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PP09 Nature Park Medvednica, Croatia

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Medvednica Nature Park is located near the City of Zagreb

More than 1,2 million inhabitants live in the Park’s surrounding

The main features of the Park:
- preserved natural forests with rich forest and geological diversity
- 8 special forest reserves
- a part of ecological network, Medvednica HR2000583
- 70 streams and more than 200 springs
- Veternica cave, old medieval castle Medvedgrad, Zrinski mine
- traditional cultural values

Threats:
- overload of visitors and vehicles, heavy traffic and not enough parking space, sometimes block the main road and causes ecological and safety problems, negative impact on visitors' experience of the Park
PILOT ACTION

1. **Electronic car counters and video cameras**
   - installed 2 car counters and 3 cameras

2. **In-depth survey on the visitors’ structure, habits and views**
   - conducted on a sample of 406 respondents among visitors

3. **Monitoring of visitation impacts on nature and environment**
   - conducted to define the initial state of the area in the Park “peak zone”
   - environment indicators
   - nature indicators

4. **Medvednica open day**
   - promoted sustainable accessibility, with the theme of accessibility and inclusion of all visitors
OUTPUT AND FUTURE

OUTPUT:

• **car counters** provided quantitative data about visitors while the **cameras** ensured constant surveillance of the Park parking areas

• **survey** provided quantitative data about visitors, insight into visitors' structure, habits and views, also provided possible solutions to the traffic problems in the Park

• **monitoring of visitation impacts on nature and environment provided** important information about the initial state of the area and indicated certain impacts of visitation on Park natural resources

FUTURE:

• **reduction of visitors' pressure** in the Park

• **contribution to nature conservation** by developing a monitoring scheme for the environment, nature and visitors flow

• **improvement of knowledge and awareness about nature conservation** - for tourists and stakeholders