 network. This is necessary as residents due to different causes do not recognize Natura 2000 as an important advantage in regional development but rather as its limitation. In this sense, the project will contribute to putting together the contents as well as promotion (contests) of the Natura 2000 network. During the project a trade mark for commercial products in the Vipava Valley and Goriška Brda will be developed (acrtion A5). Trade mark will be the ambasador of awareness activities. Further on, on a concrete example the trade mark will be presented to locals as oportunity for the region promotion.

The project will have long-term implications on the residents of the project area, since awareness raising will be taken care of on all levels (brochures, contests, interviews, public media, fieldwork events). This will help increase the recognition of the species and the area of the Vipava Valley and Goriška Brda on both national and regional levels.

Stakeholders:

- **1. Staff from institutions that are responsible for Lasca management**. Staff will receive an action plan for Lasca conservation (action A5). A group of experts will be formed which will reconcile the plan regularly. The institutions involved will act in accordance with the plan and improve conservation status of the species. Action plan will be implemented into official legislative fisheries management plans (FMP).
- **2. Anglers.** Through angling clubs involved in the project (actions C3, C5, E3) as well as through regular articles in the Ribič magazine (action E1) the anglers will be informed about the contents and the progress of the project. They will be acquainted with the consequences of introducing of alochtonous, invasive species into watercourses. The invasive common nase is namely a game fish which was introduced in the Adriatic basin exactly by anglers.
- **3. School youth and other residents.** On EU Natura 2000 network topic contests for youth and residents will be organized (action E3). Lasca imitation as a trade mark, developed during the project (action A5), will be the ambasador of the contests. The participants will be actively involved. Youth will have an oportunity to visit Natura 2000 site in foreign country and thereby they will be able to recognize the importance of integration of the EU Natura 2000 network. They will get the big picture of the Natura 2000 network and its meaning. Youth and residents will also be actively involved in field work (action E3) where they will be acquainted with the necessity of species conservation and problems of non indigenous species entry. The knowledge gained will not only strengthen local awareness and improve caring for the environment but also be transferred onto the next generations.
- **4. Scientific community and interested public.** Through professional articles and participation in meetings and congresses (E actions), the progress of the project as well as its objectives and the importance of species conservation will be presented. The action plan for species management (action A4) which will include best practices from the project and their possible implementation will be sent by email to professional institutions within but also outside Europe.
- **5. Local public.** A contest among local public will be prepared. 10 winners of the contest will recieve local vine with a quality mark (Lasca imitation) designed in the project (action A5) and they will be invited to a dinner for two organized by a local restaurant using the quality mark. In the contest photos of people standing by a car with trade mark labels will be collected. Anyone who will send the photo will participate in the final draw for the reward. The trade mark labels will be part of a Bulletin. The Bullletin will be distributed to households of the municipalities of Kobarid, Brda, Šempeter Vrtojba, Renče Vogrsko, Nova Gorica, Ajdovščina and Vipava. It will target at local public, outlining the main goals of the project.

EXPECTED CONSTRAINTS AND RISKS RELATED TO THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

1. Fallen broodstock (action C2)

Based on PARCO expiriences from CON.FLU.PO. LIFE project Lasca breeding is not so easy. The knowledge on Lasca species and its habitat is poor and inadequate. There is a lot of general data that are contradictory, especially on Lasca reproduction. Lack of knowledge on species reproduction is the main cause for problems on Lasca breeding in captivity. Difficult breeding in combination with other unforeseen circumstances (diseases, failures in fish Farm system, ...) may lead to high mortality rate of specimens in captivity. In such case the import of specimens from Italy will be repeated at FRIS expense.

2. Acquisition of documents for fish farm modification (action A2)

Based on the experience, we are aware that acquisition of documentation in Slovenia takes longer than set deadlines. This is why the deadline for documentation acquisition will be adapted accordingly to these circumstances. To prevent any delays during the period of waiting for the issuing of the necessary documentation, a regular contact with the documentation issuers will be kept. In case the documentation is not acquired in time, the execution of works will be delayed accordingly and later its progress shortened to maximum possible extent.

3. Unsuccessful repopulation of the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI 3000226 (action C4)

Reintroduction of specimens in their original habitat is always unpredictable. In case Lasca specimens in the Vipava watercourse do not survive FRIS will increase the number of specimens introduced per year. Additional specimens will be delivered from Parco on FRIS expences. Also the capacity of Slovenian fish farm will be increased on FRIS expences to assure enoght specimens for reinforcement of wild Lasca population for the future.

Justification why no risk related to the quality of the Lasca habitat or the reduction of common nase population is identified

In literature the only threat to Lasca is presence of alien species. Lasca does not seem to be highly vulnerable in terms of habitat quality. The species lives in lowland watercourses that are naturally often organically polluted. However, the water quality in Vipava river basin is according to regular measurements implemented by SEA (Slovenian Environment Agency, Ministry of the environment and spatial planning) in good state. Besides that, for Lasca reintroduction site, the Natura 2000 site has been chosen; the area that is highly protected by authorized public institutions. The institutions have committed themselves to protect the Lasca reintroduction sites even on higher level – areas of higher importance. These are the main reasons why we do not expect problems/risks concerning habitat quality.

During regular fish samplings in the Vipava river basin FRIS never had problems to catch *Common nase* using electro - fishing devices. Also fisherman and local angling clubs are observing regularly higher numbers of fish in the River as well as on spawning grounds. Due to FRIS experiences on an alien species reduction (gained during LIFE WETMAN project and during the regular work) no constrains regarding *Common nase* reduction are expected.

Clarification of required permits from Italian authorities

Regarding this question the Italian local Veterinary Administration, Slovenian Veterinary Administration, Slovenian Environment Agency, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food were contacted. To transport fish from Italy to Slovenia the only required document is veterinary certificate. The certificate must be handed to Slovenian veterinarians together with transported fish. The certificate is not permission; it is a document that clarifies the species name, specimen's origin and number of fish transported. Initiation of the certificate is a standard procedure veterinary institutions do on daily basis. Consequently no complications are expected.

Mitigation strategy for Common nase reduction

If the reduction of *Common nase* will not be sufficient to establish healthy populations of Lasca, we will increase fieldwork efforts to the required level. In a case of unpredicted Lasca reintroduction site habitat destruction another appropriate reintroduction site will be selected. Beside already identified potential risk mitigation strategies, including those described in form B5, we do not expect additional problems exposed in this comment.

CONTINUATION / VALORISATION AND LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT'S RESULTS AFTER THE END OF THE PROJECT

Which actions will have to be carried out or continued after the end of the project?

- 1. A4, Action plan for Lasca conservation
- 2. C2, Establishment of Lasca breeding in Slovenia
- 3. C3, Reduction of Common nase population
- 4. C4, Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226
- 5. C5. Reduction of possibilities of non-indigenous species entry into an environment
- 6. E1, Public awareness

How will this be achieved? What resources will be necessary to carry out these actions?

- 1. **A4.** Harmonization of the action plan for Lasca conservation will be ensured. In addition, communication with institutions responsible for species management will continue regularly. Action plan will be issued every six years. The content of the action plan will be included into fisheries management plans (FMPs), as prepared by the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Republic of Slovenia. Angling clubs are legally obliged to take into account and respect the directives of FMPs. Expenses will be covered by FRIS and involved institutes (500 eur per year).
- 2. **C2.** FRIS will continue with breeding and maintaining Lasca broodstock in Slovenian fish farm. We will secure our own funds (2000 eur per year).
- 3. **C3.** Further Common nase reduction will be insured through FMPs. Funds will be secured by FRIS and local Angling clubs (1000 eur per year) .
- "After life" reduction of *Common nase* will be in accordance with an Action plan for Lasca conservation and Fishery management plans (FMPs). Through FMPs Angling Clubs will be obligated to continue with specimen's removals on spawning sites and fisherman will be obligated to eliminate any caught *Common Nase*. FRIS will be in constant contact with Angling Clubs and in the case of need FRIS will provide all assistance to ensure successful *Common nase* reduction. Furthermore, FRIS will continue with *Common Nase* reduction trough a regular fieldwork and on its own initiative (at least 5 days per year; 1 day per Lasca reintroduction site and 2 days for overall reduction in the Vipava river basin). If it turns out the outlined fieldwork effort is not enough, the effort will be increased/adjusted to ensure the sustainability of Lasca reintroduction.
- 4. **C4.** Further repopulation of the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226 will be assured through regular periodic FRIS field work (**monitoring is included**). Expenses will be covered by FRIS and local Angling clubs (2000 eur per year).
- 5. **C5.** Further active communication with fishermen will take place at FRIS expenses (500 eur per year).
- 6. **E1.** Web site will be active at least 5 years after the project ends. Ten articles in magazines or newspapers will be published by FRIS (200 eur per year).

Funds described in this form under point 2. and 3. include only direct costs (small materials needed only for after life purposes, gasoline,...). Lasca breeding and other fieldwork after life activities will be carried out with equipment purchased under the project. We estimate that the personal costs will be:

for Common nase reduction at least €3.500/year (5 persons * 5 days). Angling clubs and fisherman will do the work on a voluntary basis,

for Lasca repopulation at least € 2.000/year (5 persons * 3 days),

for Lasca breeding at least € 29.000/year (1 person * 215 days).

The Common nase reduction, Lasca breeding and Lasca repopulation will be continued and implemented with all of our efforts with the aim to establish healthy population of Lasca in the wild.

Protection status under National / local law of sites/species/habitats targeted (if relevant)

N.A.

How, where and by whom will the equipment acquired be used after the end of the project?

Equipment acquired during the project will initially be used for the implementation of the LIFE after LIFE. Otherwise, the equipment will be used for other nature conservation purposes performed by the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia.

FRIS

- -Personal computers with software (Microsoft office), printer and mobile phones will be used for FRIS regular work, i.e. development of fisheries management plans, reports on monitoring of fish populations in the Natura 2000 sites preparation, management of database, development of methodology and implementation of monitoring fish community sampling for the purposes of evaluating the ecological status of waters, issuing of agreements and professional opinions in case of interventions in watercourses.
- Fish sampling equipment (GPS devices with Adrio-topographic map, Multimeters with oxigen, pH and conductivity probe, Backpack electrofisher with dipnets, Boat with extra reinforcement, electrofishing boat frame assembly, boat trailer, boat electrofisher, motor for boat, software for sonar) and camera with accesories will initially be used for Natura 2000 species monitoring.
- -ArcGIS extensions will be used for further habitat modelings in a scope of monitoring of Natura 2000 species.
- Modified part of fish farm in Kobarid with equipement (Personal computer with temperature sensor, cylinder of oxigen, containers for fish transportation, aquarium, temperature register with communication cable, multimeters with oxigen, pH and conductivity probe and waterproof camera with accesories and Light) will be used for Lasca or other Natura 2000 species breeding.
- -equipement for marking fish wil be used for Lasca or other Natura 2000 species tagging.
- -Four wheel off-road vehicle, pulley will initially be used for fieldwork on Natura 2000 sites.

PARCO

- Fish samling equipement will initially be used for Lasca or other Natura 2000 species monitoring.
- Fiberglass containers and personal computer (Microsoft office) with temperature sensor will initially be used for Lasca or other Natura 2000 species breeding.
- Containers and cylinder of oxigen will initially be used for Lasca or other Natura 2000 species transportation.
- Skeleton for notice boards will be exibited in Parco Tichino after the end of the project.

To what extent will the results and lessons of the project be actively disseminated after the end of the project to those persons and/or organisations that could best make use of them (please identify these persons/organisations)?

Best practices in management, breeding and repopulation of Lasca will be transferred onto other

institutions responsible for Lasca management in Slovenia and Italy through the action plan, excursions, congresses and regular communication. In case of such a need, a Lasca breeding will be established in these institutions with the purpose of further Natura 2000 site repopulation.

The action plan will contain recommendations for Lasca management in its entire areal. It will also include a reference book on the species breeding and the techniques of reducing its greatest threat, i.e. the non indigenous Common nase. In addition, regular contact with local angling clubs (Renče, Ajdovščina and Soča Nova Gorica), anglers and other local population. Broader fishing community will be regularly informed on the changes in the scheme of managing the species and its Natura 2000 site habitat through the Ribič magazine.

At the end of the project, FRIS will visit the Italian institutions responsible for Lasca management in the area of the Soča river basin, Ente tutela Pesca del Friuli venezia Giulia and University in Trieste. We will share the gained experiences and try to expand Lasca breeding onto the entire Soča river basin area. A regular communication has been established already.

How will the long term sustainability of the project's concrete actions be assured?

Long-term sustainability of the project's concrete actions will be ensured by the following:

- By maintaining broodstock and continuously breeding Lasca at the Slovenian fish farm, a source of specimens for further repopulation of the Natura 2000 site will be ensured.
- By implementing the action plan for Lasca conservation into fisheries management plans (FMPs), its long-term realization will be ensured. The PFM are namely a legal obligation for all fisheries managers in Slovenia and are published with amendments every six years. Regular contact with Italian institutions that are in charge of Lasca management will be kept and thus prevent further decline of Lasca populations.
- -At the end of the project, FRIS will visit the Italian institutions responsible for Lasca management in the area of the Soča river basin, Ente tutela Pesca del Friuli venezia Giulia and University in Trieste. We will share the gained experiences and try to expand Lasca breeding onto the entire Soča river basin area. A regular communication has been established already.



LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644

TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMS

Part C – detailed technical description of the proposed actions

LIST OF ALL PROPOSED ACTIONS

A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

- A1 Technical and administrative activities to support the start of the project
- A2 Preparatory plan for the fish farm modification
- A3 Feasibility guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin
- A4 Action Plan for Lasca conservation
- A5 Communication plan, corporate visual identity and project trade mark design

B. Purchase/lease of land and/or compensation payments for use rights

C. Conservation actions

- C1 Modification of the fish farm for Lasca breeding
- C2 Establishment of Lasca breeding in Slovenia
- C3 Reduction of Common nase population
- C4 Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226
- C5 Reduction of further non-indigenous species entry into an environment

D. Monitoring of the impact of the project actions (obligatory)

- D1 Monitoring of the impact of the project actions
- D2 Assessment on the ecosystem function restoration
- D3 Assessment of the socio-economic impacts

E. Public awareness and dissemination of results (obligatory)

- E1 Public awareness
- E2 Networking and project results dissemination
- E3 Working with stakeholders and intense local public awareness

F. Project management (obligatory)

- F1 Project management by FRIS
- F2 Audit
- F3 LIFE after LIFE

DETAILS OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

<u>ACTION A.1:</u> Technical and administrative activities to support the start of the project

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

Within this action all the project technical - administrative start-up activities for the managing of the whole project (action F1) will be developed.

The action duration: 6 months (from 1.10.2017 to 31.3.2018)

1. INTERNAL STAFF APPOINTMENT

Each project partner will prepare an official document charging the internal staff working in the project, in accordance with the following scheme:

FRIS: 8 people, including the **Project Manager**, who has the responsibility for the FRIS activities and is also in charge of:

- i) the management activities of the whole project;
- ii) the check of the partner's activities
- iii) the contacts with the UE Life unit (Technical and Administrative Desk Officers, project monitor);
- iv) the preparation in English of the periodical project's reports for the UE Life unit.

PARCO: 7 people, including the **Project Leader**, who has the responsibility for the Park activities, and a **Technician** and an **Accountant**, responsible respectively for the technical and administrative activities.

2. PARTNER AGREEMENTS

Each partner will sign the Partner Agreement document, prepared by Project Manager on the basis of the EU Life toolkits. This document underline the respective specific responsibilities regarding project activities and related financial, and will be sent to Project Manager.

3. PREPARATION OF PUBLIC TENDERS (for activities needed in the initial part of the project)

Each partner will develop all the administrative steps to contract – through a public tender as external assistance based on national legislation – the different figures, activities and equipments needed in the starting phase of the project. The others will be carried out during the Action F1 *Project management*.

The selection of the external collaborators will be based on their *curricula*, with preference regarding documented experience in Life projects. The contracts will specify their role in the project, duration, main tasks and responsibilities and it will be signed by both parties.

