



FORMAT FOR REPORTS

OF THE PARTIES

**AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY
WATERBIRDS (The Hague, 1995)**

Implementation during the period 2005 and 2007

Contracting Party: Czech Republic

Designated AEWA Administrative Authority: Ministry of Environment

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1. Overview of Action Plan implementation

1.1 Summary of progress to date

The Czech Republic became a new contracting party of the AEWA in September 2006. A NFP at the Ministry of the Environment together with an expert on ornithology from the Agency of Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection were designated and a team of other collaborators has been established. Cooperation with NFPs of the other conventions in nature protection started. Working group for the implementation of the CMS agreements was established and meetings of the bodies responsible for CMS agreements in the Czech Republic (CMS, AEWA, EUROBATS, MoU on Great Bustard) were organised at the Ministry of the Environment at the end of the year 2006 and 2007. The aim of the meetings was exchange experience, evaluation of activities completed last year and a preparation new activities which will be implemented next year. The publication " Result of long-term monitoring of waterbirds at southern Moravia and southern Bohemia" was prepared by team of experts and will be printed in August 2008.

1.2 Outline of planned actions for national implementation over the next three years

Planned actions over the next three years are:

Implementation of the AEWA in general

Implementation of the new Strategic plan of the AEWA

Development of the cooperation with other Ministries mainly Ministry of Agriculture

Preparation and organisation of the training seminars concerning waterbirds, their conservation and management

Realisation AEWA relevant studies at national level

1.3 Outline of priorities for international co-operation over the next three years

To develop international cooperation within the framework of relevant international conventions and organisations.

Participate in AEWA project(s)

Look for financial support of AEWA projects

2. Species conservation

Legal measures

2.1 Has a national policy/strategy or legislation to protect and conserve species covered by the Agreement (Table 1: column A; column B) and their supporting important areas been developed? If so:

a. What are the main features of the policy/legislation?

The protection of species covered by the Agreement is provided by the Nature and Landscape Conservation Act (No. 114/1992) and also by the Hunting Act (No. 449/2001). Most of the species are fully protected including their habitats. The exceptions are Geese (*Anser* sp.), which are traditionally hunted on a sustainable basis (see point 4.1.). Sites important for the species are protected as reserves (National Nature Reserves or Nature Reserves) with restricted or prohibited hunting. Eleven most important sites for waterbirds were designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) according to the EEC Bird Directive in 2004.

b. Which organisations are responsible for implementation?

Ministry of Environment, Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection, regional authorities (i.e. "County Councils").

c. How does it relate to other national initiatives (e.g. national Biodiversity Action Plans)?

The above mentioned acts are linked to "The State Programme of Nature and Landscape Conservation" (1998) and "The State Environmental Policy of the Czech Republic" (2004). Protection of wetlands and also rehabilitation and restoration of wetlands are important principles of both of these strategies.

2.2 What legal measures or practices has your country developed to prohibit or regulate for the following (refer also to section 4 on hunting):

a. Taking of, and trade in birds listed in Column A and B of Table 1 (where utilization or trade contravenes the provisions set out in paragraphs 2.1.1 (a) and 2.1.2 of the Action Plan)?

Species listed in column A and B of Table 1 are totally protected with the exception of geese *Anser anser* and *Anser albifrons* (see point 2.2.e.). Trading is not allowed.

b. Methods of taking?

Only firearms are allowed.

c. Setting of taking limits and monitoring these limits?

There are no taking limits. The total bag is registered annually. All hunters are obliged to

inform the County Offices of their yearly bag of game including waterfowl.

d. Sustainable hunting of species listed in Categories 2 and 3 (and marked by an asterisk) in Column A only?

The decree on the open seasons of game species (2002), that shortened an open season for geese to the period from 16th August to 15th January (previously the geese open season lasted till the end of February).

e. Exemptions to the provisions set out in paragraphs 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3?

Open season for geese *Anser anser* and *Anser albifrons* (see point 2.2.d. and 4.1.)

