

CHANGES IN THE ECOLOGICAL STATUS OF THE BÖDDI-SZÉK SODA PAN IN A DECADE

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The monitoring of the natural habitats is essential to maintain favourable ecological conditions of protected areas as well as for the planning of nature conservation management and development. In 2021, our research repeated a survey implemented a decade earlier, aimed at assessing the ecological conditions of alkaline soda waters in the Carpathian Basin. Continuing the original examination of 8 limnological and 4 biological characteristic factors offers the opportunity to monitor changes in the basic ecological state of soda pans. Our present work analyzes data from 2010 and 2021 collected from the Böddi-szék soda pan in Dunatetőtlen. The indices used for the evaluation show that the condition of the soda pan has improved slightly due to the reduction of arable land and the increase of grassland areas in the catchment area, as well as the increase in the number of characteristic bird species nesting in the area thanks to the appropriate grazing of the shoreline. In addition, the previously detected water pollution from scattered waste has ceased. Although the proportion of reed areas decreased slightly, the proportion of areas covered with *Bolboschoenus maritimus* increased in parallel. Significant change in the proportion of habitats in the soda pan bed has not been observed. Reallocation of a canal by-passing the pan that is planned within the ongoing Böddi LIFE project can have additional positive effects on the ecological state of the alkaline soda ecosystem.