FRIS

Public tenders for a **Financial Manager** and an **Accountant** working for all the project duration (starting with Action A1 and follow with Action F1), are planned. This necessity is related to the situation of FRIS, that since 2008 has an outsourcer for the management of the financial - accounting matters. The Financial Manager will be experienced on LIFE projects. He will be responsible for the checking of the administrative activities both of the whole project and of the different partner ii) the preparation in English of the administrative part of the periodical project's reports for the UE Life unit. The Accountant will be employed for the specific administrative activities of FRIS.

Within this action, public tenders will also be prepared for the following activities:

- implementation of genetic analyses (Action A3), to better define the reintroduction program on Lasca;
- architectural project preparation for fish farm modification (Action A2), as support of the Lasca captive breeding;
- communication plan preparation and design of corporate visual identity of the project (Action A5), both for Slovenian and Italian side;
- **intensive Common nase population reduction in spawning season** (Action C3), that will be performed by local angling clubs.

Despite the fact that public tender will be performed and open to all the angling clubs of the area, we assumed that local angling clubs (Soča Nova Gorica, Renče and Ajdovščina) which are responsible for fishery management in the area where the reduction will take place, will be the most appropriate for selection on public tender because they are:

- 1. Familiar with Common Nase species and its spawning locations,
- 2. Experienced and equipped properly for the work,
- 3. In contact with angling clubs from the area of River Sava where the Common nase removed from Vipava will be released in the wild.
- socio-economic impacts assessment (Action D3);
- equipments needed in the initial phase of the project (different Actions)

The action activities will be performed by 2 FRIS persons - 40 days each.

PARCO

Public tenders for an experienced in Life project technician with administrative function for the support of the Parco staff working for all the project duration (starting with Action A1 and followed with Action F1), are planned. This figure:

i) will support the Project Leader activities;

- ii) acts as reference point for the Park's Technician and Accountant in the development of all the project activities:
- iii) develops the specific Park's blocks in the periodical reports for the EU in English.

The necessity to support the technical/administrative staff of the Park with this external figure, is related to the necessity to face the numerous commitments of these internal staff (the Park staff is involved as partner in the Life11/NAT/IT/188 CON.FLU.PO., and as beneficiary coordinator in the Life15/NAT/IT/000989 LifeTicinoBiosource), as well as to assure from the beginning, the coordination and reporting of the project to an experienced person.

Within this action, public tenders will also be prepared for the following activities:

- determination of source areas for the genetic analysis and samples collection (Action A3), as support for Lasca reintroduction program and captive breeding,
- technical and expert support for Action Plan preparation (Action A4),
- equipments needed in the initial phase of the project (different Actions).

The action activities will be performed by 2 PARCO persons (1 x 10 days; 1 x 20 days).

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

PARCO: individuation of its project staff, selection of external assistance and purchasing equipment according to Italian national legislation and LIFE programme requirements, communication with project manager and signing partner agreements.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet A1).

For external assistence costs were estimated on preliminary survey carried out, and other LIFE projects (for example LIFE CON.FLU.PO. and WETMAN).

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO., for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

A1's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
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A1's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
Established project team, defined project management rules and partner agreement document signed	03/2018
First set of public tenders performed (for external assistance selection)	03/2018

A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

<u>ACTION A.2:</u> Preparatory plan for the fish farm modification

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

What and Why: in Adriatic basin of Slovenia, where the Lasca is indigenous species, there is no suitable fish farm for a cyprinid fish (Lasca) breeding. FRIS has a salmonid fish farm in Soča river basin, which can be modified for Lasca breeding needs (B2d; Previous conservation efforts) with a considerable saving of money and time related to the building of a new one.

To support the declining Slovenian Lasca population in Soča river basin a high number of specimens will be released continuously - every year through action C4 and even after the project end (LIFE after LIFE, F3). The presence of a local fish farm is prerequisite to support this conservation effort.

As explained in Form B5 the Lasca breeding is a very complicated process. Since Parco has good experiences on Lasca breeding gained during CON.FLU.PO. LIFE project, their knowledge will be transffered to modify the Slovenian fish farm.

How: In Action A1 selected outsourcer, i.e. Architecture office will prepare construction documentation. The construction documentation is necessary to obtain first the water and finally the building permit allowing the construction work under C1. The documentation will be prepared based on Parco Lasca breeding experiences and techniques used in CON.FLU.PO. LIFE project. PARCO will for that reason prepare detailed guidelines for fish farm establishment (1 person x 10 days; 1 person x 5 days).

During the planning phase of LIFE for LASCA project FRIS visited an Italian fish farm where a Lasca breeding practice was successfully performed (Chapter B2d; Previous conservation efforts). Based on given information a conceptual draft of fish farm for Lasca was prepared.

In the first phase of construction documentation planning, FRIS will be fully involved in the work with selected outsourcer (1 person x 5 days). At least 2 visits of the fish farm are planned. In the following phase FRIS will perform regular monitoring of the construction documentation preparation (1 person x 16 days) to check if all PARCO guidelines are implemented.

The outsourcer will prepare all required documents to obtain the building permit for the fish farm modification.

Where: The work will be performed manly in the office of selected outsourcer.

When: The construction documentation will be prepared in the first 4 months of the project (till 31.1.2018), while water and building permit will be obtained till 31.05.2018. From this moment on the building of the fish farm will carried out within Action C1 and the work will be completed for the end of February 2019. A month will be necessary for the final inspection of the structure and related authorizations, so the breeding center activities (Action C2) will start the April 1th 2019.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

1

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet A2).

Costs for an outsourcer, i.e. Architecture office were estimated based on received offers.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

A2's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
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A2's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
Obtained building permit	05/2018

A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

ACTION A.3: Feasibility guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

This preparatory action will be performed in the first year of the project under the supervision of the Scientific Council - developed in Action F1 of the project - following the multidisciplinary approach delineated in Guidelines of the IUCN Reintroduction Specialist Group, that give indication of the necessary steps to develop a suitable reintroduction program.

It is important to underling that a preparatory check on the main topics delineated by IUCN Guidelines was performed by FRIS in 2015/2016, prior the project preparation (Previous conservation efforts), considering:

- Background research on Lasca species: a literature collection was performed and analyzed.
- Limiting factors: the main limiting factor is the presence of the introduced Common nase that shows an active comptition with Lasca for ecological niche.
- State of wild population: the monitoring activities performed in Slovenian (Soča river basin) and Italian (Isonzo river basin) side of the river basin point out the critical situation of Lasca's population that results as extinct, with only a limiting presence in some tributaries not exceding the 200 specimens (FRIS results for Slovenian side, and personal communication of Prof. E. Pizzul Trieste University, for Italian side).
- Taxonomic status and related release stock: the preliminary genetic analisys performed by FRIS using mitochondrial samples of Slovenian and Italian (Ticino river population) have showed a strict kinship. So the Ticino river population is suitable as release stock, also by the veterinary point of view related to the absence of diseases.
- Previous reintroductions: no reintroduction of Lasca were realized in Slovenia, so the FRIS staff realized three missions in PARCO that is performing in LIFE 11/NAT/IT/188 project CON.FLU.PO. a reinforcement program also on Lasca.
- Legal authorization: FRIS received green light for Lasca reintroduction from Ministry of the Environment and spatial Planning, Slovenian Environment Agency, IUCN GSP Red List Unit, The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (forms A8, letters of support).
- Stakeholders involvement: FRIS has already informed all Municipalities and Angling clubs in the project area (letters of suports).

The results of this preliminary check has given the green light (i.g. see the letter of the IUCN Freshwater fish Specialist Group) to the reintroduction program considering also the release of Ticino specimens.

Starting from this point, this action is related to the drafting in the first year of the project the *Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin*; this document will be used to develop the release activities of Lasca in Action C4 and to develop the alien species reduction activities under C3 action.

The monitoring of the results of the different release and reduction activities made each year in the Action D1 will give the possibility to improve the effectiveness of the release and reduction program year by year. At the end of the project the best practices developed for each topics of the release and reduction program will be inserted as part of the *Action Plan for Lasca conservation*, final deliverable of Action A4.

The main activities will be leaded by FRIS (2 persons 60 days) with the cooperation of the PARCO (1 person 5

days; 1 person 10 days) and Scientific Council will be the following:

BIOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS

Feasibily study and background research:

(i) An assessment on taxonomic status of Lasca specimens for reintroduction.

Genetic tests on Italian stocks intended for importation into Slovenia will be performed to be 100% convinced specimens are suitable for reintroduction.

(ii) The status and biology of wild Lasca population in Slovenia.

In this chapter historical information about the loss of Lasca in Natura 2000 site will be taken into account. Literature and data from FRIS samplings (Previous conservation efforts) will be analyzed **to improve the knowledge of Lasca critical needs**. Furthermore, description of habitat preferences, intraspecific adaptations to local ecological conditions, distribution, shelter and food requirements, feeding behavior, predators and diseases will be included.

(iii) Habitat modeling under various sets of conditions, Lasca population and habitat viability analysis.

Habitat modeling and viability analyses will based on the past FRIS data (Previous conservation efforts). If needed some extra fieldwork for habitat mapping will be preformed by FRIS. For habitat modeling and analyses ArcGis extensions will be needed. The modeling will be performed to specify the optimal number and composition of released individuals per year, and the number of years necessary to promote establishment of viable population. Viability analyses will be performed to identify environmental and population variables and assessing their potential interaction, which would guide long-term population management.

Choice and evaluation of release site

The Lasca release site will be within historic range of the species in Vipava river basin (Natura 2000 site). **The release sites will be selected** on the basis of previous FRIS fish community samplings and habitat mapping (Chapter B2d; Previous conservation efforts).

Identification and reduction to a sufficient level of previous causes of Lasca decline

During the project the reduction of Common nase population (Lasca competitor) to a sufficient level is predicted to satisfy Lasca habitat requirements (C3). To **select the most appropriate sites for Common nase reduction**, archive FRIS data will be analyzed.

Availability of suitable release stock

After the determination of the requirement of the different class age specimen that are to be released each year in different periods and areas, it will be determined their provenience considering both the availability of the Ticino stock (wild and breeded animals) and the production of the fish farm in Slovenia that will be created under A2/C1 Actions.

The veterinary screening process will be considered, also at legal level, both for the transportation of specimen from Italy and for the animals before the release in the wild.

Release of captive stock

All the procedures link to release (handling and marking of specimen, transport procedures,...) as well as the

release procedures will be development considering the age of the specimen, the release area and the related period.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

An assessment of attitudes of locals to the proposed project is planned (D3) with the aim to ensure long term protection at the released nuclei of Lasca.

All the different legal requirements will be improved before the release activities (C4), obtaining the official documents from the same Institutional Agencies that support the project.

Based on the study **PLANNING, PREPARATION AND RELEASE STAGES AND POST-RELEASE ACTIVITIES** will be included in the guidelines and explained in detailes with the possibility of modifications based on monitoring activities (D1).

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

PARCO: support to FRIS

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet A3).

During planning of the equipment costs, the following estimations were made:

Software ArcGis basic (1 x 2600 EUR)

Software ArcGis spatial analyst (1 x 4600 EUR)

Software ArcGis 3D analyst (1 x 4600 EUR)

Personal computer (3 x 1500 EUR)

Costs of ArcGis extensions were estimated on the basis of pro forma invoices. All three ArcGis extensions are interdependent and crucially needed; habitat analysis can not be performed without all three extensions.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

Substitute for travel costs (for accomodation and daily allowance) for Scientific Council participants was estimated based on FRIS experiences.

A3's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Feasibility guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin	10/2018

A3's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
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A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

ACTION A.4: Action Plan for Lasca conservation

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHAT and WHY: The reintroduction of Lasca, as the other reintroduction programs, is a long term activity that will be mantained after the end of this Life project.

The Action plan document will be prepared in the final part of the project (last year) and it will contain the best practices on the different topics developed during the project, to support necessary actions needed to conserve the Lasca species on the long period of time.

The Action plan development will be leaded by FRIS (1 person x 40 days, 1 person x 20 days) with the support of Parco (2 persons x 10 days) and Scientific Council - other Institutions and Agencies involved in the Lasca management will be included; for Slovenia: Ministry of Environment and Spatial planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and for Italy: Institute Ente tutela Pesca FVG, University in Trieste. This contacts has been already established (B2d, Previous conservation actions).

To assure a long term sustainability of the Action Plan, in year 2023 this document will be included in Fishery management plans (FMP). FMP are prepared by FRIS and confirmed by Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food. FMP are obligatory documents to all institutions that are responsible for fish managements in Slovenia including angling clubs. The contents of the Action plan, with slight ajustments to the local environment, will be usefull for Lasca reintroduction in other places. The plan with appropriate modifications will be usefull also for reintroducton of other species.

The contents of the Action plan:

- 1. A general description of the Lasca species; the biology, habitat and ecology of the species, its distribution and population, as well as its conservation status and threats,
- 2. A guide to breeding Lasca Best structure and practices developed for Lasca breeding (Action C2)
- 3. Best solutions of the threat reduction, revealed during the Common nase population reduction (Action C3).
- 4. Feasibility study implementation report 3, the final deliverable of Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226 (Action C4) Best practices developed for each topics of the release program.

The final version of the Action plan will be elaborated by FRIS (2 person x 80 days). It will contain maximum 150 pages. The Action plan will be prepared in Slovene and translated into English language. To reduce carbon footprint the final version of the Action plan will be available online. The plan will be distributed in electronic form to all stakeholders including the Institutions involved in the management of Lasca. In line with IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations (Version 1.0, 2013) the Action plan will be presented to stakeholders at the final congress (action E2).

WHERE: The majority of work will take place in the partner beneficiaries offices.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

PARCO will closely cooperate with FRIS.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet A4).

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in LIFE WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

A4's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Action Plan for Lasca conservation	11/2021

A4's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name Deadline

A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

<u>ACTION A.5:</u> Communication plan, corporate visual identity and project trade mark design

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHERE, WHEN, WHAT and HOW: The entire action will be led by FRIS (1 person x 20 days; 1 person x 60 days) in cooperation with PARCO (1 person x 5 days; 1 person x 20 days) and the selected outsourcers. Role of the staff is working closely with selected outsourcer in a process of Communication plan preparation (defining important media, crusial activities to be exposed, defining stakeholders etc.), CVI and trade mark design. Outputs of this action are very important for project promotion, public awareness and dissemination of project objectives and results. While we have to design effective Communication plan all project staff involved in project promotion or public awareness activities (in Slovenia and Italy) are planned to be involved in this preparatory action activities (see attachment_Internal staff; sheet A5). With partners collaboration in this action activities we will define common and uniform strategy for both countries that will be further and professional developed by help of external expert.

The selected outsourcer will prepare Communication plan, Corporate visual identity and the project trade mark. The outsourcer will be continiously supervised by FRIS. PARCO will support the FRIS as well as the outsourcer. Predominantly the communication will take place via e-mail and skype. The action will be completed by 30.04.2018.

A5.1 Communication plan

The Communication plan will predict robust content of promotion products regarding to targeted stakeholders. Furthermore it will predict the exact implementation of an efficient and a timely harmonized project promotion, including networking and distribution (action E1, E2 and E3).

The Communication plan is necessary in order to determine exactly the appropriate contents customized to individual stakeholders (in line with IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations; Version 1.0, 2013) and to determine timing for implementation of dissemination and awareness actions E1, E2 and E3. This way, the Communication plan ensures an efficient campaign of the LIFE project. It is also necessary for correct implementation of action D3, assessment of the socio-economic impacts.

A5.1 Corporate visual identity (CVI) and the project trade mark

CVI will be included in all promotional material used in the project. CVI will contain fish sign imitating Lasca, which will also be used as a trade mark.

CVI and trade mark are symbols that includes the essence of the project. By the visual perception of the symbol, the project is recognized rapidly and comprehensively. Trade mark will be used for the effective project promotion through contests (see action E3).

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

PARCO will closely cooperate with FRIS

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet A5).

In the implementation of A5 action 4 persons are involved:

FRIS Fishery expert/Project Manager (20 days)

FRIS Fishery expert/Project promotion leader (40+20 days)

PARCO Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader (5 days) and

PARCO Expert of environmental education/Communication activities (20 days).