Single Species Action Plans

2.3 Of the species covered by the Agreement (species listed in Table 1: column A), which spend part or all of their life history in your country, which have formal international (Category 1, species marked with an asterisk) or national (column A) Single Species Action Plans:

a. Proposed?

b. In preparation?

International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the European Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*)

c. Being implemented?

International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Corncrake *Crex crex* (CMS & AEWA 2006)

Incentive scheme is provided to encourage farmers to delay mowing on breeding places of Corncrake (Agri-environment payments, measure “Localities of birds on grassland – breeding places of Corncrake” – mowing or grazing after 15.8., mowing should be done from the center of meadow to edges).

The most important sites for Corncrakes were designated as SPAs (10 SPAs).

Standardise monitoring programme was established and repeated national surveys are conducted once every three years.

Emergency measures

2.4 Describe any bilateral or multilateral co-operative action that your country has undertaken to develop and implement emergency measures to conserve species in response to unfavourable or endangering conditions occurring in the Agreement area.

Not relevant.

Re-establishments

2.5 Has a policy on species re-establishments been developed in your country? If yes, please outline the main features of the policy and give details of any re-establishment programmes for species covered by the Agreement.

Guidelines for preparation of action plans for threatened plants and animals were published (Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection 2002). Before the re-establishment programme for the species is started, strict conditions must be fulfilled (analysis changes in numbers and distribution of the species, biology and ecology of the species, main threat factors, formulation of aims and goals of action plan including re-establishment). No re-establishment programme for species covered by the Agreement was being prepared or implemented during the period 2005 – 2007.

Introductions

2.6 Has your country developed and implemented legal measures to prohibit the introduction of nonnative species? Please provide details, particularly describing measures to control the release or introduction of non-native species (please indicate which species and their status).

According to the Nature and Landscape Conservation Act it is prohibited to introduce non-native species of animals intentionally.

The abundance of non-native species (for instance *Branta canadensis*, *Alopochen aegyptiacus*, *Aix sponsa*, *Aix galericulata*) is in fact very low in the territory of the Czech Republic, no problems with these species have been indicated so far.

3. Habitat conservation

Habitat inventories

3.1 Has your country developed and published inventories of important habitats for species covered by the Agreement? If yes, please provide details, including any provisions to maintain or update these inventories.

The Czech Ramsar Committee elaborated and published the review of wetlands of international, national and regional importance, among others sites important for breeding or migration of waterbirds (Chytil et al. – eds. 1999: Wetlands of the Czech Republic).

3.2 Has your country undertaken a strategic review of sites to develop a national network of important sites or areas for species covered by the Agreement? Please append a list of identified sites of international importance.

Twelve areas important for waterbirds have been designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) according to the EEC Bird Directive. Important habitats for waterbirds in these sites are fishpond systems and, in several cases, reservoirs (see Appendix 2). Another 10 areas important for Corncrake were also designated as SPAs (mainly upland grassland areas).

Also there is designated twelve Ramsar sites, most of them due to international importance as water birds habitats.

Conservation of areas

3.3 Describe the legal frameworks and other measures through which sites (including transfrontier sites) including of international importance gain practical protection. (Please append a list of internationally important protected sites.)

For the list of internationally important protected sites see point 3.1. and Appendix 2. These sites are protected according to the rules of the EEC Bird Directive. Furthermore, other sites of national or regional importance for waterbirds are protected according to the national legislation (The Nature and Landscape Conservation Act) as nature conservation areas.

3.4 Has your country developed a management planning process for protected sites? If yes, please outline the types of management plans and organisations responsible for development and implementation.

Management planning process is developed for sites protected according to the national legislation (national parks, national nature reserves, nature reserves, protected landscape areas etc.). Management planning system for all Czech SPAs is currently under development. Organizations responsible for development and implementation are The

Ministry of Environment, Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection and regional authorities (County Councils), according to the type and location of the protected site.

