

VPLYV HYDROMORFOLÓGIE TOKU HRONA NA POPULÁCIU RYBÁRIKA RIEČNEHO *ALCEDO ATTHIS* *ISPIDA* (CORACIIFORMES: ALCEDINIDAE)

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ABSTRACT:

Ambruš B. & Bulánková E. **Influence of the hydromorphology of the Hron River on the Common kingfisher *Alcedo atthis ispida* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Coraciiformes: Alcedinidae)**

In 2003–2004 we observed occurrence of the kingfisher from the source to the mouth of the River Hron. Kingfisher occurred in the middle (hyporhithral) and down part (epipotamal) of the Hron River. In both years there were 2–4 individuals at each locality from February to December. We observed abundance and topic requirements within 500 m length of the river channel and 50 m of banktop width. In this stretch we evaluated the influence of the river hydromorphology on the kingfisher population according to River Habitat Survey method. PCA confirmed suitable conditions for nesting and hunting strategy firstly of all in the lowland part of the Hron River, where the banks were made of gravel – sand material, bank profiles were steep or vertical undercut, the vegetation of the banks was uniform or simple. The water was still near the bank of the river and there were many deep pools and marginal dead water. Broadleaf woodland with overhanging boughs grows along the banks continuously or semi-continuously. Human impact (traffic) was also observed. Hron River, as a one of the non-restricted lowland rivers, can serve as a gene pool reserve of kingfisher in Slovakia.

Key words: kingfisher, River Habitat Survey, Hron River, Slovakia