

NEW BREEDING SITE OF THE SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna* IN CROATIA

Novo gnjezdilište utve Tadorna tadorna u Hrvatskoj

LOUIE THOMAS TAYLOR

Ulica Vladimira Gortana 27, HR-52210 Rovinj, CROATIA

Shelducks *Tadorna tadorna* breed in areas with salt or brackish water, usually near the seacoast, shallow lakes or in estuaries. Their breeding season lasts from May until August (KRALJ *et al.* 2013).

Shelducks are scarce breeders in Croatia. They were first recorded breeding in Croatia in 2016 on the saltworks on the island of Pag (STUMBERGER 2016). Another breeding location are the saltworks near the town of Nin with at least one breeding pair (S. Hodić, pers. com).

During research in the Palud Ornithological Reserve on the 26 May 2019, a pair of Shelducks were seen on the water with seven fledglings trailing behind them. The birds remained at the reserve until the beginning of July when the fledglings were able to fly. They left the reserve shortly afterwards.

Palud is located on the western coast of Istria, around 10 km south of the town of Rovinj. It is a natural swamp connected to the sea via a canal. This is the first recorded breeding site in the Istria county (LUKAČ & STELKO 2016).

References

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- LUKAČ, G., STELKO, R. (2016): Atlas Ptica Istre. Javna ustanova Natura Histrica, Pula.
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SAŽETAK

Tijekom istraživanja u ornitološkom rezervatu Palud 2019. godine zabilježeno je gniježđenje utve *Tadorna tadorna*. Zabilježen je jedan par sa sedam mladunaca. To je prvo zabilježeno gniježđenje utve u Istarskoj županiji te treće gniježđenje za Hrvatsku. Ostala mjesta gniježđenja su na solanama na otoku Pagu i u Ninu.

e-mail: ltaylor@stud.biol.pmf.hr