3.5 How many protected sites have formal management plans (please append a list of sites and their management planning status):

a. Proposed?

Three Special Protection Areas (see Appendix 3)

b. In preparation?

Four Special Protection Area (see Appendix 3)

c. Being implemented?

Five Special Protection Areas (see Appendix 3)

3.6 What measures does your country have in place to ensure the wise use of wetland habitats and to prevent habitat degradation e.g. pollution control and managing water resources? Please provide examples of best practice initiatives particularly involving cross-sectoral co-operation or public participation.

The most important habitats for waterbirds covered by the Agreement in the Czech Republic are fishpond systems. Fishpond ecosystems often suffer from over-exploitation (very high fish stock, fertilization of fishponds resulting in eutrophication etc.) with negative effects on populations of waterbirds. Grant system for support of non-productive functions of fishponds (environmental and hydrological functions including support of biodiversity) is currently being introduced.

Rehabilitation and restoration

3.7 Does your country have a policy for the identification, rehabilitation and restoration of wetlands important for species covered by the Agreement? Please provide examples of rehabilitation and restoration projects and initiatives undertaken.

The Czech Republic has a governmental “Programme of rehabilitation and restoration of wetlands” since 1992 and some other financial instruments for the same goal.

Examples of restoration projects:

National nature reserve (and SPA) Řežabinec pond – removal of nutrient-rich sediment that caused hypertrophic conditions in this water body with negative effects on waterbirds.

Landscape Protected Region (and SPA) Třeboňsko – creation of lagoons in “Nová řeka” inundation.

National nature reserve (and SPA) Bohdanecsky pond – removal of nutrient-rich sediment that caused hypertrophic conditions, rehabilitation of pond Matka.

4. Management of human activities

Hunting

4.1 Outline the main features of legislation or legal measures in your country to control hunting of the species covered by the Agreement (e.g. use of lead shot and poisoned baits, and to eliminate illegal taking).

Only hunting with firearms is allowed. Use of poisoned baits is totally banned, use of lead shots for hunting of waterfowl is banned from 31st December 2010. Hunttable species of ducks (i.e. only Mallard, Pochard and Tufted Duck) have open season from 1st September to 30th November, Geese (Greylag, Bean and White-fronted) have open season from 16th August to 15th January.

4.2 Does your country monitor hunting levels? If so, how is this information collated and reported?

All hunting clubs are obliged to report the yearly bag of game to regional authorities (County Councils). The regional reports are summarized and published annually.

4.3 Describe action undertaken by hunting clubs and organisations to manage hunting activity e.g. cooperative action, issuing of licences and proficiency testing of individual members.

Each applicant for hunting licence has to go through one-year practice in a hunting club, theoretical course and a formal examination (among others in zoology and care of game).

Eco-tourism

4.4 What is the status of eco-tourism programmes or initiatives in your country? Please provide examples of projects with an indication of the significant outcomes.

A programme of tourist information on natural values of wetlands is working mainly in some most important protected sites. For instance in Landscape Protected Region (and SPA) Třeboňsko with many wetlands and fishponds important for waterbirds, such programme consists of tourist pathways with information boards in the field, printed information on natural values of some routes and sites, observation towers on several sites and guided tours for tourists.

4.5 What social and economic benefits accrue to the local communities from the conservation of important waterbird sites?

Calculations of specific benefits have not been made, but certainly for local communities

there are benefits from these activities and programmes (though probably not extremely important).

Other human activities

4.6 Does your country carry out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of activities potentially affecting protected sites or areas important for species covered by the Agreement? If yes, briefly describe the main features of your EIA policy and procedures.

The main principle of EIA legislation in the Czech Republic is that investors who plan construction of some specific, mainly large projects, such as large industrial projects, infrastructure, large agricultural projects (for instance large husbandry farms, drainage on a large scale) have to make an assessment of a potential impact of the project on surrounding environment including wetlands and waterfowl. If the impact of the project is assessed to be negative, some compensatory measures, changes in a project, its translocation or even cancellation are proposed. In addition, for internationally important sites protected as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), any project or intention that could have a significant impact on these sites demands EIA assessment.

