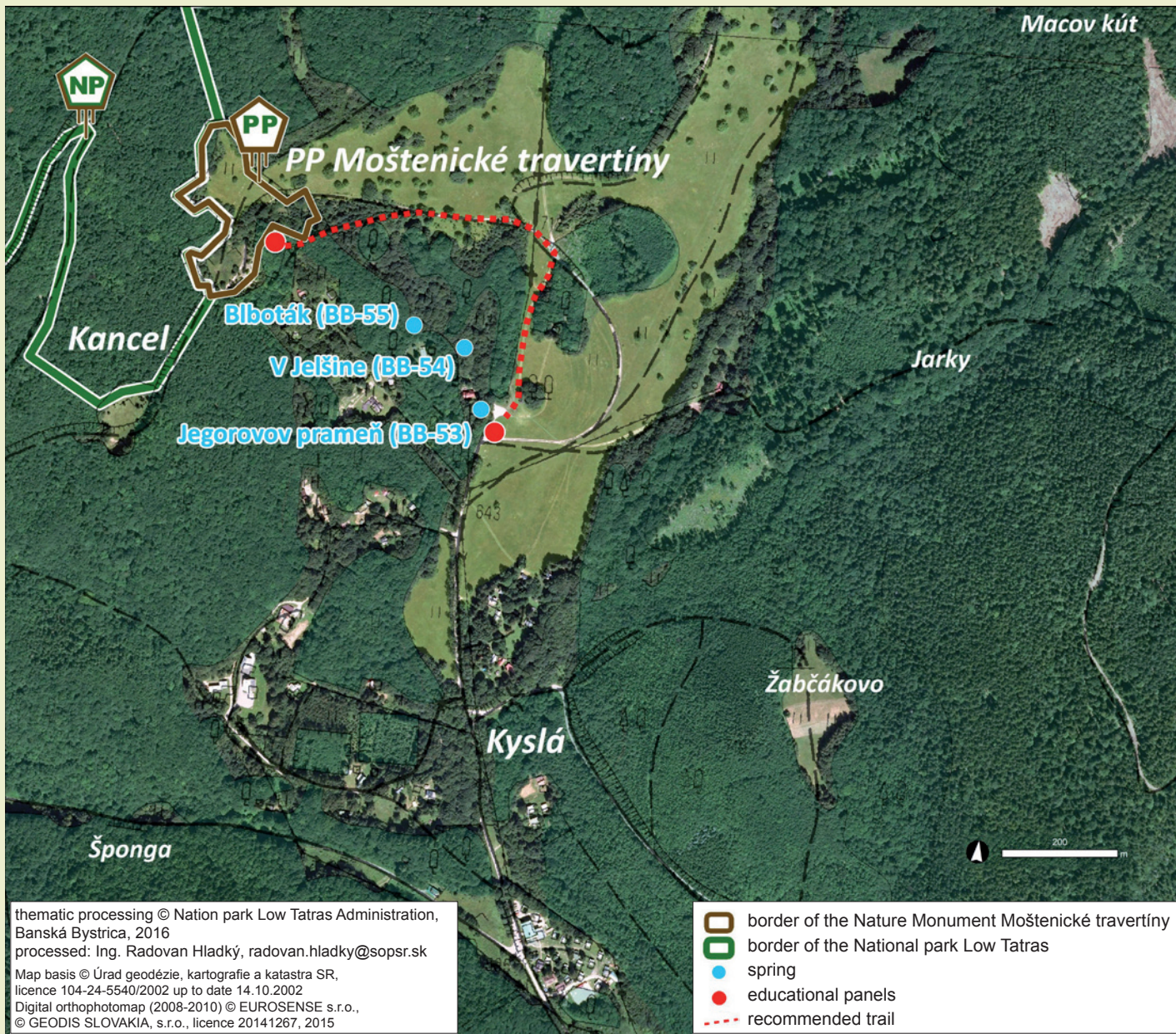


Nature Monument

MOŠTENICKÉ TRAVERTÍNY



The management of Nature Monument Moštenické travertíny was financially supported by Stredoslovenská vodárenská prevádzková spoločnosť, a.s. within the implementation of projects aimed at biodiversity protection.

Through respecting the Visiting Rules you will contribute to protection of the natural values of the National Park Low Tatras and its protective zone and you will avoid possible financial persecution. Thank You, that You the nature of the Low Tatras protect.

www.napant.sk

photo: D.Domčeková, P.Mathé, M.Jasík, S.Harvančík
realization: ZO SZOPK „Nízke Tatry“ © 2016



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Nature Monument MOŠTENICKÉ TRAVERTÍNY

Nature Monument MOŠTENICKÉ TRAVERTÍNY is located in the enclosure of the Uhliarsky potok valley in the Národný park Nízke Tatry national park buffer zone. It was designated in 1981 and covers the area of 1,7054ha.



A view of travertine terrace

The subject of protection is a massive and still active travertine terrace with five water exurgences. Mighty travertine terraces document the development of nature in post-tertiary period and represent one of the highest-placed repository of freshwater limestone in Slovakia.

Holocene – postglacial period which lasts until today. It includes the period of the past 11600 – 11800 years.

Travertine has been and still is being formed by the running surface waters. The whole travertine complex lies at an altitude of 650 to 800 meters and represents a massive 500m long cascade made of six terraces. The most visible is the top terrace. Lower terraces bear the cottages or are covered by vegetation. Travertine thickness is mostly 3 to 8 meters; at places it reaches up to 20 meters. The width of the terraces is 15-100 meters.

How is the travertine formed?

Travertine is a kind of a limestone, which is formed by precipitation of waters rich in calcium carbonate (CaCO_3). Algae, moss or plants use the carbon oxide and thus speed up the process of

precipitation, contribute substantially towards travertine formation. Travertine heaps are then formed around the springs and travertine terraces in the valleys.

Travertine – the term comes from an Italian word “travertino”, which means limestone.



Natural water diffuence along the terrace

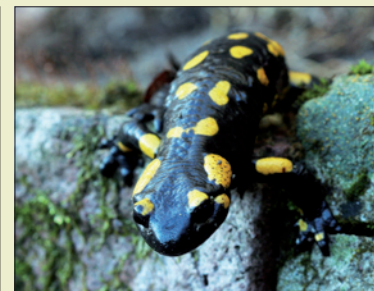
How to help?

To safeguard the exclusion of threatening activities. To regularly mow the travertine heap and surrounding meadows. To prevent forest succession and formation of continuous forest cover on flat surface of the terrace.

In return, a view of beautiful travertine terraces and rich meadows with many protected species such as orange lily (*Lilium bulbiferum*), early-purple orchid (*Orchis mascula*) or lesser-butterfly orchid (*Platanthera bifolia*) will be a reward.



spotted nutcracker



salamander

What threatens the travertine?

To ensure the formation and maintenance of the travertine it is important to maintain the so called “water diffuence”. Travertine extraction, soil shifting, construction works, use of mineral and organic fertilisers, tree planting or any other activity interfering with the water regime is undesired. Animal grazing, camping, area pollution and parking outside of dedicated car parks are unsuitable activities. Travertine is also damaged by direct trampling while walking on the terrace.



Nature Monument Moštenické travertíny

Please do not:

- drive the car outside the road
- park on the meadow
- pollute the area with litter
- walk over the travertine

early-purple orchid

orange lily