The costs for an outsourcers were estimated based on recieved offers.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

A5's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Communication plan	04/2018
Corporate visual identity	04/2018
Project trade mark	04/2018

A5's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
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A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

<u>ACTION C.1:</u> Modification of the fish farm for Lasca breeding

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHY: Lasca breeding in Slovenia is necessary for two reasons:

- As back-up to support highly endagered wild populations (currently there is only one back-up in captivity the Parco fish farm) considering both the necessity to maintain the Lasca release also after the end of the LIFE project and the possibility to use the specimens as the source for release into other Slovenian areas.
- As quarantine area that could be necessary, as veterinary procedure, before to release in nature wild specimen taken for example from Italy (Ticino river).

WHERE: The fish farm for a Lasca breeding in Slovenia will be a FRIS fish farm in Kobarid, which is a part of the Adriatic basin, since Lasca inhabit Adriatic basin watercourses.

WHAT and HOW: As described in Form B5, the breeding of Lasca is a very complicated issue and only Ticino Park in LIFE CON.FLU.PO was able to reproduce this species for two following years. To improve the possibility of a successful breeding, this fish farm will be built following the indications coming from Parco experience trought the *Guidelines for fish farm establishment* developed in the preparatory Action A2.

As evident from the attached image, the southwest part of the Slovenian fish farm will be dedicated to the Lasca breeding. For construction works, an outsourcer, i.e. a building company, will be selected. The outsourcer will be responsible for the entire arrangement of the fish farm. The FRIS will provide only the measuring instruments needed for measuring the physical and chemical characteristics of the water in the fish farm. This will include 16 thermometers and 2 multi-meters for measuring oxygen, conductivity and pH levels. The outsourcer will be supervised by FRIS (2 persons x 15 days; 1 person x 40 days). At least 15 visits to the Kobarid fish farm are predicted.

The fish farm modifications will be implemented in two sub-actions:

C1.1 Construction of a hatchery

In the southwest part of the fish farm, a removal of the heavily deteriorated building is planned. In this location a cyprinid hatchery will be set up. Approximate measures of the facility will be $10 \text{ m} \times 8 \text{ m}$. Part of the hatchery will be isolated for the quarantine purposes. In the other part of the hatchery, 10 Zuger glasses, 8 hatchery troughs and 2 circular ponds for adults will be set up.

Water source temperature in the Fish Farm is constant all over the year and do not exceed 10° C. This temperature is too cold for Lasca successful reproduction and for eggs to hatch. In this early stage Lasca needs temperature of water above 10° C. Since the water that powers the Kobarid fish farm is too cold for the Lasca breeding, the hatchery need to be heated. Otherwise, in general, water for Lasca breeding does not need to be heated. Lasca can successfully survive in water below 10° C as evidenced by the fact that in Lasca natural environment the water temperature falls under 10° C during colder time of the year. In Vipava river basin an average water temperature in the coldest time of the year, from October to April, is 7.6° C (reference: Slovenian Environment Agency, Ministry of the environment and spatial planning). Degassing of water is also necessary to ensure nitrogen and other gasses outflow from the water. Gasses in the water can cause gas bubble disease that can be fatal to fish. Water degassing is a standard practice in Fish Farms, especially in those that use a water source from the spring.

The hatchery will be heated with water heaters and heated air to reduce water condensation. The facility will also be equipped with air dehumidifiers. To ensure optimum efficiency of the water heating system, a system of filtration, ventilation and water recirculation with the minimum inflow of fresh water will be established.

In the context of the hatchery construction, the connection between the existing fish farm water supply and the hatchery will be renovated. Sice water from the existing fish farm inflow is too rich with nitrogen and thus unsuitable for fish breeding, it needs to be degassed. This will be solved by a reservoir, which will also provide a corresponding height required for fish farm water supply.

C1.2 The outside arrangement of pools (see attached image)

In the immediate vicinity of the hatchery, 4 currently buried pools will be arranged:

- (i) The elongated pool in which the Lasca broodstock will be kept.
- (ii) The fish pond for fry. It will be covered with a fine net to prevent spawning of dragonflies, because dragonfly larvae prey upon young fish. The bottom of the pond will be made of nylon.
- (iii) The fish pond for juveniles with the bottom made of nylon,
- (iiii) The fish pond for the Lasca adults, with the pool bottom made of nylon.

The surroundings of ponds will be planted with riparian vegetation, which simulates the natural environment of Lasca.

WHEN: Construction works will be concluded till 28.02.2019, and after 1 month for final inspection and related autorizations from 1th of April 2019 this breeding center will start to operate thanks to the activities carried out in Action C2.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet C1).

Costs for an outsourcer, i.e. the building company were estimated based on received offers. Costs for the otsourcer were calculated based on further estimations:

C1.1 Construction of a hatchery

A removal of the heavily deteriorated building 18.000 EUR

Cyprinid hatchery set up 114.500 EUR

Renovation of a connection between the existing fish farm water supply and the hatchery 78.000 EUR

Reservoir set up 28.500 EUR

10 Zuger glasses 5.000 EUR

8 hatchery troughs 35.200 EUR

2 circular ponds for adults 11.200 EUR

Water and air heaters 8.150 EUR

Air dehumidifiers 4.800 EUR

System of filtration 5.000 EUR

System of ventilation 6.500 EUR

System for water recirculation 2.800 EUR

C1.2 The outside arrangement of pools

Excavation 6.500 EUR

The elongated pool establishment 2.100 EUR

The fish pond for fry establishment 6.800 EUR

The fish pond for juveniles establishment 7.600 EUR

The fish pond for the Lasca adults establishment 2.500 EUR

Arrangement of ponds surroundings 4.500 EUR

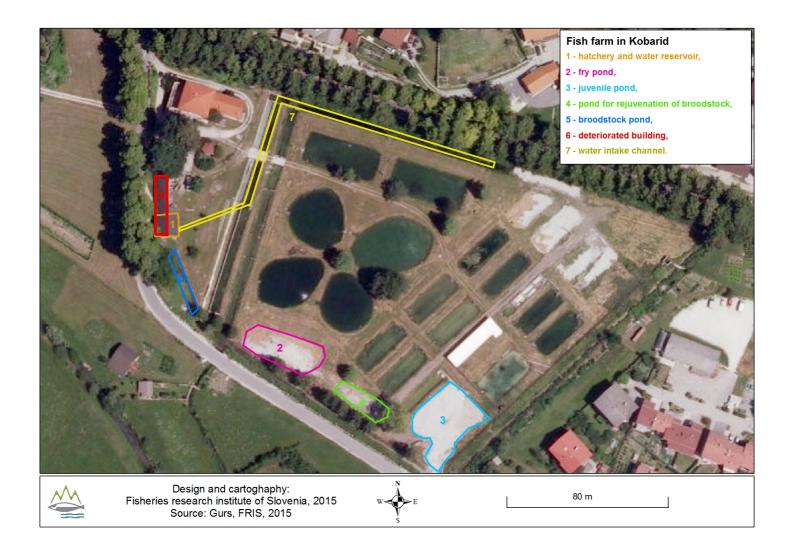
During planning of the equipment costs, the following estimations were made:

Multi-meter (Hach) (2 x 2300 EUR),

Temperature register with communication cables ($16 \times 350 \text{ EUR}$).

Costs of fine material needed for Lasca breeding were estimated on the basis of pro forma invoices and the existing prices in technical shops.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.



C1's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
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C1's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
Concluded construction works (Slovenian fish farm modifications)	02/2019

C. Conservation actions

ACTION C.2: Establishment of Lasca breeding in Slovenia

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHY

After fish farm modification (action C1), the Italian* (Ticino) Lasca stock will be imported. The broodstock will serve as backup for affected populations in Slovenia as well as in Italy. After time, Lasca newborns will serve as source specimens for a Natura 2000 site repopulation (action C4) and even after the project end (after LIFE).

* While the Slovenian Lasca population is highly endangered, each impact on the population can lead to its extinction. Consequently, for breeding and release in the wild the genetically closest Italian population in favorable conservation status will be selected (action A3) and transported to Slovenia. The genetic analyzes concerning this question were already done (see chapter B2d, previous conservation effords).

In the past only three Lasca spawnings were successfully preformed, all in Italy. First ever, successful Lasca spawning was performed in a year 2014 by Marco de Marchi fish farm (Fiumelatte river), while the second and third successful Lasca spawning were performed in year 2015 and 2016 by the Parco, during the LIFE CON.FLU.PO. project. Their experiences will be necessary for the project success (sharing best practices between LIFE projects). Parco will also provide guidelines on Lasca breeding composed during the LIFE project. Lasca breeding techniques will be transferred to Slovenia, to routinely breed Lasca every year.

Best practices developed during Lasca breeding will be inserted as part of the *Action Plan for Lasca conservation*, final deliverable of Action A4.

WHAT, HOW and WHERE

C2.1 A tracking best practices from different groups involved in the Lasca (or sister species) breeding

The tracking will be implemented in first 6 months of the project. For 5 days FRIS project staff will visit Italian fish farms and Institutions involved in Lasca (or other sister species) breeding (8 persons \times 5 days). Collected knowledge will be transferred in Slovenia and will be used for Lasca breeding. PARCO will be involved with 7 persons \times 3 days.

C2.2 Professional fish farmer initiation

The FRIS fish farmer (225 days) will be first trained in Slovenian fish farm to get familiar with fish breeding and other tasks of a fish farmer on general. He will be researching existing literature and be actively involved in Slovenian fish farm modification implemented in actions A2 and C1. Afterwards the fish farmer will visit Parco fish farm for one month (FRIS: 1 person \times 20 days; PARCO: 1 person \times 10 days; 1 person \times 20 days). He will work in the fish farm and be practically trained for Lasca breeding.

C2.3 An Italian Lasca stock importation

After obtaining the sufficient training in breeding techniques, Lasca stock will be transported to Slovenia. At least 100 specimens will be captured by Parco outsourcer. First of all it is important to consider that Lasca is

not an easy species to breed and above all to reproduce in captivity as underlined in Form B5. Actually in Italy only the Ticino Park was able to develop techniques to assure reproduction of this species in two following years.

The choice to start with 100 wild breeders as founders of the captive breeding program that will be developed at Slovenian fish farm, is based on Ticino Park experience considering that 100 specimens are a manageable number, but also able to produce from 50,000 fry/year as request by the reintroduction program.

To assure a good genetic diversity the 100 breeders will be wild and collected by Ticino Park, using the equipment obtained by the project, from three different stocks of north Italy (Novara, Ticino and Parma), the same stocks that in the preliminary genetic analysis carried out by Parma University showed a strong relationship with the samples from the Slovenian Lasca population. The stock will be transported and quarantined for at least one month by Parco outsourcer (in line with IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations; Version 1.0, 2013).

Afterwards the stock with certificate of pathogen free animals will be delivered into Slovenia by PARCO (2 persons x 4 days). For the transportation a special PARCO vehicle adapted to this purpose will be used to minimize stress. After the delivery Parco will provide staff who will help FRIS staff to establish Lasca breeding in Slovenia. The Parco technicians will be present in Slovenia for 10 days (3 persons x 10 days).

C2.4 Lasca breeding

Lasca breeding for the Natura 2000 site repopulation purposes will be performed in Italy as well as in Slovenia (see action C4). Specimens in the broodstock will be marked for fish traceability.

In the context of Lasca breeding (1 person x 342 days), the fish farmer responsibilities will be:

- daily measurement of the physical and chemical characteristics of the pool water,
- daily cleaning of the grates to ensure continious water flow through the pools,
- daily examination of roe by using a stereomicroscope,
- daily counting of survived specimens,
- care for regular food supply, including farming of plankton and fish feeding,
- fry sorting and diluting in order to ensure enough space and reduce competition for food,
- in case of any disease, the fish farmer will perform treatment of fish,
- weekly pool cleaning,
- monthly sampling of fish to detect population growth,
- issuing of regular monthly reports on the Lasca breeding progress, etc..

Equipment needed in this action

For FRIS fish farmer printer will be purchased (durable goods -equipment). Markers and the purchase of food for the breeding of fish in the entire period of the project are planned (consumables). Adults will be fed with the food used for cyprinid fish. The fry and juveniles will be fed with aquarium bred plankton, which is the natural food of Lasca. Costs for aquarium are predicted in durable goods-equipment category.

For Lasca breeding equipement for fish marking, personal computer with temperature sensor and camera with accessories and light for underwater filming will also be needed (durable goods-equipment).

Under other costs also costs for regular maintenance of fish farm are predicted.

Supervision of the Lasca breeding will be carried out by FRIS. A monthly visit to the Slovenian fish farm is predicted. During the project FRIS will cooperate closely with Parco staff. A regular communication by Skype and e-mail will be kept.

WHEN

Tracking best practices will be finished until 30.03.2018.

Professional initiation of fish farmer will commence in year 2018. The FRIS fish farmer training in Italy will be accomplished at the start of the year 2019 (until 31.03.2019).

In Slovenia the Lasca breeding will start 01.04.2019 and will take place throughout the entire project duration.

A visit to the Slovenian fish farm by the Parco technician will be carried out in April 2019, after the Italian fish importation.

Fish farmer will be preparing monthly reports that will be included in the Final report.

At least 32 visits for supervision of Lasca breeding progress to Slovenian fish farm by FRIS (1 person x 32 days) are planned.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

PARCO: training - share experiences and knowledge on Lasca breeding, provide guidelines on Lasca breeding composed during the LIFE CON.FLU.PO. project, an import of Lasca stock, an additional Lasca breeding for the initial Natura 2000 site repopulation.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet C2).

During planning of the equipment costs, the following estimations were made:

Equipment for fish marking (1×650) ,

Waterproof camera (GoPro HERO 4 Black) with accessories for underwater filming (filters, filters holders, housing) (500 EUR + 280 EUR),

Light for filming in the hatchery (Multi Grip Video Kit) (1 x 450 EUR)

Personal computer with temperature sensor and software (Microsoft office) (FRIS:1 x 3000 EUR; PARCO: $1 \times 3000 \times 10^{-5}$ x 3000 EUR),

Printer (1 x 500 EUR),

Aquarium for plankton breeding (1 x 850 EUR),

Fiberglass containers for Lasca (1 x 7.000 EUR),

Cylinders of oxygen for Lasca transportation (1.000 EUR),

Containers for fish transportation (1 x 4.000 EUR).

Consumable costs and also costs of fine material needed for Lasca breeding were estimated on the basis of pro forma invoices and the existing prices in technical shops.

Fish food (500 EUR/month),

Filling of cylinders (2.000 EUR),

Fish markers (3.000 EUR).

The costs for gasoline needed for Parco activities in the action that are not included in travel costs were estimated on the basis of predicted travel distances. Parco buys gasoline through vouchers.

The costs for regular maintenance of fish farm were estimated on the bases of Parco past experiences.

Costs for an outsourcer were estimated based on received offers.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

C2's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Final report on Lasca breeding progress	12/2021

C2's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
Delivery of Italian Lasca specimens to Slovenian fish farm	03/2019
Completed tracking of best practices	03/2018

C. Conservation actions

<u>ACTION C.3:</u> Reduction of Common nase population

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHY: Common nase (*Chondrostoma nasus*) is the main threat that caused the Lasca extinction in the Vipava river basin (Natura 2000 site) since the species share the same habitat. Consequently, before Lasca reintroduction in action C4, it is necessary to reduce Common nase (reduce threat) in the Vipava river basin. The reduction will be executed by FRIS and by local Angling Clubs. Namely local Angling Clubs are responsible for the invasive species introduction in the past. By implementation of the action, they will prove to be aware of alien species introduction consequences (letters of support are attached to the Project proposal documentation).

Best solutions of the threat reduction, revealed during the action, will be included in Action plan (action A4). The monitoring reduction progress (action D1) will help us to track the impacts of the procedure and will be exposed yearly in reports on reduction.

WHAT and WHERE: The Common nase population will be reduced each year, even after the end of the project. Each year the reduction will take place throughout the year, more intensively during spawning time, when specimens group in shallow waters. The implementation of the action will be in accordance with Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin (action A3) (in line with IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations; Version 1.0, 2013).

The Common nase reduction will have no effects on Lasca population since they spawn in different periods of the year. Common nase spawns in early spring (usually in March) while Lasca spawns in late spring (usually in May or even in June).

HOW and WHERE: This action will be implemented in two sub-actions:

1. Reduction of the Common nase population for each year of the project

Using the method of electro-fishing, a team of 5 persons will remove Common nase specimens in the Vipava river basin. The team will focus on the watercourses that are most densely populated by the Common nase. In shallow waters the removal will be done by a wading, in deeper waters the removal will be done by a boat and the sonar. Each year at least 26 fieldwork days are predicted (5 persons x 104 days).