4.7 Please describe the main features of your planning policy and provide examples of practical implementation (e.g. activities to minimising disturbance of species populations or limit the impact of species populations on crops or fisheries). Please summarize any land-use conflicts especially emphasising successful solutions to problems encountered in promoting the wise-use of waterbirds and their habitats.

An important winter habitat of Geese (Greylag, Bean and White-fronted) in the reservoir on the Dyje river, where tens of thousands of Geese overwinter each year since the beginning of 1990s, was threatened by extending of an open season of Geese till the end of February by new hunting decree in 1996. The Geese were excessively disturbed by hunting, Greylag-Geese even at the beginning of its breeding season (February). As a result of subsequent negotiations, the open season for Geese was restricted again till 15th January in 2002. Hunting of Geese was also restricted to only 3 days a week (Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday).

On the other hand, the beginning of hunting season of geese is two weeks earlier since 2002 (now begins on 16th August). Consequently disturbance by hunting increased on some summer gathering places. Therefore study "Influence of disturbance on geese flocks in gathering places" will be conducted this year, financed by Ministry of Environment. Influence of hunting, traffic and wind turbines disturbance on geese flocks in main gathering places will be studied and analyzed during summer and autumn.

5. Research and monitoring

Status of research and monitoring programmes for species

5.1 How are priorities for research identified in your country? Please briefly describe your country's research programmes, including any bilateral or multilateral co-operative action, for wetland habitats and for species covered by the Agreement (e.g. studies into species population, ecology and migratory patterns). Please append a list of research activities initiated, ongoing or completed in the last three years.

Charles University in Prague has a long-term research programme aimed at ecology and biology of waterbirds in South-Bohemian fishponds, the principal breeding site and migration stopover for waterbirds. In the respective three-year period (2005-2007) were made studies on ecology of Great Cormorant (participation in international project: „Reducing the Conflict between Cormorants and Fisheries on a pan-European Scale“) and ducks (research activities: Ecology of selected waterfowl species in conditions of intensively managed fishponds, Evolutionary determinants of brood parasitism in ducks, Breeding ducks colour marking project in the Czech Republic, Neckband marking of Greylag Goose in the Czech Republic (for the list of quotations see Appendix 7). These research activities are supported by the grant of Ministry of Environment of C.R.: „The long-term changes in numbers and distribution of waterbirds in the Czech Republic in relation to climate and environmental changes“.

„Atlas of bird migration of the Czech Republic“ has been prepared by the National Museum in Prague, the bird-ringing centre of the Czech Republic. The atlas, summarizing results of bird ringing (including species covered by the Agreement) in the Czech Republic in the period 1934-2002, will be published this year.

5.2 What monitoring activities does your country undertake, including any bilateral or multilateral cooperative action, of wetland areas and species covered by the Agreement (e.g. national monitoring schemes, International Waterfowl Census)? Please append a list of monitoring activities or programmes initiated, ongoing or completed in the last three years

The International Waterfowl Census in the middle of January has been run in the Czech Republic since 1967. The Czech monitoring scheme includes also monitoring of breeding populations of waterbirds, which has been undertaken since 1988 by the members of the Czech Society for Ornithology. In addition, some regional projects, which monitor also numbers of migrating waterbirds, are made in the most important sites (South-Bohemian fishponds, Lednice fishponds, Reservoir on Dyje river).

The regular monitoring of Special Protection Areas (SPAs), internationally important sites protected according to the EEC Bird Directive, was launched in 2005. Bird species covered by the EEC Bird Directive (many of them are covered by the AEWA Agreement as well) are monitored also outside the SPAs. Bird numbers and trends are monitored primarily, however state of protected sites and impact of various activities are monitored as well.

