## PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE THE AREA OF

#### CRNA MLAKA

#### INTO THE LIST OF MARSHLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Key to the marshland habitat types:

17 - fresh-water fish-ponds

21 - forests

### 2. SELECTION CRITERIA 2.1. Quantitative Criteria

- 2.1.1. A y t h y a n y r o c a during the migration and wintering periods on fish-ponds regularly dwell 3-5 000 specimens (the criterion, after Scott, is 750 specimens)
- During migration and wintering periods on fish-ponds regularly dwell more than 10 000 ducks (mostly Anas platyrhynchos)
- 2.1.3. It is assessed that 20-30 specimens of otter live within the area of fish-ponds. Also, a number of endangered bird species nests here:

World Red Book
Species endangered in Europe
(according to the ICBP List)

Haliaeetus albicilla - 1-2 pairs
 Botaurus stellaris - a number of pairs
 Ixobrychus minutus - a common nesting bird

Ciconia nigra - 2 pairs Aythya nyroca - 60-80 pairs Pernis apivorus - 1-2 pairs Milvus migraus - 1-2 pairs Aquila pomarina - 1-2 pairs

2.1.4. ./.

# 2.2. Other Criteria

- 2.2.1. Ecological Value
- 2.2.1. 1. This ecosystem does not present a rarity, considering the existence of quite a number of fresh-water fish-ponds in the lowlands part of Croatia. The adjacent inundation common oak forests are a rarity on the European scale.
- 2.2.1.2. In 1984 within the Crna Mlaka area were observed 350 species of higher plants, including representatives of marshland, forest, meadow and weed vegetation. In the investigated animal groups were recorded 232 bird species and 28 species of mammals.
- 2.2.1.3. Fish-ponds are of anthropogeneous origin, while the adjacent forests are autochthonous and are being managed in accodance with the economic plans and on the basis of the Law on Forests.

## 2.2.2. Scientific Value

Regarding the published scientific papers, the scientific value is significant. So far, 5 degree essays have taken the Crna Mlaka flora and fauna for their subject, while quite a number of specialized and popular articles has been published, as well as a scientific study on tourist evaluation of this ornithological reserve. Considering the fact that it is situated in the close vicinity of Zagreb, we envisage an increase of the area's educational and scientific significance.

# 2.2.3. Economic Importance

Fish rearing in fish-ponds, forestry - exploitation of neighbouring forests, tourism (in its beginnings), especiall the bird-watching tourism.

# 2.2.4. Recreational Importance

Presently, angling and bird-watching

#### Literature:

- Ern, H. (1987): Biological Investigations in the Pokupsko Basin (presented at the 3rd Congress of Biologists of Croatia with international attendance - 5th-10th October 1987)
- Fištrović, J. (1986): Flora i fauna Crne Mlake (in the paper: "Turistička vaiorizacija ornitološkog rezervata Crna Mlaka". Institut za turizam, Zagreb, 1986)
- 3. Gjetvaj, B. (1987): Important Bird Areas in Europe Site Data Sheet (ICBP)