All pre- and post- fieldwork activities will be done by FRIS (1 person for 104 days) - i.e.: Contacting local Angling Clubs, preparing all the necessary equipment.

2. Reduction of the Common nase population during the spawning time

The work will be performed by local Angling Clubs (Soča Nova Gorica, Renče and Ajdovščina) that are responsible for fishery management in the area where the reduction will take place. Specimens of the Common nase will be removed with the use of back pack electrofishers, nets and buckets. The reduction will be supervised by the FRIS (1 person x 60 days). Since the spawning period of the Common nase lasts less than a month, at least 15 extractions per year are planned (5 per Ajdovščina, 3 per Soča Nova Gorica and 7 per Renče Angling Club). For each removal, Angling Clubs will complete the field data sheet prepared by FRIS. On the sheet the amount of removed specimens and the effort made (the number of electrofishers used, time of reduction) will be clearly indicated.

The survived Common nase specimens will be predominantly transported to their original river, the Sava River by Angling Clubs. Fallen specimens will be transported by the competent veterinary hygiene service.

Transport is free of charge.

The data on Common nase reduction will be editing by FRIS (1 person x 92 days). FRIS will also issue yearly reports (1 person x 50 days) with all potencial field improvements included.

Expected result of Common nase population reduction:

Based on the past FRIS field data (reference: BIOS; Biological database of FRIS), in the Vipava river basin *Common nase* abundance is estimated on around 1000 specimens/ha. At the end of the project we expect the *Common Nase* abundance will be around 400 specimens/ha. However, on Lasca reintroduction sites, at the end of the project, we expect the *Common Nase* abundance will be around 50 specimens/ha.

Required equipment (the equipment for fieldwork will also be used in actions C4 and D1):

- In the financial part under durable goods equipment costs a boat with equipment, a multi-meter for measuring physical and chemical characteristics of water, GPS devices to determine sampling sites coordinates, back-pack electrofishers and four wheel off-road vehicle with equipment are predicted. The vehicle will be used also for the implementation of other project actions, with prority on actions C3, C4, D1, E1 and E2.
- In the financial part under other costs fishing boots and waterproof waders for wading are predicted.
- In the financial part under the category of consumables other fine material (buckets, fish nets, etc.) costs are predicted.

WHEN: The Common nase reduction will start in 2018 and it will be executed throughout the project duration as well as after the project ends (action F3). It will be dealt within the Action plan (action A4) and official documents - fishery management plans (action F3). A final report on the Common nase reduction will be completed by 31.10.2021.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet C3).

Estimations for equipment costs:

Multi-meter (1 x €2300),

GPS devices with Adrio-topographic map for FRIS (2 x €360),

Backpack electrofishers with dipnets (3 x €4500),

Boat electrofisher (1 x €9000),

Software (map) for sonar (1 x €500),

Four wheel off-road vehicle (Toyota, Hilux) (1 x €40000),

Electrofishing boat frame assembly (1 x €2500),

Motor for the boat (1 x €5500),

Boat with extra reinforcements (1 x €4500),

Boat trailer (1 x €2500),

Personal computer with software (1 x 1500 €),

Pulley for car/boat (1 x 1.500 EUR).

Also some other various small equipment for fieldwork (4000 €) were planned and some other costs:

Fishing boots for FRIS (7 x €300),

Fishing waders FRIS (7 x €950).

Angling clubs will receive a payment of €2000 per working day.

Costs of registration and insurance were estimated on the basis of:

- of the enquiries at the Harbor master office, insurance company and past experience (4 years x €500) for boat
- costs of the existing FRIS vehicle of the same brand (4 years x €1000) for the four wheel off-road vehicle.

The costs for gasoline are predicted for all FRIS activities in the project that are not included in travel costs. The costs are calculated on the bases of predicted travel distances in the project (250000 km). The average fuel consumption is 10 l/100 km. Gasoline is necessary for the implementation of actions A2, A3, C1, C2, C3, C4, D1, D2, E1, E3 and F3.

Costs of equipment needed were estimated on the basis of pro forma invoices and the existing prices in technical shops.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in LIFE WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

C3's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Final report on the Common nase reduction	10/2021

C3's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name Deadline

C. Conservation actions

ACTION C.4: Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHAT, HOW, WHEN and WHY

In the action, by the reintroduction of Lasca specimens, we will repopulate the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226. The aim of the action is to improve the conservation status of Lasca species in its only Natura 2000 site in Slovenia. The action procedure and its implementation will also serve as a good practice for Lasca management at the whole Lasca areal, since the populations are declining drastically (action A4).

As described in Action A3 (Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction) a preliminary check of the main topics that has to be considered to start with the release of specimens following the IUCN Reintroduction Specialist Group Guidelines, performed by FRIS in 2015 and 2016, has determined the feasibility of this program for Lasca.

With this concrete action it will be put on field the protocols of the *Feasibily guidelines for Lasca* reintroduction in *Soča river basin* for the Lasca reintroduction activities, developed as Action A3 deliverable; this document will follow the IUCN Reintroduction Specialist Group Guidelines, under the scientific supervision of the project Scientific Counsil, leaded by FRIS. Through this document, in this action it will be possible to use the better release areas and period related to the age of the released specimens, the related release methodology, as well as the marking procedures (predominantly pit tags) to improve the monitoring of the release program that will be developed under Action D1, sub-action D1.3, to better understand the release effectiveness.

This activity will be activated form the second year of the project (2019) after the realization of the first year of the reduction program of the Common nase, as main threat (Action C3 implemented throughout the Project). PARCO will support the Lasca reintroduction program in first years (2019-2020) with a stock of about 50.000 specimen of different ages, this subject to all the constraints and risks described in Form B5 linked to the difficulties with the reproduction of this species. A part of these specimen (almost 300) will be wild animals collected by PARCO, using the equipment assured by the project, from the same three stocks of north Italy (Novara, Ticino and Parma) that in the preliminary genetic tests carried out by Parma University in 2016, showed a strong relationship with the samples from the Slovenian Lasca population (see Previous conservation efforts). The removal of these specimens will not affect the conservation of the stocks on long term. The release of breeders is a very important support on short time, giving the possibility to have the first reproduction at the beginning of the reintroduction program and so highly increasing the success of a new wild population survival. The most and remaining part of the 50.000 specimens will be fry produced by the PARCO captive breeding program on Lasca. Gradually from third year of the project, the Lasca specimen bred in the Slovenian breeding center (Action C2), will be released. Several experiences have showed that the fish release program is more effective if continiously performed. Considering this important aspect, PARCO will be available to support the reintroduction program with some adults and part of its production of fry - exceeding the numbers for the CON.FLU.PO. Post Life program - also in the other two years (2020 - 2022), within the fund already considered for the Park in the Lasca project. It is expected to release on average of at least 50.000 specimen of different age classes for each year of project, for a total amount of 150.000 in the project life span. The effectiveness of the release program is not only to restore a vital Lasca population on the midterm, it is more linked to maintain the releases over the years. For this reason the release program will be carried on also after the end of this project (After Life).

At the end of each year a monitoring process under D1 will be developed to assess the effectiveness of the program, assuring the possibility to improve some activities (3 reports; 1 person 15 days; 1 person 60 days). The results of the monitoring program of the different release activities will provide tests on field protocols for

Lasca reintroduction that will be part of the Lasca's Action Plan developed by Action A4.

All the different activities performed in the release program will be carried on with the direct involvement of stakeholders, local communities as well as the media at local and national level. The annual reports will contain also results of activities conduct with stakeholders.

As already mentioned the Lasca source population for the reintroduction in Natura 2000 site will be a genetically closest Italian population provided by Parco (see Previous conservation efforts). To prevent a waste of time, first two years of the project - until the establishment of the Lasca breeding in Slovenian fish farm, specimens for reintroduction will be delivered (PARCO: 2 persons x 8 days) directly from the Italian fish farm. In the context of the project LIFE CON.FLU.PO., the Parco have already established Lasca breeding. By increasing capacity of the fish farm, Parco will be able to provide enough specimens for a Lasca reintroduction in Natura 2000 site. Lasca specimens for the reintroduction will be provided by Slovenian fish farm as soon as possible, no later than in a third year of the project. Further on, the source specimens for reintroduction will be continously derived from Slovenian fish farm, even after the end of the project (action F3). Parco will introduce Lasca specimens in Natura 2000 site in higher number one time per year (to lower costs), while FRIS will introduce Lasca specimens at least three times per year.

A detailed procedure of Lasca reintroduction in Natura 2000 site

First Lasca specimens reintroduction in Natura 2000 site, Dolina Vipave, SI 3000226 will be done in 2019. Specimens will be transported to the introduction site by a special PARCO/FRIS vehicle adapted to the purpose to minimize the stress. The reintroduction will be carried out by a team of five persons in one day per introduction site (FRIS 5 persons x 39 days). The data sheet will be completed.

Everything needed for the fieldwork will be prepared by FRIS (1 persons x 39 days). The data on the reintroduction will be collected and analyzed by FRIS (1 person x 39 days).

WHERE: Lasca specimens will be released in three different locations of the lower Vipava river basin, the area Lasca inhabited in the past. Presumably, specimens will be released in watercourses Lijak, Vogršček and Vrtojbca - locations of latest Lasca findings in the Vipava river basins. As provided for by IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations (Version 1.0, 2013), the habitat adequacy will be inspected within the *Feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin* (action A3).

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

In the beginning of the project PARCO will provide Lasca specimens for reintroduction.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment_Internal staff; sheet C4).

In planning equipment costs, the following estimations were made:

Equipment for fish marking (1 x 650)

Cylinders of oxygen (1000 EUR),

Containers (4000 EUR),

Cylinder of oxygen and containers will be needed for the fish transportation. Costs of equipment needed were

estimated on the basis of pro forma invoices.

Following consumable costs were estimated on the basis of pro forma invoices:

Fish markers (3.000 EUR).

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

The equipment assured to the Ticino Park by the Lasca project are mainly linked to the capture and transport of the Lasca wild breeders from the three areas considered (Novara, Ticino and Parma). The other cost and consumables are more linked to improve (more or less to double) the production of fry and young considering that about 50.000 have to be released in the Ticino river for the CON.FLU.PO. post Life activities, and the same quantities has to be produced for the Lasca project, maybe also not only for one year but, as described in the previous b) point, for other two more years if a support to the Slovenian breeding centre will be necessary.

To avoid double funding, a daily journal of activities will be kept by the Park staff involved in the breeding centre activities, in order to better assign every activity at each of the two LIFE projects (Post Life CON.FLU.PO. or Lasca project); in the same way on the related invoices will be indicate at which Life project are referred.

C4's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Feasibility study	10/2021

C4's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name Deadline

A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

ACTION C.5: Reduction of further non-indigenous species entry into an environment

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHAT: The aim of the action is to prevent further negative consequences of non indigenous species entry into an environment. The impacts of the action will be measured under action D1 - monitoring of project actions impact.

WHY: Release of non indigenous species into an environment can lead to unpredicted negative consequences. The indicative example is Lasca extinction in Vipava river basin. Until the introduction of the non indigenous Common nase (*Chondrostoma nasus*), Lasca densely populated the Vipava watercourses. However, after the introduction, Common nase (around 1965) forced out Lasca completely since both species share the same habitat. Common nase was introduced to the Vipava river basin by local anglers for improvement of gamefish diversity. At that time introduction of non indigenous species was not considered to be an issue. Major changes happened in 2006 when the Freshwater Fisheries Act was adopted and The Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia was declared as the umbrella institution for fisheries management. Today any introduction of non-indigenous species in inland watercourses of Slovenia is prohibited by law, excluding exceptions (two game fish species - carp and rainbow trout) with a special permit from the relevant ministry (Nature Conservation Act, Article 17; Freshwater Fisheries Act, Article 5).

Despite the prohibition, still many anglers are not aware of consequences that release of non-indigenous species in the wild can cause. To prevent further non indigenous species release into an environment, angler awareness is of extreme importance.

The vast majority of fishermen in Slovenia are poorly educated local people. They are unaware of consequences of the alien species release into the environment; many do not even know what exactly alien species are. FRIS, as an umbrella institution of fisheries organizations, has great difficulties with the reduction of an alien species release into the wild. According to data from the Fishery Cadaster, in ten years (period of the law/prohibition existence) the amount of released alien game fish species into the environment did not decrease, but, in the case of rainbow trout, even increased. Besides that, FRIS field experiences show that angling clubs, during emptying their ponds, often return alien species, such as grass carp and silver carp. FRIS, within the regular work, does not get enough funds to be able to intensively raise awareness among fishermen. At this point we would like to underline that raising awareness among fishermen is an essential activity that requires an urgent action if we want to reduce or even prevent further release of alien species into the environment. This is also the main reason we included this action into C actions and not in a part of awareness actions (actions E).

In form B2d the problem of fishermen unawareness is identified under second threat titled Presence of allochtonous invasive *Common Nase*, while problems (threats) are highly intertwined.

WHEN, WHERE and HOW: Together with 64 Angler Clubs FRIS covers the fisheries management in the whole territory of Slovenia.

2 times during the project FRIS will visit leaderships of all 64 Angler Clubs in Slovenia (2 persons x 128 days). One person of the team will be the permanent FRIS employee responsible for fisheries management. A topic of the meetings will be non-indigenous species in conjunction with an ecosystem functioning. Concrete local examples will be exposed (negative influences of non-indigenous species on the local environment). This, more concrete approach will lead to a better understanding of environmental problems. The final goal of the meetings will be case by case to solve concrete environmental problems and find solutions to prevent further

negative consequences of non indigenous species entry into an environment.

Before visits FRIS will prepare contents for meetings (1 person x 93 days). Source data will be data from Fisheries Cadaster and data from past FRIS fish samplings.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet C5).

For internal staff, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in LIFE WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

Two FRIS project staff will be involved in this action implementation (see attachment_Internal staff; sheet C5) . FRIS fishery expert/communication with angling clubs and FRIS fishery expert/fieldwork are planned for visiting Angling clubs (each for 128 days) and FRIS fishery expert/fieldwork for meeting preparation (together 93 days).

C5's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

	Deliverable name	Deadline
•		_
	C5's PROJECT MILESTONES	
	Milestone name	Deadline

D. Monitoring of the impact of the project actions (obligatory)

<u>ACTION D.1:</u> Monitoring of the impact of the project actions

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

FRIS will measure concrete actions impact by comparing an initial and a final status of selected indicators (4 indicators). Changes in indicator values will indicate the action success and thus the success of the whole project. The changes in indicator 2 and 3 values will be monitored each year for tracking best release (C4) and reduction (C3) procedure that will be included in Action plan under action A4.

Indicators of the project success will be:

<u>D1.1. INDICATOR 1: Number of a successful Lasca spawning periods in Slovenian fish farm will</u> indicate the success of C1 and C2 actions.

Lasca breeding in Slovenian fish farm will begin in the second year of the project (after the fish farm modification - action C1 and after the Lasca breeding establishment - action C2). Due to experiences from a Parco LIFE project (LIFE11 NAT/11/188), Lasca specimens need at least one year to completely adapt to a new environment. Thus, we expect the first successful Lasca spawning period in captivity in the third year of the project.

The expected results: 2 successful Lasca spawning periods in Kobarid fish farm. We expect on average at least 50.000 juveniles.

D1.2. INDICATOR 2: Reduction in Common nase abundance* in Vipava river basin will indicate the success of the C3 action.

The impact of the action C3 will be measured by monitoring on Common nase population abundance. It will be implemented each year of the project. The initial status of Common nase will be determined in a first year of the project, before the reduction of the species will start (action C3).

The expected results: The Common nase population in Vipava river basin will be reduced for at least 60%.

Methodology: Common nase samplings will be preformed in accordance to the official Slovenian methodology. The samplings will be performed on 4 sites (3 watercourses and 1 sections of the Vipava main stream) selected on the basis of the qualitative samplings (action D2, block 1). 4 fieldwork days per year (one day per site/section) are predicted.