Monitoring of the numbers of Greylag Geese (central European population) was conducted last year (2007). Goose Working Group of Czech Ornithological Society, together with

Austrian and Hungarian ornithologists, made regular (monthly) synchronized census on main central European gathering places of the species.

6. Education and information

Training and development programmes

6.1 Describe the status of training and development programmes which support waterbird conservation and implement the AEWA Action Plan.

Training courses "Wetlands and its role in landscape functioning" for the officials of the state and regional authorities was initiated by the Ministry of Environment and organised in period 2004-2006 together with the non-profitable organization ENKI. The courses were aimed at sharing information on ecology and conservation of wetlands including conservation of waterbirds.

A two-year project "Network of information and advisory centers for care of wetlands and water in landscape" was launched in October 2006. The project is conducted by non-profitable organization ENKI and sponsored by European Social Fund. The goal of the project is to spread knowledge on wise use of wetlands between people who influence the state of wetlands in various ways. A series of training courses and workshops is being organized for separate target groups (officials of the state, regional and local authorities, NGOs, owners of fishponds, water management technicians etc.)

A workshop "Littoral ecosystems, hunting and non-toxic shot" was organized by Institute of Forest and Game Management for leaders of hunting clubs in November 2007. The workshop was supplemented by practical trials of shooting with non-toxic (iron) shot, supported by the producer of shot.

6.2 What bilateral or multilateral co-operative action is your country undertaking to develop training programmes and share examples of good practice?

The International Postgraduate UNESCO Training Course on Limnology is organized annually for participants from developing countries. Part of the course is held in the Czech Republic: special courses on fishpond management and on wetland ecology are organized by the Institute of Botany and Institute of Systems Biology and Ecology at Trebon.

Raising public awareness

6.3 Describe activities to raise public awareness of the objectives of the AEWA Action Plan. Please outline any particular successes generating public interest in, and securing support for, waterbird and wetland conservation (e.g. campaigns, information notes or other initiatives)?

Series of papers was published in hunters journals on the problem of lead poisoning in waterbirds, on the possibilities of substitution of lead shot for hunting of waterfowl and on the ballistic characteristics of produced non-toxic shot. The Ministry of Agriculture published

a brochure on this topic: “Non-toxic shot in theory and practice” in 2006.

“Atlas of breeding distribution of birds in the Czech Republic 2001 – 2003” was published in 2006. The field work was made by volunteer members of the Czech Society for Ornithology. The atlas provides information on breeding distribution of all bird species including species covered by the Agreement. The atlas provides also comparison with results of previous grid surveys (made in 1973 – 1977 and 1985 – 1989) giving an information on trends in numbers and breeding distribution of species.

Results of long-term monitoring (1973 – 2007) of waterbird numbers in some internationally important sites of the Czech Republic are summarized in a brochure prepared for publication this year (financed by Ministry of Environment).

The Czech Society for Ornithology produced annually a brochure “Important bird area of the year”. It is information material on protection of internationally important sites for birds in the Czech Republic, including wetland site important for species covered by the Agreement (e.g. 2005: Rozdalovice fishponds).

A series of nine information leaflets on Special Protection Areas was published also by the Czech Society for Ornithology in 2007. Four wetland sites important for waterbirds were included into the series (Lednicke fishponds, Hermansky fishpond, Zehunsky fishpond, Ceskolipsko wetlands).

The Czech Society for Ornithology organizes annually the Bird Festival, field excursions for wide public, guided by ornithologists (part of World Bird Festival or European Bird Festival organized by BirdLife International). Most of excursions are directed at observation of waterbirds in wetlands (total for year 2006 is 1262 participants in 47 actions).

7. Final comments

7.1 General comments on the implementation of the AEWA Action Plan

Due to the fact that the Czech Republic became a contracting party of AEWA in September 2006 we have no experience with implementation of the AEWA Action Plan.

