

Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats



Standing Committee

Recommendation No. 60 (1997) on the implementation of the action plans for globally threatened birds in Europe

(Adopted by the Standing Committee on 5 December 1997)

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention,

Recalling its Recommendation No. 48 (1996) on the conservation of globally threatened birds in Europe;

Recommends that Contracting Parties and invites observer states as appropriate urgently to:

General

1. include key sites for the relevant species in their national networks of protected areas; consider (if appropriate) designating appropriate key sites in the European networks of Areas of Special Conservation Interest (Bern Convention Emerald Network) and / or Special Areas of Protection (Natura 2000 Network), and, where relevant, to other international networks, such as the conservation and protected areas network of the Arctic (CPAN) and those under the Ramsar and Barcelona Conventions;
2. promote collaboration with the relevant Non Governmental Organisations and scientific institutions in the implementation of the 23 Action Plans mention in Recommendation No. 48 of the Standing Committee, so as to be able to mobilise all possible available knowledge and energies;
3. promote appropriate agricultural practices in areas supporting internationally numbers of globally threatened species (Red-breasted Goose, Corncrake, Great Bustard, Aquatic Warbler) in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe;
4. enforce existing hunting and conservation regulations so as to stop mortality caused by the use of poison baits and illegal shooting (measures may include the increase of forestry wardens, the strict implementation of legal sanctions for offenders and the setting up of awareness programmes for hunters, farmers and forestry wardens);

Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*)

Albania

5. carry out the appropriate management for the newly designated Strict Nature Reserve of Velipoja-Buna river outlet);

Albania

6. improve the conditions for the successful breeding of the species around the Shkodra's lake protecting, by the most appropriate way potential breeding sites;

Greece

7. monitor water level fluctuation in Lake Kerkini in order to ensure appropriate water levels during the period March-August (a maximum water level of not more than 35 m a.s.l. was suggested in the relevant Action Plan);

Turkey

8. protect by the most appropriate way the Lake Uluabat Güllük Delta and Milas Tuzla area;

Dalmatian Pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*)

Albania

9. continue wardening the colony at Karavasta Lagoon between February and late July every year;

Bulgaria

10. build an artificial island in order to provide nesting sites at Srebarna Lake;

Greece

11. monitor water level fluctuation in Lake Kerkini in order to ensure appropriate water levels during the period March-August (a maximum water level of not more than 35 m a.s.l. was suggested in the relevant Action Plan);

Turkey

12. consider extending the Ramsar boundaries of the Manyas Lake to include the whole areas of the lake, so as to prevent the pollution coming through the Sigirci stream;

Lesser white-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*)

Relevant Parties

13. prevent from human disturbance, in particular from accidental shooting of birds and disturbance associated with hunting activities, key staging and wintering areas (eg in the Turgai Depression - Kazakhstan, Kyzyl-Agach-Azerbaijan, Galenbecker See and buffer zone -Germany);

Red-breasted Goose (*Branta ruficollis*)

Bulgaria

14. provide evening and morning wardening during the hunting season at Shabla and Durankulak;

Marbled Teal (*Marmaronetta angustirostris*)

Spain

15. continue present policy banning hunting at El Hondo, key breeding and wintering site for the species;

Turkey

16. consider declaring Akyatan Lagoon and Tuzla Lake as Ramsar sites;

White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*)

Bulgaria

17. protect by the most appropriate means the Uzungeren Bay;

Greece

18. maintain the ecological characteristics of Lake Vistonis, including marshes in the southeast part;

Turkey

19. extend the Ramsar boundaries of the Burdur Lake to include the whole wetland area, so as to prevent pollution and secure the sustainability of the natural ecosystem of the lake;

Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*)

Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovakia

20. ensure the reduction of mortality from electrocution by power lines through modification/neutralisation of existing dangerous pylons in key areas; prevent further problems through amendments of existing legislation/standards on new pylons' design and avoid constructing power lines at most sensitive breeding and dispersion areas;

Bulgaria

21. provide wardening of the nests at Sredna Gora, Eastern Rhodopi, Sakar and Strandzha;

Spanish Imperial Eagle (*Aquila adalberti*)

Spain

22. ensure the reduction of mortality from electrocution by power lines through modification/neutralisation of existing dangerous pylons in key areas; prevent further problems through amendments of existing legislation/standards on new pylons' design and avoid constructing new power lines at most sensitive breeding and dispersion areas;

Lesser Kestrel (*Falco naumanni*)

Greece

23. consider launching appropriate programmes on agricultural areas that may improve the habitat of the species in Greece;

Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Russia and Ukraine

24. undertake appropriate actions to identify the last remaining breeding sites;

Corncrake (*Crex crex*)

Poland

25. develop and implement a management plan for the former Kombinat Wizna aimed at the long term protection of the species;

Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*)

Russia

26. ensure the conservation of the ecological characteristics and value of the natural reserve of Stepnoj Saratoarskiy, preventing degradation from oil extraction activities;

Spain

27. protect by the most appropriate way key grassland areas and pseudosteppes, specially La Serena, Monegros and Bardenas Reales;

28. search an alternative settlement of the proposed golf course outside the Villafáfila Great Bustard reserve;

Turkey

29. take every appropriate measure to protect the species population in Altuntas Plain;

Ukraine

30. protect by the most appropriate way key areas for the species in the Kerch Peninsula;

Aquatic Warbler (Acrocephalus paludicola)

Ukraine, Belarus

31. protect by the most appropriate way key areas for the species in Pripyat marshes;

Ukraine

32. assess the conservation of the species in this state;

Houbara Bustard (Chlamydotis undulata fuertaventurae)

Spain

33. adopt and implement a formal recovery plan, as required by Spanish Conservation law for endangered species, taking into account, in particular, the Action Plan for Globally Threatened Birds in Europe;

34. protect, by the most appropriate means, key areas for the species, in particular Lajares and Esquinzo in the Island of Fuerteventura and Soo and Playa Quemada in the Island of Lanzarote;

Canarian Laurel Pigeons (Columba bollii, Columba junoniae)

Spain

35. draft and implement appropriate plans on both species, as required by the National and Regional conservation laws;

36. implement a programme of alternatives to present commercial forestry practices (applying, for instance the results of the relevant study financed by a LIFE grant);

37. reinforce existing controls on illegal shooting;

Blue Chaffinch (Fringilla teydea)

Spain

38. draft and implement the appropriate plan on the species, as required by National and Regional conservation laws;

39. propose reafforestation with Canarian pine, so as to enlarge as far as feasible the very scarce habitat of the species;

40. consider carrying out a captive breeding programme;

Furthermore invites other conventions and governmental international organisations with responsibility for species conservation in Europe (Ramsar Convention, Barcelona Convention, Bonn Convention and its AEWA agreement, Bucarest Convention, Community European, IUCN, etc.) to collaborate with the Standing Committee and the concerned states, as appropriate, in the promotion, review and implementation of the Action Plans.