For sampling watercourses (5 persons x 3 days/year x 4 years), a team of 5 people will set up a fish barrier (net) to isolate the sampling site (a 100 m long streach). Afterwards, inside the sampling site, the fish specimens will be captured using a back pack electrofisher (non-invasive technique). In accordance with the quantitative fishing method**, to estimate fish specimens abundance at least two samplings of the same site are required. For sampling the Vipava main stream (4 persons x 1 day/year x 4 years), a team of 4 people will use a boat with special accessories including stacionary electrofisher (non-invasive technique)***. Captured specimens will be counted, weighed and released back in the nature. For each sampling the field data sheet will be completed (see attachement).

*abundance is an estimated number and biomass of fish specimens per watercourse hectare.

**Seber, G.A. and Le Cren, E.D.(1967). Estimating population parameters from catches large relative to the population. J. Anim. Ecol. 36, 631–643.; DeLury, D. B. 1947. On the estimation of biological populations. Biometrics 3:145–167. and DeLury. 1947. On the estimation of biological populations. Biometrics 3. s: 145-

***Schmutz S., Zauner G., Eberstaller J. & Jungwirt M. 2000. Die »Streifen = befischungsmethode«: Eine Methode zur Quantifizierung von Fischbeständen mittelgrosser Fliessgewässer. Wien. Wasserwirtschaftkataster. BMLF. 210 s.

<u>D1.3.</u> <u>INDICATOR 3: Lasca abundance in Vipava river basin will indicate the success of the C4 action.</u>

The initial status of Lasca in the Vipava river basin does not need to be determined, since the species initial status equals zero. Lasca is currently not present in the Vipava river basin.

The indicator for the C4 action success will be the presence of Lasca species in the Vipava river basin. It will be measured by monitoring on Lasca population abundance on reintroduction sites and it will be implemented each year, after the Lasca specimens reintroduction.

The expected results: We expect to release on average at least 50.000 Lasca specimens per year. Since watercourses have no barriers, we expect to find at least 500 of the released specimens.

Methodology: Lasca samplings will be preformed in accordance to the official Slovenian methodology. The samplings will be performed in 3 watercourses, in 3 Lasca introduction sites (4 persons x 3 days/year x 3 years). A team of four people will sample along watercourses using a back pack electrofisher (non-invasive technique). They will wade upstream of the watercourse and count observed Lasca specimens. All captured Lasca specimens will be measured and released back in the nature. For each sampling the field data sheet will be completed.

<u>D1.4.</u> INDICATOR 4: Decreasing the amount of non-indigenous fish in release will indicate the success of the C5 action.

FRIS will analyze the amount of non-indigenous fish release by comparing periods before (initial status) and after (final status) C5 concrete action implementation (1 person x 40 days).

As we already mentioned in previous actions description in Slovenia introduction of non-indigenous species is prohibited by law with two exceptions, two game fish species, carp and rainbow trout. These two species are under fisheries management and they are still released in the wild throughout Slovenia. Yearly, Angling Clubs and other fisheries managers are obligated by law (Freshwater Fishing Act - Official Gazette of the RS, no. 61/2006) to report about the amount of released fish into the wild. These data are inserted into public register Fishery Cadaster (maintained by FRIS) and are available to public. Impacts of C5 action will be analysed using this data.

The expected results: We expect that greater awareness of fishermen on the negative consequences of introducing non-indigenous species into the environment will lead into decrease of rainbow trout and carp release into the wild (in 4 years for at least 10%).

Before and after fieldwork activities will be done by FRIS (1 person x 1 day/fieldwork day x 25 fieldwork days). FRIS will prepare everything needed for the preparation of fieldwork - FRIS will contact local Angling Clubs and prepare all the necessary equipment. After the fieldwork, FRIS will unload the equipment.

FRIS will enter data into FRIS database. Afterwards FRIS will analyze the data (1 person \times 50 days) and prepare the final report on the concrete action impact (1 person \times 40 days).

WHEN: The action will start at the begining of the project and it will be completed, with a report, until 30.11.2021.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet D1) .

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

D1's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Report on the project actions impact	11/2021

D1's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name Deadline		
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D. Monitoring of the impact of the project actions (obligatory)

<u>ACTION D.2:</u> Assessment on the ecosystem function restoration

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHAT and WHY: The aim of the project is to establish fish communities in the Vipava river basin that had prevailed in the past.

Due to the fact that in the project all changes will be done only on fish communities, the ecosystem function restoration should be assessed on them and not on the higher level. Such approach will reduce a probability to detect changes in ecosystem functions caused by factors, that are not related to the project. Hence, the project impact on the ecosystem function will be detected exclusively.

HOW, WHERE: The ecosystem function restoration will be assessed by comparing fish communities structure and their functioning in the Vipava river basin before the start and after the end of the concrete project actions implementation.

The sampling of fish communities will be done in the area of project influence, meaning the whole Vipava river basin inhabited by Chondrosoma nasus. The samplings will be preformed in accordance to the official Slovenian methodology. They will be implemented in two blocks:

Block 1: Qualitative sampling of fish communities

In this block the fish community structure, that changes along the watercourse, will be recorded (4 persons x 30 fieldwork days x 2 years). Based on results, representative sites for estimating fish abundance will be selected for further quantitative fish samplings (block 2 and action D1). 30 fieldwork days are predicted. A team of four people will sample fish communities along watercourses using a back pack electrofisher (non-invasive technique). They will wade upstream of the watercourse and observe fish species. In Vipava main stream, fish communities will be sampled by using a boat and stacionary electrofisher (non-invasive technique). For each sampling the data sheet will be completed.

Block 2: Quantitative sampling of fish communities

A quantitative sampling will be performed on 20 sites (15 watercourses and 5 sections of the Vipava main stream) selected on the basis of the qualitative samplings (block 1). 20 fieldwork days (one day per site/section) are predicted.

For sampling watercourses (5 persons x 15 fieldwork days x 2 years), a team of 5 people will set up a fish barrier (net) to isolate the sampling site (a 100 m long streach). Afterwards, inside the sampling site, the fish specimens will be captured using a back pack electrofisher (non-invasive technique). In accordance with the quantitative fishing method**, to estimate fish specimens abundance at least two samplings of the same site are required. For sampling the Vipava main stream (4 persons x 5 fieldwork days x 2 years), a team of 4 people will use a boat with special accessories including stacionary electrofisher (non-invasive technique)***. Captured specimens will be measured and released back in the nature. For each sampling the field data sheet will be completed.

*abundance is an estimated number and biomass of fish specimens per watercourse hectare.

**Seber, G.A. and Le Cren, E.D.(1967). Estimating population parameters from catches large relative to the population. J. Anim. Ecol. 36, 631–643.; DeLury, D. B. 1947. On the estimation of biological populations. Biometrics 3:145–167. and DeLury. 1947. On the estimation of biological populations. Biometrics 3. s: 145–167

***Schmutz S., Zauner G., Eberstaller J. & Jungwirt M. 2000. Die »Streifen = befischungsmethode«: Eine Methode zur Quantifizierung von Fischbeständen mittelgrosser Fliessgewässer. Wien. Wasserwirtschaftkataster. BMI F. 210 s.

Before and after fieldwork activities will be done by FRIS (1 person x 1 day/fieldwork day x 100 fieldwork days). FRIS will prepare everything needed for the preparation of fieldwork - FRIS will contact local Angling Clubs and prepare all the necessary equipment. After the fieldwork, FRIS will unload the equipment.

FRIS will enter data into FRIS database. Afterwards, FRIS will analyze the data by comparing an initial and final status of ecosystem functioning (1 person x 70 days). At the end of the project FRIS will prepare the final report on the assessment on the ecosystem function restoration (1 person x 40 days).

WHEN: The samplings will be performed twice, before and after the concrete project actions implementation.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment_Internal staff; sheet D2) .

Costs for outsourcer were estimated based on received offers.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

D2's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Report on the ecosystem function restoration	11/2021

D2's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
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D. Monitoring of the impact of the project actions (obligatory)

ACTION D.3: Assessment of the socio-economic impacts

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

Why? This LIFE action is obligatory and it is aimed at assessing the socio-economic impact of the project. Such approach allows for broader overview of all project impacts of project actions – not only biological/environmental, but also socio-economic impacts. It will show the actual project contribution to society, economy and how stakeholders and target groups perceive benefits of the project.

Results of the action (the interpretation of LIFE investment) will be used as a communication tool for a realisation of actions E1 and E2. In the actions an active communication with stakeholders and other interested audience is predicted.

What and how? LIFE for LASCA project is strictly oriented towards nature conservation - saving Lasca, the Natura 2000 species. Further on, Lasca is not a game fish and is not a species of interest for anglers. It is not recognized amongst the locals due to its rarity and unattractive appearance. Thus, major socio-economic impacts of the project can not be expected. Undoubtedly, the occurrence of such a rare and almost extinct species can contribute greatly to the region. This in combination with awareness activities and media communication (E) gives the region recognizibility and a special significance. Lasca can become a protected trademark of quality products and services in the Vipava valley and Goriška brda region. In the action FRIS and IRSNC in coorperation with an outsourcer will analyze the development potential of the quality trademark within the project area. The analyses will based on interviues (restaurant and tourist services - 10, directors of larger local companies - 3, winemakers - 10). The results will used for active communication with the stakeholders, local residents and economy, as well as with the wider public.

Furthermore, anglers needs will be analysed - how much are anglers willing to pay more for fishing in the unspoiled nature (focused on presence invasive species). We will survey anglers (50) with implementation of standard methods such as method of evaluation and selection. On the basis of obtained data we will prepare business projections for fishing clubs with consideration of sustainable fishing.

The action will be implemented in accordance with »Socio-economic benefits of »Natura 2000 - A toolkit for practioners«.

The action will be implemented by in action F1 selected outsourcer in cooperation with FRIS (2 persons x 60 days).

Where Surveys and interviews with stakeholders will be performed in Slovenia, with focus on the Vipava valley and Goriška brda region.

When: The action will be implemented throughout the project duration, starting in year 2018. The report on assessment of the socio-economic impacts will be prepared by 31.10.2021.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

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Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet D3) .

Costs for outsourcer were estimated based on received offers.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

D3's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Report on the socio-economic impacts	10/2021

D3's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
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E. Public awareness and dissemination of results (obligatory)

ACTION E.1: Public awareness

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

Public awareness and project promotion will contribute to a better recognisability of the project and its outcomes internationally. All planned activities will be performed based on communication plan (action A5). Public awareness of local public is also described in IUCN requirement for species reintroductions. All important events will be documented by photos.

E1.1. OBLIGATORY ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS

1. Notice boards

Notice boards will be prepared in accordance with the LIFE guidelines and according to corporate visual identity of the project (action A5). FRIS will prepare contents for notice board in Slovenian, Italian and English (1 person x 20 days). Beside project objectives and Lasca also a Nature 2000 site and LIFE program will be presented. Partner's logos, logo of Nature 2000 and LIFE program will be included in the notice board.

Notice boards (150 x 100 cm) will be set up (2 persons x 5 days) on each centre of project activities that are:

- Vipava watercourses chosen for repopulation (3),
- Kožbanjšček watercourse were the only Lasca population in Slovenia is present (1),
- Slovenian fish farm in Kobarid (1).
- Fish farm in PARCO Ticino (1),
- Entering point of PARCO Tichino (1).

Smaller boards (70 x 50 cm) will be set up on partner's headquarters entrances and associated angling clubs (AC) that are:

- FRIS (1),
- Slovenian fish farm in Kobarid (1).
- Parco Tichino (1),
- AC of Soča Nova Gorica (1),
- AC of Renče (1),
- AC of Ajdovščina (1).

FRIS will choose an external assistance for printing notice boards (5) and smaller boards (8). Boards will be made of wood from certificated forest. Notice boards set up in Slovenia will be set up on a public land owned by Municipalities (letters of support are attached). Boards in Italy will be set up on a land owned by Parco. Boards will be set up by 31.03.2018.

2. Web site

FRIS will choose an external assistance for project web site creation. It will be prepared according to successful examples of established LIFE web sites presented on:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/toolkit/comtools/goodexamples/websites.htm. In addition, recommendations for the setting up of the web site will also be considered, as presented on the link: http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/science-communication/website2 en.htm.

The web site will be prepared mostly by FRIS (1 person x 40 days) in Slovenian, English and Italian (costs under external costs). All partners through the entire project duration will regularly update web site as the project progresses (FRIS: 2 persons x 10 days/year x 4 years).

FRIS will monitor the statistics of web page visits with clipping (costs are predicted under external assistance costs). We expect on average 1.000 visits of web page per month or 51.000 visits during the entire project.

FRIS will choose an external assistance for contents translation in Italian.

The web site will be activate and available for public use by 30.06.2018. It will remain active for the period of minimum 5 years after the project conclusion.

3. Layman's report

In October 2021 a layman's report will be prepared by FRIS (2 persons x 20 days) in corporation with PARCO (2 persons x 4 days). It will be produced in paper and electronic versions. The report will contain 10 A4 pages and will be formulated in accordance with the LIFE communication requirements. It will target at a non-specialist audience, including political decision-makers, outlining the main results of the project. It will be available in Slovenian, Italian and English. An edition of 20,000 copies will be distributed to households of the municipalities of Kobarid, Brda, Šempeter - Vrtojba, Renče - Vogrsko, Nova Gorica, Ajdovščina and Vipava. The cost for printing are placed under external assistant costs, while distribution is placed under other costs category. The report in electronic form will be attached to the web site of the project and will be forwarded to the entire network of the key stakeholders and co-founder of the project.

E1.2. OTHER NOT-OBLIGATORY ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC AWARNESS

1. Media work

With aim to achieve good dissemination of the project results, FRIS will be actively involved in working with media (3 persons x 60 days).

Through the project duration we will ensure at least:

- 50 articles in newspapers and magazines with focus on Slovenian monthly magazine "Ribič" which focuses on the key stakeholders of the project, i.e. anglers,
- 20 announcements in radio broadcasts.
- 5 announcements in national TV station program.

FRIS and PARCO will establish regular communication with media. They will be invited to all relevant activities such as release of specimens or Common nase reduction.

The number of announcements in media will be monitored by clipping. Cost for this analysis is estimated in external assistance.

While media work will be performed on national level, we estimate that at least 300,000 people will be

informed about the project results and activities.

2. Project promotion

Besides working with media, project will be promoted by promotional material (FRIS: 1 person x 30 days):

- 1500 brochures (6 pages) will be prepared in Slovenian, Italian and English, with short presentations of the project,
- 1000 T-shirts with a graphic image of the project and the Lasca species,
- 500 notepads with the graphic image of the project,

Promotional material will be prepared (until 31.07.2018) with the help of an outsourcer, according to corporate visual identity of the project (action A5). It will be distributed in final conference, to partners, media, to children winning the competition and other participants to the project. Communication and audio-visual materials will clearly reference LIFE financial support. On all material LIFE and Nature 2000 logo will be present.

The action will be performed in Slovenia and in northern part of Italy through the entire project duration.

Final report on project public awarenes implementation will be prepared by FRIS (1 person x 20 days).

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

In implementation of this action PARCO will be actively involved.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment_Internal staff; sheet E1) .

Costs for external assistance were estimated based on received offers.

In planning equipement costs, the following estimation was made:

Camera with tripod for documenting important events (1 x 1.400 EUR).

Costs of camera were estimated on the basis of pro forma invoice.

Skeleton for notice boards (PARCO: 3.000 EUR).

Costs for printing and delivery of the Layman's report (10.000 copies) were estimated based on price list of Pošta Slovenije.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were

considered.

E1's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Final report on project public awareness implementation	12/2021
Layman's report	10/2021

E1's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
Set up notice boards	03/2018
Active web site	06/2018
Promotional material (1500 brochures, 1000 T-shirt, 500 notepads)	07/2018

E. Public awareness and dissemination of results (obligatory)

<u>ACTION E.2:</u> Networking and project results dissemination

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

The aim of the action is to receive the important information for project to be most efficient and accepted and to disseminate the results of the project. The action will be implemented according to the the communication plan (action A5).

E2.1. KICK-OFF MEETING AND FINAL CONGRESS

In the beginning of the project, in July 2018, FRIS (2 persons x 10 days; 1 person x 30 days; 3 persons x 1 day (only participation)) will organize an kick-off meeting in collaboration with project partner (2 persons x 3 days) and an outsourcer to present the planned project activities.

