

# LIFE FOR INSECTS



*LIFE for Insects*

## WITHOUT INSECTS IT DOES NOT WORK

Pollinating plants, improving soil quality, contributing to the decomposition of dead organisms or being the source of food for other animals – these are just some of the important insect roles in nature.

Currently, however, insects are drastically decreasing in number. The reason is mainly the disappearance or decline of a varied mosaic of different types of environment. That is why we have prepared the project **LIFE for Insects**.



## WHAT THE PROJECT DEALS WITH

By restoring coppices and open canopy forests, mosaic management of wet meadows and extensive grazing of pastures, we want to contribute to preserving a varied pattern of environments in the landscape.

In doing so, we will ensure the spread of many declining and rare species of insects, such as the stag beetle, clouded Apollo, large blue, dusky large blue, scarce large blue, Danube clouded yellow, and Jersey tiger. The project takes place in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

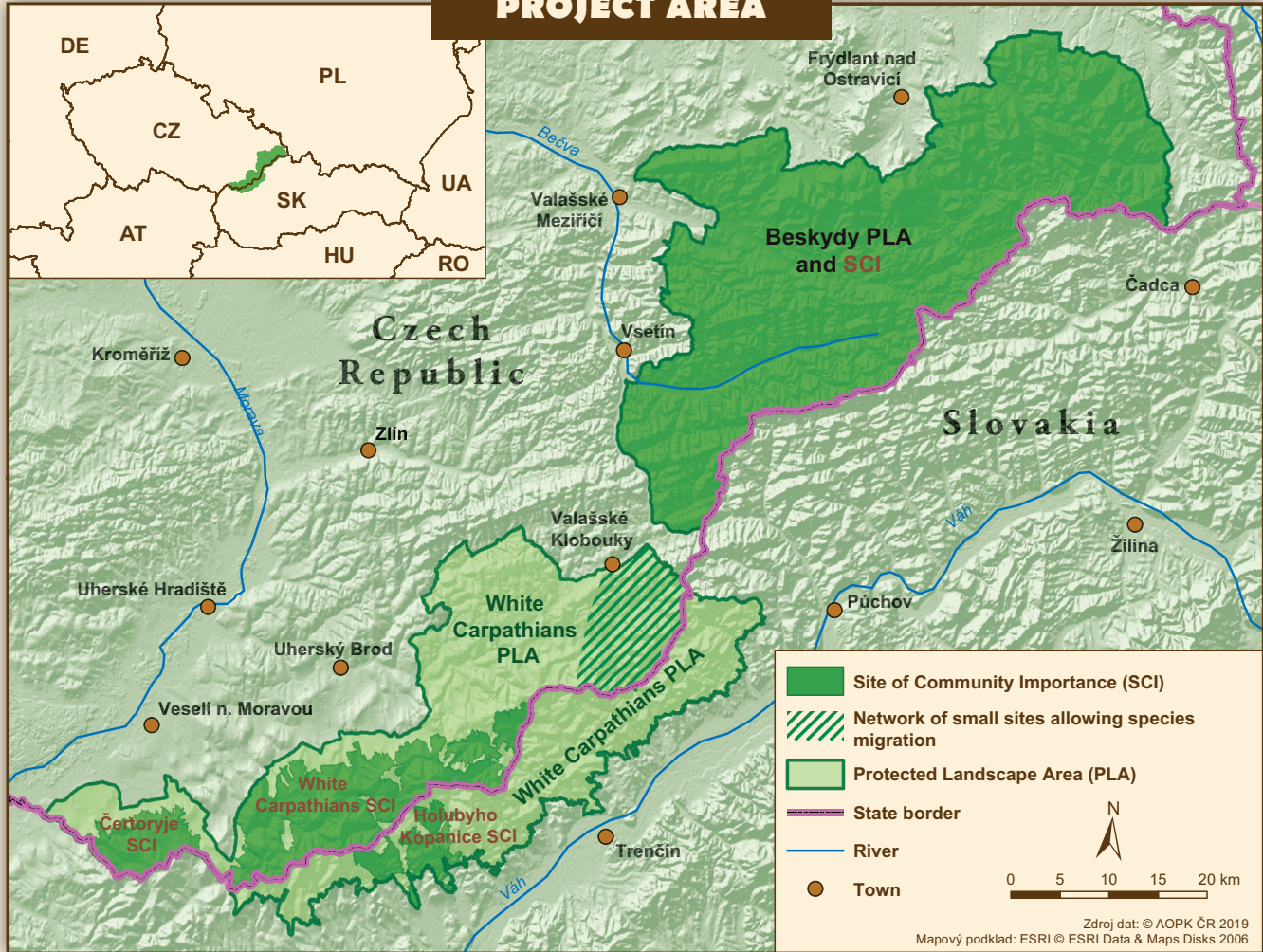


## NATURA 2000

The mentioned rare species are prominent not only in the Czech Republic or Slovakia, but throughout Europe. Their habitats are protected as Sites of Community Importance (SCI), which together with Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are part of the European Union's protected area network called Natura 2000.



# PROJECT AREA





clouded Apollo

stag beetle

Pruning and thinning of forests and restoring coppice forests benefit the **clouded Apollo** as well as the **stag beetle**. The caterpillars of the clouded Apollo need **woodland with enough light** for their development, and abundance of fumeworts – plants they feed on. In coppices, **stumps with deadwood** often appear, in which larvae of the stag beetle develop.





**Less intensive grazing by farm animals on dry slopes** creates suitable conditions for the **large blue**, which requires lower sparse vegetation and wild thymes as nutrient plants for their caterpillars. The occurrence of ants of the genus *Myrmica* is also essential. In their anthills, the caterpillars of the large blue complete their development.

The **dusky large blue** and the **scarce large blue** also depend on ants of the genus *Myrmica*. Their caterpillars require the great burnet as a nutrient plant, which grows on **wet meadows**.



dusky large blue

scarce large blue

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