At the end of the project, in November 2021, FRIS (2 persons x 10 days; 1 person x 30 days; 3 persons x 1 day (only participation)) will organize a final congress in collaboration with project partner (2 persons x 3 days) and an outsourcer to present the project results. Contents of the Action plan, final delivarable of action A4 will be presented.

Four people will lead the meeting/Congress. The meeting/congress will be in Slovenian and Italian with help of an interpreter.

Invitations will be sent to the Ministry of Environment and Spatial planning, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, the Fishing Association of Slovenia, Angling Clubs (64), the Municipalities from the project area (9), Italian Institutions responsible for Lasca management, the media. Also internal staff of project partners will be invited. We expect at least 100 participants.

E2.2. NETWORKING WITH SIMILAR PROJECTS

Three Institutions performing LIFE project with similar topic to our LIFE project will be visited to exchange as much possible information about fish species breeding, reintroduction or repopulation. The knowledge gained will be included in Feasibility guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin (action A2) and its implementation reports, deliverables of Lasca reintroduction action (C4).

We checked available information about projects focusing on fish species conservation on LIFE web page. Potential LIFE projects are:

- 1. LIFE09 NAT/DE/000008; Alosa alosa Conservation and restoration of the Allis shad in the Gironde and Rhine watersheds (targeted species Alosa alosa)
- 2. LIFE07 NAT/EE/000120; HAPPYFISH Saving life in meanders and oxbow lakes of Emajogi River on Alam-Pedja NATURA 2000 area (targeted species Aspius aspius)
- 3. LIFE04 NAT/ES/000035; Fartet Murcia Conservation of Aphanius iberus genetic stocks (Murcia) (targeted species Aphanius iberus)

Visits are planned in the first two years of the project duration (until 2020), while received information about fish species conservation can significantly improve the progress of our project. We planned 4-days per visit (FRIS: 7 persons x 4 days/visit x 3 visits).

E2.3. PROJECT RESULTS AS AN EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE DISSEMINATION

To disseminate our project results an active promotion of our project in at least 3 congresses focusing our project topic will be implemented. FRIS will be responsible for presentation of the project on the congresses (2 persons x 50 days). While we do not know the exact locations of congresses we estimated costs for transfer and accommodation based on assumption that they will be organized in Bruxelles. Congress visits are planned for the whole project duration, more intensively at the end of the project (year 2020 and 2021) to disseminate the project results.

Dissemination is the process of making the results and deliverables of a project available to the stakeholders. Dissemination is essential for take-up, which is crucial for the success of the project and for the sustainability of outputs in the long term.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

All partners will be actively involved in activities in the scope of this action.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet E2) .

Costs for external assistance and equipment were estimated based on received offers.

For internal staff, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

The slightly higher amount of the action budget is due to the fact that all FRIS persons, employed on the project, are planned to visit three LIFE projects and because we planned staff also for preparation to dissemination activities and for organization of events. In our opinion, the gained experience will be needed and useful for all, especially in meaning of successful implementation of the project. See attachment_Internal staff; sheet E2.

E2's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
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E2's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
Visits of three LIFE project areas	12/2019
Participation on congresses for dissemination of the project results	12/2021

E. Public awareness and dissemination of results (obligatory)

<u>ACTION E.3:</u> Working with stakeholders and intense local public awareness

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

The ambasador of this action will be Lasca the project trade mark created during the preparation action A5.

In sub-actions E1.1 and E1.2 the oportunities and meaning of EU Natura 2000 network will be exposed to children as well as to other public, since Natura 2000 is not well accepted among people. We will highlight the meaning of the Natura 2000 Network, especially more efficient protection of endangered species and habitat types on European level. Stakeholders will get an oportunity to visit and meet Natura 2000 site in foreign country.

E3.1 RAISING AWARENESS AMONG CHILDREN

Schools in Primorska region (Vipava Valley and Goriška Brda) as well as in Lombardia region will be invited to participate the art contest. The ambasador of the contest will be Lasca imitation, the project trade mark developed during the preparation action A5. A topic of the contest will be EU Natura 2000 Network focused on Parko Ticino for Italian participans and on Vipava Valley for Slovenian participants. In the contest children will be invited to create products (works of art) related to the exposed topics. Received products will be visible on the project website. At the end of the contest, internet voting will begin. This will also encourage parents to visit our web page and to be familiar with the project topic. The contest will be organized by FRIS (2 persons x 31 days) and PARCO (1 person x 30 days; 3 persons x 15 days). Detailed rules of the contest will be prepared by FRIS for Slovenian participants and by PARCO for Italian participants. There will be two winners (2 classes), Italian and Slovenian. Winners will get T-shirts of the project and will win a three day trip to Natura 2000 site in foreign country- in the last year of the project (2021) Slovenian winning class will visit selected Italian Natura 2000 site, while Italian winning class will visit selected Slovenian Natura 2000 site.

Number of received works of art will be an indicator for measuring the effect of this sub-action. We expect at least 200 works of art received.

E3.2 PHOTO EXHIBITION

FRIS and PARCO will open the competition for best photo. The participants will be invited to take photos of Park Ticino and Vipava Valley nature. Received photos will be exhibited on website. The competiton will be open to all. There will be two winners (2 photos), Italian and Slovenian. The winners will get project T-shirt and plagues.

The competition will be led by FRIS (2 persons x 60 days) and PARCO (2 persons x 5 days). Detailed rules of the contest will be prepared by FRIS for Slovenian participants and by PARCO for Italian participants. Number of received photos will be an indicator for measuring the effect of this sub-action. We expect at least 100 photos received.

Photo exhibition will take place on at least three locations. The equipement for exhibition set-up will be borrowed from Notranjska Regional Park bought in LIFE project LIFE06 NATSI/00069.

Activities of the sub-actions E3.3 and E3.4 will contribute to reduce the threat of non indigenous species entry into an environment (chapter B2d), that will be more intensively reduced within action C5 where personal visits of Angling clubs are predicted. Local anglers are responsible for Common nase presence in Vipava river basin. The species was introduced to the Vipava river basin for improvement of gamefish diversity. Thus to prevent further release of non indigenous species into an environment, anglers and other public awareness is of extreme importance. The main impacts of the sub-actions will be detected under assessment of the socio-economic impacts (Action D3).

E3.3 RAISING AWARENESS AMONG LOCAL PUBLIC

In 2020 FRIS will prepare a contest among local public (1 person x 80 days). 10 winners of the contest will recieve local vine with a quality mark (Lasca imitation) designed in the project (CVI, action A5) and they will be invited to a dinner for two organized by a local restaurant using the quality mark. During the project FRIS will find a vine company and a restaurant that will be prepared to use the quality mark on their products.

In the context of the contest a Bulletin will be prepared by FRIS. It will be produced in paper and electronic versions attached to web site of the project. The Bulletin will contain 10 pages. It will target at local public, outlining the main goals of the project. Each paper version of the Bulletin will contain Lasca imitation label (the quality mark created in preparatory action A5). An edition of 20,000 copies will be distributed to households of the municipalities of Kobarid, Brda, Šempeter - Vrtojba, Renče - Vogrsko, Nova Gorica, Ajdovščina and Vipava. The cost for printing are placed under external assistant costs, while distribution is placed under other costs category. In the contest photos of people standing by cars labeled with Lasca trade mark will be collected. Anyone who will send the photo will participate in the final draw for the reward.

We expect at least 100 photos received.

E3.4 FIELDWORK AWARENESS EVENTS

Awareness events will be organized and supervised by FRIS (1 person x 60 days). Local residents will be invited to actual field work events during Common nase reduction field days. These events were chosen to emphasize the consequences of introduction non indigenous species. Furthermore participants will able to learn how difficult it is to reintroduce Lasca or other endangered species in general.

Target groups will mostly be youth as well as local anglers. This will be implemented in order to achieve long term effects of awareness events. Throughout the project duration at least 6 events (3 persons x 6 days) with at least 300 participants are predicted.

To estimate the impact of raising awareness project activities the survey will be conducted by FRIS within this action before the start and at the end of project activities implementation. A target public of the survey will be local people (approximately 60.000 inhabitants). At least 100 people will be interviewed. We expect at least 80% of inhabitants will get familiar with the project LIFE for LASCA.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

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Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment_Internal staff; sheet E3) .

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

E3's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Bulletin	12/2021

E3's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
Completed contest for children	12/2021
Completed contest for local public awarenes	12/2021
Completed photo exhibitions (3)	12/2021

F. Project management (obligatory)

<u>ACTION F.1:</u> Project management by FRIS

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

What? Considering the urgent technical administrative activities for the project start up, carried out with Action A1 in the first 6 months, the management of the whole project will be realized with this Action.

How? Where? The management of this transnational project will be carried out by the constitution of three structures, working in direct synergy for all the project life span:

- **1. Technical/administrative group of each partner**: this is the basic level of the project management composed by the staff of each partner. Several internal meetings are carried out during the entire project to manage all the activities.
- **2. Steering Committee:** this committee is focused on the general management and coordination of the whole project. Leaded by FRIS as beneficiary coordinator that through its technical administrative staff and the partner agreements realized in Action A1 has to manage the whole project maintaining the contact with partner and the LIFE Unit (Technical and Administrative Desk Officers, and Monitor) it is composed by a technical/administrative representative of each partner.

It is important to underline that the staff of Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia (FRIS), as well as the Parco are familiar with the requirements of LIFE Programme and the LIFE project management, due their participation in several LIFE projects (see form A7 – Question 1).

To support these activities, FRIS will contract a Financial Manager and an Accountant through a public tender developed in Action A1, while a full time Project Manager will be selected internally in Action A1.

The Project Manager will be responsible for the following activities:

- Supervision of the technical/administrative aspects of the partner's activities;
- Encouragement of the partner's cooperation;
- Monitoring of the activities related to the timing and output foreseen by the different project Actions;
- Organization of coordination meetings every 6 months (min. 8 meetings), and drawing up of the related minutes:
- Communication with the UE LIFE Unit (Technical and Administrative Desk Officers, project monitor), and cooperation in the project audit;
- Drafting of the periodical project reports for the UE LIFE unit, as below:
- (i) Progress Report 1, sent to UE within November 2018,
- (ii) Mid Term Report, sent to UE within November 2019,
- (iii) Progress Report 2, sent to UE within November 2020,
- (iii) Final Report, sent to UE within March 2022.

The general coordination of the project for the administrative aspects will be carried out by Financial Manager: this external figure of proved experience will be selected by public tender in Action A1, as well as the Accountant.

The Financial Manager, supported by the **Accountant**, will be responsible for:

- monitoring of the project budget and possible changes requested by the partner;
- checking of the partners administrative procedures;
- cooperation with the partners for the drawing of the administrative reports, and their check;
- drafting of the periodical projects reports for the UE LIFE Unit for the administrative part as above, and cooperation in the project audit;
- cooperation with external auditor in Action F2 to assess the project and produce the final certification, as requested by LIFE requirements.

It is important to remember that the necessity of an external Financial Manager and Accountant is necessary in relation to the situation of FRIS, which since 2008 has an outsourcer for the management of the financial - accounting matters.

The Steering Committee will meet every 6 months, so through the project duration 8 meetings will be organized in FRIS conference room.

3. **Scientific Council:** scientific supervision of the whole project with special references to reintroduction programe and the monitoring of the expected results. The coucile will have an important role in formation of Feasibility guidlines (action A3) and Action plan (action A4) preparation.

As discribed in action A2 is leaded by Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia that trought several project has developed necessary knowledge to support the correct development of different phases of reintroduction program. This is an open group with the aim to have the participation of different scientists regarding the topic.

As general approach to reduce the carbon footprints of the project all meetings of the three groups will be organized as video conferences (via skype or similar).

We also planned two FRIS project staff to attend a kick-off meeting in Brussels.

When? The action will be performed during the entire project.

Why? The action of project management is necessary in order to ensure a timely and successful implementation of project activities and the project as a whole, including regular reporting.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

A regular communication and project documentation exchange with partners will be established.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment Internal staff; sheet F1).

The costs for gasoline needed for Parco activities in the action that are not included in travel costs were estimated on the basis of predicted travel distances. Parco buys gasoline through vouchers.

Costs for outsourced translator were estimated based on received offers.

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF THE PROJECT

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

Open group with the aim to have the participation of different scientists regarding the topic.



The function of the council is to assure scientific supervision of the whole project, especially activities regarding reintroduction program and monitoring of the expected results. Almost 6 project councils during the whole project are planned.



STEERING COMMITTEE

Leaded by FRIS it is composed by a technical/administrative representative of each partner, with the support of the Project and Financial Manager.



This committee is focused on the general management and coordination of the whole project.

Almost 8 meetings during the whole project are planned.



3 TECHNIC/ADMINISTARTIVE GROUPS

This is the basic level of the project management composed by the staff of each partner.

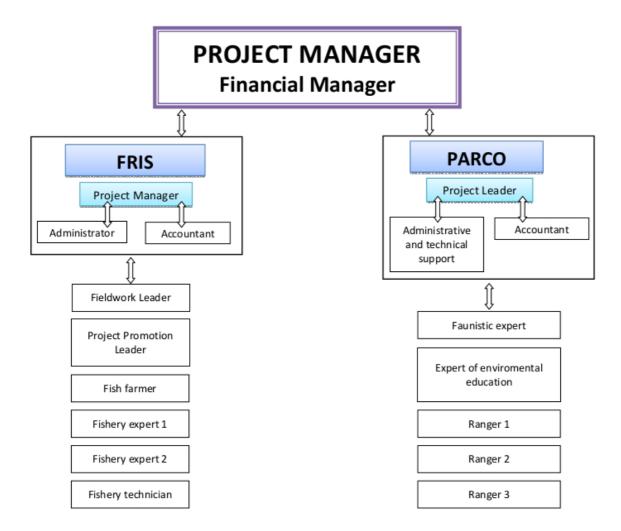


It is focused on the management, coordination and technical administrative check of the project activities of each partner, both carried out by internal and subcontractors.

Several meetings are planned.

Name of the picture: Rationale of the project consortium

Beneficiary		Country Role in the project	
Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia	Slovenia	Coordinating beneficiary	
Consorzio Parco Lombardo della Valle del Tichino	Italy	Associated beneficiary	



F1's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Progress report 2	11/2020
Progress report 1	11/2018
Mid-term report	11/2019
Final report	03/2022

F1's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
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F. Project management (obligatory)

ACTION F.2: Audit

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHAT: Financial audit of the project is obligated. In accordance with Article 31 of LIFE Common Provisions, for all project of which the amount of co-funds provided by the European Commission exceeds the amount of 300,000 EUR, must supplement the final financial report with a confirmation of the accuracy of the submitted data provided by an independent audit organization.

HOW: Before Mid-term report FRIS will select an independent financial auditor. Cost for auditor is placed in external assistance category. The auditor name and his acreditation numer will be transmited with mid-term report. The auditor will verify the final financial statement attached to the final report. The auditor will verify the compliance with the national legislation and accounting rules and certify that all costs incurred comply with the grant agreement.

The auditor will also check the sources of the project financing, and in particular that co-financing does not stem from other financial instruments of the European Union. The work performed by the auditor will be performed in accordance with, and in the format of, the Guidelines of the European Commission.

WHERE: The audit will take place on the headquarter premises of the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia. The entire project documentation will be checked. During the audit FRIS staff will be present (2 persons x 5 days).

WHEN: The audit will be performed in December 2021, while the audit report will be submitted together with the final report.

WHY: A financial audit performed by an independent financial auditor is obligatory and necessary in order to confirm the compliance of the final financial statements to the project LIFE.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

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Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

A detailed definition of tasks per person and number of work days are attached to the project (see attachment_Internal staff; sheet F2).

Cost for external assistance for audit was estimated based on previous LIFE projects (LIFE WET MAN and LIFE CON.FLU.PO).

For **internal staff**, the daily rate were calculated on the basis of LIFE guidelines and experience developed in Life WETMAN, for Slovenian side, and LIFE CON.FLU.PO, for Italian side. In this calculation also the systematisation of work places as well as the specific quotients of professional and technical staff were considered.

F2's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
Audit report	12/2021

F2's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name Deadline

F. Project management (obligatory)

ACTION F.3: LIFE after LIFE

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why):

WHY and WHAT: This action is necessary to assure long-term management of Lasca and its habitat.

In accordance with LIFE rules*an After-LIFE Conservation Plan will be prepared. LIFE examples of the plan, presented on the LIFE website*, will be considered.

*http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/toolkit/comtools/goodexamples/afterconsplans.htm

HOW and WHERE: The **After-LIFE Conservation plan** will be formulated in close cooperation with all partners of the project. Stakeholders will also be included in the process of forming the plan.

The plan will predict:

- Continuous maintenance of Lasca breeding in Slovenia as well as in Italy as a back-up for wild populations (continuation of action C1, C2),
- In year 2023 the Action plan guidelines for Lasca conservation with all modifications will be included in Fishery management plans (FMP) (continuation of action C5). FMP are obligatory documents to all institutions that are responsible for fish managements in Slovenia. FMP are prepared by FRIS and confirmed by Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food.
- Further repopulation of the Natura 2000 site in accordance with the Action plan for Lasca conservation and FMP (continuation of action C4),
- Further reductions of the Common nase from the Vipava river basin in accordance with the Action plan for Lasca conservation and FMP (continuing of action C3),
- Further obligations of partners and key stakeholders after the conclusion of the project.

In 5 years after the end of the project:

- -at least 10 articles in magazines in newspapers will be prepared.
- -project web site will be active

However, in accordance with the LIFE policy we will be available to all Institution interested in transferring good practices. In this context, after the project ends, we will visit Ente tutela Pesca Friuli venezia Giulia and University in trieste, the Institutes in Italy responsible for Isonzo (Soča) river fish management. There is Lasca highly threatened species. They are familiar with our project LIFE and its objectives because we had visited them during the project preparations. They expressed interest for close cooperation on problem saving Lasca species after breeding and reintroduction will be successfully done in Slovenia. FRIS will share information about the process of breeding Lasca and the possibility of reinforcement of Lasca populations in poor conservation status.

WHEN: The after-LIFE Conservation Plan will be formulated when the project is finished. The elaboration of the plan is not defined in the financial construction of the project.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

FRIS

IRSNC and PARCO will closely cooperate with FRIS.

PARCO will implement improved Lasca breeding technique. The bred Lasca will be released in the wild to reinforce declining wild populations.

Assumptions related to major costs of the action:

On the basis of the LIFE project guidelines, costs for this action are not eligible.

F3's PROJECT DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Deliverable name	Deadline
After-LIFE Conservation Plan	12/2021

F3's PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone name	Deadline
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DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS OF THE PROJECT

Name of the Deliverable	Number of the associated action	Deadline
Communication plan	A 5	30/04/2018
Corporate visual identity	A 5	30/04/2018
Project trade mark	A 5	30/04/2018
Feasibility guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin	A 3	01/10/2018
Progress report 1	F 1	30/11/2018
Mid-term report	F 1	30/11/2019
Progress report 2	F 1	30/11/2020
Feasibility study	C 4	31/10/2021
Final report on the Common nase reduction	С 3	31/10/2021
Layman's report	E 1	31/10/2021
Report on the socio-economic impacts	D 3	31/10/2021
Action Plan for Lasca conservation	A 4	30/11/2021
Report on the ecosystem function restoration	D 2	30/11/2021
Report on the project actions impact	D 1	30/11/2021
After-LIFE Conservation Plan	F 3	31/12/2021
Audit report	F 2	31/12/2021
Bulletin	E 3	31/12/2021
Final report on Lasca breeding progress	C 2	31/12/2021
Final report on project public awareness implementation	E 1	31/12/2021
Final report	F 1	31/03/2022

MILESTONES OF THE PROJECT

Name of the Milestone	Number of the associated action	Deadline
Completed tracking of best practices	C 2	31/03/2018
Established project team, defined project management rules and partner agreement document signed	A 1	31/03/2018
First set of public tenders performed (for external assistance selection)	A 1	31/03/2018
Set up notice boards	E 1	31/03/2018
Obtained building permit	A 2	31/05/2018
Active web site	E 1	30/06/2018
Promotional material (1500 brochures, 1000 T-shirt, 500 notepads)	E 1	31/07/2018
Concluded construction works (Slovenian fish farm modifications)	C 1	28/02/2019
Delivery of Italian Lasca specimens to Slovenian fish farm	C 2	31/03/2019
Visits of three LIFE project areas	E 2	31/12/2019
Completed contest for children	E 3	31/12/2021
Completed contest for local public awarenes	E 3	31/12/2021
Completed photo exhibitions (3)	E 3	31/12/2021
Participation on congresses for dissemination of the project results	E 2	31/12/2021

ACTIVITY REPORTS FORESEEN

Please indicate the deadlines for the following reports:

- Progress Reports n°1, n°2 etc. (if any; to ensure that the delay between consecutive reports does not exceed 18 months)
- Mid term report payment request (for project longer than 24 months or with Eu contibution of more than EUR300,000)
- Final Report with payment request (to be delivered within 3 months after the end of the project)

Type of report	Deadline
Progress report	30/11/2018
Midterm report	30/11/2019
Progress report	30/11/2020
Final report	31/03/2022

TIMETABLE

	Action	2017 2018					I Q			20:	10		2020			0 2021					2	202	2	
			20	1/	\dashv		2U.	ro I	\dashv	1	20.	19	\blacksquare		202	20	\dashv		7	<u> </u>	+	7	7	
Action numbe	Namo of the action	1	II	Ш	V	I	II	Ш	IV	I	II	Ш	IV	I	П	Ш	IV		II	III I	V	ľ	1 11	II IV
A. Pre	paratory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action	n pl	ans	5																				
A.1	Technical and administrative activities to support the start of the project			I																				
A.2	Preparatory plan for the fish farm modification			_ l																				
A.3	Feasibility guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin																							
A.4	Action Plan for Lasca conservation																							
A.5	Communication plan, corporate visual identity and project trade mark design			I																				
B. Pur	chase/lease of land and/or compensation payments for use rights		•		-	•				-		•	-			•	-							
C. Con	servation actions																							
C.1	Modification of the fish farm for Lasca breeding																							
C.2	Establishment of Lasca breeding in Slovenia																							
C.3	Reduction of Common nase population	П																					T	
C.4	Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226																							
C.5	Reduction of further non-indigenous species entry into an enviroment																							
D. Mor	nitoring of the impact of the project actions (obligatory)																							
D.1	Monitoring of the impact of the project actions																							
D.2	Assessment on the ecosystem function restoration																							
D.3	Assessment of the socio-economic impacts																						$oxed{\mathbb{I}}$	
E. Pub	lic awareness and dissemination of results (obligatory)			_						-														
E.1	Public awareness																							
E.2	Networking and project results dissemination																							
E.3	Working with stakeholders and intense local public awareness																							
F. Proj	ect management (obligatory)																							
F.1	Project management by FRIS																							
F.2	Audit				$oxed{\int}$																		floor	
F.3	LIFE after LIFE																			Ī				



LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644 FINANCIAL APPLICATION FORMS Part F – financial information

Budget breakdown cost categories	Total cost in €	Eligible Cost in €	% of total eligible costs
1. Personnel	834,358	834,358	37.52%
2. Travel and subsistence	95,000	95,000	4.27%
3. External assistance	513,680	513,680	23.10%
4. Durable goods			
Infrastructure	350,000	350,000	15.74%
Equipment	141,800	141,800	6.38%
Prototype	0	0	0.00%
5. Land	0	0	0.00%
6. Consumables	81,000	81,000	3.64%
7. Other costs	63,000	63,000	2.83%
8. Overheads	144,950	144,950	6.52%
Total	2,223,788	2,223,788	100.00%

Contribution breakdown	In €	% of total	% of total eligible costs
EU contribution requested	1,331,160	59.86%	59.86%
Coordinating Beneficiary's contribution	614,128	27.62%	
Associated Beneficiaries' contribution	60,000	2.70%	
Co-financers contribution	218,500	9.83%	
Total	2,223,788	100.00%	

Cost category in Euro										
Project action	Personnel (Days)	Travel	External assistance	Infrastructure	Equipment	Prototype	Land	Consumables	Other	Total
A1 Technical and administrative activities to support the start of the project	16,440 (110)	0	124,200	0	0	0	0	280	0	140,920
A2 Preparatory plan for the fish farm modification	5,928 (36)	0	26,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	31,928
A3 Feasibility guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin	21,120 (135)	0	24,000	0	16,300	0	0	1,400	5,000	67,820
A4 Action Plan for Lasca conservation	37,000 (240)	800	8,000	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	50,800
A5 Communication plan, corporate visual identity and project trade mark design	16,000 (105)	0	27,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	43,000
C1 Modification of the fish farm for Lasca breeding	10,120 (70)	0	0	350,000	10,200	0	0	280	0	370,600
C2 Establishment of Lasca breeding in Slovenia	102,900 (748)	22,900	25,000	0	21,230	0	0	44,800	24,250	241,080
C3 Reduction of Common nase population	116,448 (826)	0	120,000	0	84,020	0	0	12,400	10,750	343,618
C4 Lasca reintroduction in the Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226	51,416 (364)	7,500	0	0	5,650	0	0	5,800	4,000	74,366
C5 Reduction of further non- indigenous species entry into an enviroment	50,256 (349)	12,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63,056
D1 Monitoring of the impact of the project actions	37,848 (267)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,800	0	40,648
D2 Assessment on the ecosystem function restoration	89,760 (640)	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,400	0	98,160

LIFE16 NAT/SI/000644 - R2 - Costs per Action

D3 Assessment of the socio-economic	18,720	2,000	20,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	40,720
impacts	(120)		·							
E1 Public awareness	63,320	0	49,000	0	4,400	0	0	280	3,000	120,000
	(428)									
E2 Networking and project results dissemination	45,604	27,200	9,480	0	0	0	0	0	0	82,284
	(302)									
E3 Working with stakeholders and	61,510	0	43,000	0	0	0	0	560	3,000	108,070
intense local public awareness	(425)									
F1 Project management by FRIS	88,488	21,800	38,000	0	0	0	0	4,000	0	152,288
	(526)									
F2 Audit	1,480	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,000	9,480
	(10)									
Overheads										144,950
Total	834,358	95,000	513,680	350,000	141,800	0	0	81,000	63,000	2,223,788
Total	(5,701)									

Costs per Bene	Costs per Beneficiary												
Short name	Personnel (Days)	Travel	External assistance	Infrastructure	Equipment	Prototype	Land	Consumables	Other	Overheads	EU contrib.	Total eligible costs	% of total eligible costs
FRIS	776,328	78,900	373,200	350,000	123,800	0	0	57,000	48,000	126,000	1,161,160	1,933,228	86.93%
	(5,326)												
PARCO	58,030	16,100	140,480	0	18,000	0	0	24,000	15,000	18,950	170,000	290,560	13.07%
	(375)												
Total	834,358	95,000	513,680	350,000	141,800	0	0	81,000	63,000	144,950	1,331,160	2,223,788	100.00%
Total	(5,701)												
Share of total eligible costs	37.52%	4.27%	23.10%	15.74%	6.38%	0.00%	0.00%	3.64%	2.83%	6.52%	59.86%	100.00%	

Coordinating Beneficiary's contribution Country code Beneficiary short name Total costs of the Beneficiary's own Amount of EU											
oddiniy code	Deficitionary short name	actions in € (including overheads)	contribution in €	contribution requested in €							
SI	FRIS	1,933,228	614,128	1,161,160							

Associated Beneficiaries' contribution Country code Beneficiary short name Total costs of the Associated Amount of EU										
Country code	Country code Beneficiary short name		Associated beneficiary's own contribution in €	Amount of EU contribution requested in €						
IT	PARCO	290,560	60,000	170,000						
TOTAL Associated E	Beneficiaries	290,560	60,000	170,000						

TOTAL All Beneficiaries	2,223,788	674,128	1,331,160
101AL All Delicitoratios	=,==5,,00	0, 4,110	_,55_,_6

Co-financers contribution							
Co-financer's name	Amount of co- financing in €						
HT.d.d.	1,500						
MOP	217,000						
TOTAL	218,500						

			Calculation =>	Α	В	AxB
Beneficiary short name	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Daily rate (rounded to the nearest	Number of person-days	Direct personnel costs (€)
FRIS	A 1	Permanent staff or civil servant	Administrator / Responsible for project administration	128	40	5,120
FRIS	A 1		Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	40	6,720
FRIS	A 2		Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	21	3,528
FRIS	A 3		Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	60	10,080
FRIS	A 3	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	60	8,640
FRIS	A 4	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	40	5,760
FRIS	A 4	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	20	2,880
FRIS	A 4	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	80	13,440
FRIS	A 4		Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	80	11,520
FRIS	A 5	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	60	8,640
FRIS	A 5	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	20	3,360
FRIS	C 1	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	15	2,160
FRIS	C 1	Additional staff	Fish farmer / Responsible for Lasca breeding	136	40	5,440
FRIS	C 1	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	15	2,520
FRIS	C 2		Fishery expert / Communication with Angling Clubs	144	5	720
FRIS	C 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	5	720
FRIS	C 2	Additional staff	Fishery technician / Fieldwork	136	5	680
FRIS	C 2	civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	5	840
FRIS	C 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Administrator / Responsible for project administration	128	5	640
FRIS	C 2		Fish farmer / Responsible for Lasca breeding	136	592	80,512
FRIS	C 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	5	720

			Calculation =>	Α	В	AxB
Beneficiary short name	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Daily rate (rounded to the nearest	Number of person-days	Direct personnel costs (€)
FRIS	C 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	37	5,328
FRIS	C 3	Additional staff	Fishery technician / Fieldwork	136	208	28,288
FRIS	C 3	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	154	22,176
FRIS	C 3	Additional staff	Fish farmer / Responsible for Lasca breeding	136	104	14,144
FRIS	C 3	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	104	14,976
FRIS	C 3	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	256	36,864
FRIS	C 4	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	93	13,392
FRIS	C 4	Additional staff	Fishery technician / Fieldwork	136	78	10,608
FRIS	C 4	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	39	5,616
FRIS	C 4	Additional staff	Fish farmer / Responsible for Lasca breeding	136	39	5,304
FRIS	C 4	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	99	14,256
FRIS	C 5	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	221	31,824
FRIS	C 5	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Communication with Angling Clubs	144	128	18,432
FRIS	D 1		Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	75	10,800
FRIS	D 1	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	52	7,488
FRIS	D 1	Additional staff	Fishery technician / Fieldwork	136	50	6,800
FRIS	D 1	Additional staff	Fish farmer / Responsible for Lasca breeding	136	25	3,400
FRIS	D 1	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	65	9,360
FRIS	D 2	Additional staff	Fish farmer / Responsible for Lasca breeding	136	100	13,600
FRIS	D 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	30	4,320
FRIS	D 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	170	24,480
FRIS	D 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	140	20,160
FRIS	D 2	Additional staff	Fishery technician / Fieldwork	136	200	27,200

			Calculation =>	Α	В	AxB
Beneficiary short name	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Daily rate (rounded to the nearest	Number of person-days	Direct personnel costs (€)
FRIS	D 3	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	60	10,080
FRIS	D 3	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	60	8,640
FRIS	E 1	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	125	18,000
FRIS	E 1	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	60	10,080
FRIS	E 1	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	235	33,840
FRIS	E 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork	144	14	2,016
FRIS	E 2	Additional staff	Fishery technician / Fieldwork	136	14	1,904
FRIS	E 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	82	11,808
FRIS	E 2	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	72	10,368
FRIS	E 2	Additional staff	Fish farmer / Responsible for Lasca breeding	136	14	1,904
FRIS	E 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	82	13,776
FRIS	E 2	civil servant	Fishery expert / Communication with Angling Clubs	144	12	1,728
FRIS	E 3		Fishery expert / Communication with Angling Clubs	144	6	864
FRIS	E 3	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Project Promotion Leader	144	237	34,128
FRIS	E 3	Additional staff	Fishery expert / Fieldwork Leader	144	97	13,968
FRIS	F 1	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	466	78,288
FRIS	F 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Administrator / Responsible for project administration	128	5	
FRIS	F 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Fishery expert / Project Manager	168	5	
PARCO	A 1	civil servant	Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	10	
PARCO	A 1		Accountant/Responsible for the financial and administrative management	130	20	2,600