- We monitor how the populations of the target insect species develop in the project area.
- We negotiate with the landowners of the key sites and various organizations on the restoration of habitats for the target insect species.
- We want to restore these habitats to a total area of **510 ha of project sites** (280 ha in the Czech Republic and 230 ha in Slovakia):
  - Cutting bushes and self-seeding plants.
  - Grazing and mowing.
  - Sowing nutrient plants.
  - Conversion of intensive farming to extensive farming.
- We are looking into the additional benefits (ecosystem services) of the restored habitats. We are also exploring the social and economic impacts of the project on the inhabitants in the project areas.
- We organize awareness-raising events, festivals, children's camps, educational programmes for schools, and public excursions, where we present the target species and their environment, and inform about the project.





LIFE for Insects

## »LIFE FOR INSECTS« project

Conservation of Selected  
Natura 2000 Insect Species in  
Transboundary Area (CZ-SK)  
of Western Carpathian Mts.

### IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:

1 July 2017 – 31 December 2022

### BUDGET:

€ 4,222,005 (60% EU)

Please refer to these links for more  
information:

[www.lifeforinsects.cz](http://www.lifeforinsects.cz)  
[ec.europa.eu/easme/en/life/](http://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/life/)  
[ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/  
natura2000/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm)



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infinity-progress z.s.

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Ministry of the Environment  
of the Czech Republic

These entities are  
not responsible for  
the content of this  
brochure, which  
is the expression  
of the project  
implementers.



## OVERVIEW OF SPECIES

<i>Lucanus cervus</i>	stag beetle
<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>	clouded Apollo
<i>Maculinea arion</i>	large blue
<i>Maculinea nausithous</i>	dusky large blue
<i>Maculinea teleius</i>	scarce large blue
<i>Colias myrmidone</i>	Danube clouded yellow
<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>	Jersey tiger
<i>Corydalis sp.</i>	fumewort
<i>Thymus sp.</i>	thyme
<i>Myrmica sp.</i>	Myrmica ants
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	great burnet

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