			Calculation =>	Α	В	AxB
Beneficiary short name	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Daily rate (rounded to the nearest	Number of person-days	Direct personnel costs (€)
PARCO	A 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	5	1,000
PARCO	A 2		Faunistic expert/Technician	140	10	1,400
PARCO	A 3		Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	5	1,000
PARCO	A 3		Faunistic expert/Technician	140	10	1,400
PARCO	A 4		Faunistic expert/Technician	140	10	1,400
PARCO	A 4	Permanent staff or civil servant	Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	10	2,000
PARCO	A 5		Expert of environmental education/Communication activities	150	20	3,000
PARCO	A 5		Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	5	1,000
PARCO	C 2		Faunistic expert/Technician	140	37	5,180
PARCO	C 2		Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	3	600
PARCO	C 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Ranger 2	140	3	420
PARCO	C 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Ranger 3	140	3	420
PARCO	C 2		Expert of environmental education/Communication activities	150	13	1,950
PARCO	C 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Ranger 1	140	27	3,780
PARCO	C 2	Permanent staff or	Accountant/Responsible for the financial and administrative management	130	3	390
PARCO	C 4	Permanent staff or civil servant	Ranger 1	140	8	1,120
PARCO	C 4		Faunistic expert/Technician	140	8	1,120
PARCO	E 1		Expert of enviromental education/Communication activities	150	4	600

			Calculation =>	Α	В	AxB
Beneficiary short name	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Daily rate (rounded to the nearest	Number of person-days	Direct personnel costs (€)
PARCO	E 1	Permanent staff or civil servant	Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	4	800
PARCO	E 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Expert of environmental education/Communication activities	150	6	900
PARCO	E 2	Permanent staff or civil servant	Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	6	1,200
PARCO	E 3	Permanent staff or civil servant	Ranger 2	140	15	2,100
PARCO	E 3	Permanent staff or civil servant	Expert of enviromental education/Communication activities	150	35	5,250
PARCO	E 3	Permanent staff or civil servant	Ranger 1	140	15	2,100
PARCO	E 3	Permanent staff or civil servant	Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	5	1,000
PARCO	E 3	Permanent staff or civil servant	Ranger 3	140	15	2,100
PARCO	F 1		Expert for faunistic management/Project Leader	200	30	6,000
PARCO	F 1	Permanent staff or civil servant	Faunistic expert/Technician	140	30	4,200
				TOTAL =>	5,701	834,358

Travel and subsistence costs

			Calculation =>	A	В	AXB
Beneficiary short name	Action	Destination	Explanations of assumptions	Travel and subsistence rate	Number of travels	Total travel and subsistence costs
FRIS	C 2	Inside EU	Travel costs and accomodation for initial fish farmer training in Italy (1 time x 1 person x 1 month)	6,000	1	6,000
FRIS	C 2	Inside EU	Travel costs and accomodation for tracking best practices (1 time x 8 persons x 5 days)	8,900	1	8,900
FRIS	C 4	National	Travel costs (special vehicle) for Lasca introduction (aproximately 39 times)	100	39	3,900
FRIS	C 5	National	Travel costs for visiting angling clubs (aproximately 128 times x 2 persons x 1 day)	100	128	12,800
FRIS	D 3	National	Travel costs for assesment of socio-economic project (aproximately 10 times) impact	200	10	2,000
FRIS	E 2	National	Travel costs for fish farmer participation at kick-off meeting and Final Congress (2 times \times 1 person \times 1 day)	200	2	400
FRIS	E 2	Inside EU	Travel costs and accomodation for networking (3 times x 8 persons x 4 days)	7,500	3	22,500
FRIS	E 2	National	Travel costs for congress participaton (at least 3 times)	200	3	600
FRIS	F 1	Inside EU	Travel costs and accomodation for participation in the kick-off meeting in Brussels (1 time x 2 persons x 2 days)	900	2	1,800
FRIS	F 1	National	Travel costs - visiting slovenian fish farm for management purposes (aproximately 30 times)	200	30	6,000
FRIS	F 1	Inside EU	Travel costs - visiting Italy for management purposes	700	20	14,000
PARCO	A 4	Inside EU	Travel costs (1 time x 2 persons x 2 days) - Scientists council participation	800	1	800
PARCO	C 2	Inside EU	Travel costs (1 time x 2 persons x 4 days) - Lasca stock delivery	1,200	1	1,200
PARCO	C 2	Inside EU	Accomodation (1 time x 2 persons x 3 days) - Lasca stock delivery	600	1	600
PARCO	C 2	Inside EU	Travel costs (1 time x 3 persons x 10 days) - Support to Lasca breeding establishment in Slovenia	2,300	1	2,300
PARCO	C 2	Inside EU	Accomodation (1 time x 3 persons x 13 days) - Support to Lasca breeding establishment in Slovenia	3,900	1	3,900

Travel and subsistence costs

			Calculation =>	Α	В	AXB
Beneficiary short name	Action	Destination	Explanations of assumptions	Travel and subsistence rate	Number of travels	Total travel and subsistence costs
PARCO	C 4	Inside EU	Accomodation (2 times x 2 persons x 3 days) - Lasca stock delivery	600	2	1,200
PARCO	C 4	Inside EU	Travel costs (2 times x 2 persons x 4 days) - Lasca stock delivery	1,200	2	2,400
PARCO	E 2	Inside EU	Travel costs (2 times \times 3 persons \times 3 days) - Participation on kick-off meeting and final congress	1,250	2	2,500
PARCO	E 2	Inside EU	Accomodation (2 times x 3 persons x 2 days) - Participation on kick-off meeting and final congress	600	2	1,200
					Total	95,000

External assistance costs

Beneficiary	Action			
short name	number	Procedure	Description	Costs (€)
FRIS	A 1	procedure	Financal manager - throughout the duration of the project (1800/month; 51 months)	91,800
FRIS	A 1	Low-cost public procurement procedure	Accountant - throughout the duration of the project (400 eur/month; 51 months)	20,400
FRIS	A 2		Design of architectural concept of the fish farm and documentation aquisition	18,000
FRIS	A 3	Internal simplified procedure	Genetic tests	18,000
FRIS	A 5	Internal simplified procedure	Design of the corporate visual identity and project quality mark design	12,000
FRIS	C 3	(4 year period)	Assistance in Common Nase reduction in area under the Angling club Soča Nova Gorica management	24,000
FRIS	C 3	(4 year period)	Assistance in Common Nase reduction in area under the Angling club Ajdovščina management	40,000
FRIS	C 3	(4 year period)	Assistance in Common Nase reduction in area under the Angling club Renče management	56,000
FRIS	D 3	Internal simplified procedure	Implementation of the socio-economic analyses	20,000
FRIS	E 1	Internal regestry procedure	Printing of 5 boards (150 cm x 100 cm) and 8 boards (70 cm x 50 cm)	4,000
FRIS	E 1	Internal regestry procedure	Brochures design and print (1500 pieces)	1,500
FRIS	E 1	Internal simplified procedure	Design and print of T-shirts (1000 pieces)	5,900
FRIS	E 1	Internal simplified procedure	Slovene-Italian translation of web site (throughout the duration of the project)	5,000
FRIS	E 1	Internal simplified procedure	Web site design and its maintenance	8,000
FRIS	E 1	Internal simplified procedure	Design and print of notepads (500 pieces)	6,100
FRIS	E 1	Internal simplified procedure	Print of the Layman's report (20000 copies)	7,000
FRIS	E 1		Design of notice boards and printing of 5 boards (150 cm x 100 cm) and 8 boards (70 cm x 50 cm)	6,500
FRIS	E 2	Internal simplified procedure	Final congress organization (screenplay, management, bags, folders,)	3,000
FRIS	E 2	Internal simplified procedure	Kick off meeting organization (screenplay, management, bags, folders,)	3,000
FRIS	E 3	Internal regestry procedure	Printing of pictures for photo exhibition	6,000
FRIS	E 3	Internal regestry procedure	Print of the Bulletin with promotional sign attached (20000 copies)	7,000
FRIS	E 3	Internal simplified procedure	Organization of trips (2) for winning classes	10,000
PARCO	A 1	Call for tenders	Tehnical and administrative support/ Assistance with project start up activities	12,000
PARCO	A 2	Call for tenders	Tehnical and administrative support/ Assistance to Parco in preparation of guidelines	3,000

External assistance costs

Beneficiary short name	Action number	Procedure	Description	Costs (€)
PARCO	A 2	Call for tenders	A biologist trained on fish management/ Assistance in preparation of guidelines for fish farm establishment	5,000
PARCO	A 3	Call for tenders	A biologist trained on fish management/Assistence in preparation of feasibily guidelines for Lasca reintroduction in Soča river basin	6,000
PARCO	A 4	Call for tenders	Tehnical and administrative support/Assistence in preparation of Action plan and participation in scientists council	4,000
PARCO	A 4	Call for tenders	A biologist trained on fish management/Assistence in preparation of Action plan	4,000
PARCO	A 5	Call for tenders	Communicator/Assistence in preparation of Communication plan	15,000
PARCO	C 2	Call for tenders	A biologist trained on fish management/ Providing Lasca stock and assistence in Lasca maintenance	25,000
PARCO	E 1	Call for tenders	Communicator/Assistence in public awareness activities	5,000
PARCO	E 2	Call for tenders	Tehnical and administrative support/Assistence in project results dissemination and networking	3,480
PARCO	E 3	Call for tenders	Communicator/Assistence in children awareness activities and photo exibition	20,000
PARCO	F 1	Call for tenders	Tehnical and administrative support/ Project management activities, preparation of reports	38,000
			TOTAL =>	513,680

Durable goods: Infrastructure costs

Beneficiary short name	Action numbe	Description	Actual cost (€)	Depreciation (eligible cost)
FRIS	C 1	Selection of the building company for the fish farm modification (the price includes all internal arrangements)	350,000	350,000
		TOTAL =>	350,000	350,000

Durable goods: equipment costs

Beneficiary short name	Action number	Procedure	Description	Actual cost (€)	Depreciation (eligible cost)
FRIS	A 3	Internal regestry procedure	Personal computer (Microsoft office) (3 pieces)	4,500	4,500
FRIS	A 3	Internal simplified procedure	Software ArcGIS (advanced level)	11,800	11,800
FRIS	C 1	Internal regestry procedure	Multimeter (instrument with oxigen, pH and conductivity probe (2 pieces) for Lasca breeding	4,600	4,600
FRIS	C 1	Internal simplified procedure	Temperature register with communication cable (16 pieces) for Lasca breeding	5,600	5,600
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Equipement for fish marking	650	650
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Waterproof camera with accessories for fish farmer	780	780
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Personal computer (Microsoft office) with temperature sensor	3,000	3,000
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Light for filminig broodstock in the hatchery	450	450
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Aquarium for plancton breeding (food for fry and juveniles) - 450 liters	850	850
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Printer	500	500
FRIS	C 3	Internal simplified procedure	Backpack electrofisher with dipnets (3 pieces) for fieldwork	13,500	13,500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Pulley for car/boat for fieldwork	1,500	1,500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Software (maps) for sonar for fieldwork	500	500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Boat electrofisher for fieldwork	9,000	9,000
FRIS	C 3	procedure	Four wheel off-road vehicle for fieldwork	40,000	40,000
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Personal computer with software (Microsoft office)	1,500	1,500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Boat with extra reinforcement for fieldwork	4,500	4,500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Multimeter with oxigen, pH and conductivity probe for fieldwork	2,300	2,300
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Boat trailer for fieldwork	2,500	2,500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Electrofishing boat frame assembly for fieldwork	2,500	2,500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Motor for boat for fieldwork	5,500	5,500
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	GPS device with Adrio-topographic map (2 pieces) for fieldwork	720	720
FRIS	C 4	Internal regestry procedure	Containers for fish transportation	4,000	4,000
FRIS	C 4	Internal regestry procedure	Cylinder of oxigen for fish transportation	1,000	1,000

Durable goods: equipment costs

Beneficiary short name	Action number	Procedure	Description	Actual cost (€)	Depreciation (eligible cost)
FRIS	C 4	Internal regestry procedure	Equipment for fish marking	650	650
FRIS	E 1	Internal regestry procedure	Camera with tripod for the public awarennes activities	1,400	1,400
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	Containers for fish transportation	4,000	4,000
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	Personal computer (Microsoft office) with temperature sensor for temperature control in containers	3,000	3,000
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	Fiberglass containers for Lasca	7,000	7,000
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	Cylinders of oxygen for Lasca transportation	1,000	1,000
PARCO	E 1	Direct order	Skeleton for notice boards (certified wood)	3,000	3,000
	•		TOTAL =>	141,800	141,800

Consumables

Beneficiary	Action			
short name	numbe	Procedure	Description	Costs (€)
FRIS	A 1	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	280
FRIS	A 3	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	1,400
FRIS	C 1	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	280
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Filling of cylinders with oxigen for fish transportation	2,000
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Fish markers	3,000
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Fish food (500 EUR/month) (from March 2019 to December 2021)	17,000
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	2,800
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	8,400
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Various small equipment for fieldwork (ethanol, scissors, tables, tweezers, dipnets, buckets)	4,000
FRIS	C 4	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	2,800
FRIS	C 4	Internal simplified procedure	Fish markers	3,000
FRIS	D 1	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	2,800
FRIS	D 2	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	8,400
FRIS	E 1	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	280
FRIS	E 3	Internal regestry procedure	Gassoline for fourwheel off-road vehicle - for fieldwork and other travels in the project that are not placed under travel costs category (4 year period)	560
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	Purchase of fish food for Lasca	10,000
PARCO	C 2	Tender with pre-selection	Gassoline for travels that are not placed under travel costs category	6,000
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	markers for Lasca	3,000
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	Filling of cylinders of oxigen for Lasca transportation	1,000
PARCO	F 1	Tender with pre-selection	Gassoline for travels that are not placed under travel costs category	4,000
			TOTAL =>	81,000

Other costs

Beneficiary	Action			
short name	numbe	Procedure	Description	Costs (€)
FRIS	A 3	direktno naročilo	Participation in the Scientific Council for Feasibility guidelines preparation - substitute for travel costs - an accommodation and daily allowance (for at least 5 persons/organization)	5,000
FRIS	A 4	direktno naročilo	Participation in the Scientific Council for Action Plan - substitute for travel costs - an accommodation and daily allowance (for at least 5 persons/organization)	5,000
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Costs for regular maintenance of fish farm (Lasca breeding) (2 years period)	8,000
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Fishing boots for fish farmer (1 piece)	300
FRIS	C 2	Internal regestry procedure	Fishing trousers for fish farmer (1 piece)	950
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Fishing trousers for stuff employed on the project (7 pieces)	6,650
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Boat registration and insurance (for 4 years)	2,000
FRIS	C 3	Internal regestry procedure	Fishing boots for stuff employed on the project (7 pieces)	2,100
FRIS	C 4	Internal regestry procedure	Fourwheel off-road vehicle (Hilux) registration and insurance (for 4 years)	4,000
FRIS	E 1	Internal regestry procedure	Delivery of the Layman's report to households (20.000 copies) of Vipava Valley and Goriška Brda region (7 Municipalities)	3,000
FRIS	E 3	Internal regestry procedure	Delivery of the Bulletin to households (20.000 copies) of Vipava Valley and Goriška Brda region (7 Municipalities)	3,000
FRIS	F 2	Internal simplified procedure	Audit of the project	8,000
PARCO	C 2	Direct order	Costs for regular maintenance of fish farm	15,000
			TOTAL =>	63,000

Overheads

Beneficiary short name	Total direct costs of the project in €	Overhead amount (€)
PARCO	271,610	18,950
FRIS	1,807,228	126,000
	2,078,838	144,950

Proposal attachments								
Included								
Attachment title	Attachment type	Yes	No					
Declaration of support (Kobarid Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Soča Angling Club)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Brda Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Ajdovščina Angling Club)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (University of Parma)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Ajdovščina Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Miren-Kostanjevica Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Vipava Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Renče Angling Club)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Nova Gorica Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Šempeter - Vrtojba Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Declaration of support (Renče - Vogrsko Municipality)	declaration of support (other than form A8)							
Map of the project area (Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226) and action involved	map of the project area (other than overview map)							
Public body declaration	public body declaration							
The re-introduction criteria_B2a	other document							
Standard data form (Natura 2000 site Dolina Vipave SI3000226)	other document							
Agreement between PARCO and FRIS (Fish donor - Maneger of the introduction area)	other document							
Internal staff finances	other document							
Concrete conservation action - total project budget	other document							
Project performance indicators	project performance indicators							