7.2 Observations concerning the functions and services of the various AEWA bodies

- a. The Agreement Secretariat*
- b. International organisations*
- c. AEWA NGO partners*

7.3 How might the Action Plan be further developed as a practical aid for national and international conservation of migratory waterbirds?

8. Progress to implement Resolutions and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Parties

Please summarize progress to implement decisions of previous Meetings of the Parties.

The Czech Republic became a contracting party of the AEWA in September 2006.

9. OPTIONAL SECTION – Planned and future actions

Contracting Parties are invited to outline below any further information regarding the aims of the Agreement, for example, planned actions or other informative examples.

1. Species conservation
2. Habitat conservation
3. Management of human activities
4. Research and monitoring
5. Education and information

List of abbreviations and acronyms used in the report

References

Havranek F., Badalik V. 2006: Non – toxic shot in theory and practice. 32 pp. Ministry of Agriculture (in Czech)

Stastny K., Bejcek V., Hudec K. 2006: Atlas of breeding distribution of birds in the Czech Republic 2001 – 2003. 463 pp. Aventinum Praha (in Czech with English summary)

Appendices

Appendix 1: Status of Single Species Action Plans

Appendix 2: List of sites of international importance

Name of site	Area (ha)
Nechranice reservoir	1191
Rozdalovicke fishponds	6613
Zehunsky fishpond	1964
Bohdanecsky fishpond	307
Poodri	8043
Hermansky fishpond – Odra - Poolsi	3101
Ceskolipsko – Dokeske sandstones and wetlands	9409
Lednicke fishponds	685
Nove Mlyny reservoir	1047
Jaroslavicke fishponds	357
Trebonsko	47360
Rezabinec fishpond	111

Note: Another 10 Special Protection Areas according to EEC Bird Directive (i.e. sites of international importance) are designated in upland and mountain areas also for Corncrake (species covered by Agreement), however these sites are primarily designated for forest bird species. Therefore details for these sites are not given here.

Appendix 3: Status of management plans for sites of international importance

Name of site	Management plan (proposed/prepared/implemented)
Nechranice reservoir	proposed
Rozdalovicke fishponds	in preparation
Zehunsky fishpond	in preparation
Bohdanecsky fishpond	being implemented
Poodri	being implemented
Hermansky fishpond – Odra - Poolsi	proposed
Ceskolipsko – Dokeske sandstones and wetlands	being implemented (part of area)
Lednicke fishponds	being implemented
Nove Mlyny reservoir	in preparation
Jaroslavicke fishponds	proposed
Trebonsko	being implemented
Rezabinec fishpond	in preparation

Appendix 4: List of research and monitoring programmes and projects

Monitoring of waterbird populations in the Czech Republic

Petr Musil, Zuzana Musilová, Michal Podhrázský et al.

Department of Zoology, Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Viničná 7, Praha 2, CZ-128 44

Project include various monitoring schemes:

- International waterbird census (mid January)
- Annual census of migratory waterbirds in April and October
- Monitoring of waterbird breeding population (May and June)
- Monitoring non-breeding goose populations (monthly counts, October to March)
- Counts of post-breeding Greylag Goose (July, August, September)

Supported by:

Ministry of Education of the Czech Republic, grant No. 1P05OC029 „ Ecology of Great Cormorant in the Czech Republic“

Ministry of Environment grant of C.R., grant No. SP/2d3/109/07 „The long-term changes in numbers and distribution of waterbirds in the Czech Republic in relation to climate and environmental changes“

Ecology of Great Cormorant in the Czech Republic

Petr Musil, Zuzana Musilová, Josef Řidzoň et al.

Department of Zoology, Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Viničná 7, Praha 2, CZ-128 44

Project supporting participation of the Czech Republic in COST Action No. 635 – REDCAFE „Reducing the Conflict between Cormorants and Fisheries on a Pan-European Scale“

The project is aimed at numbers and distribution, food and feeding ecology, migration and movements of great Cormorant in the Czech Republic and effect of management practices on Cormorant population and/or numbers.

Supported by:

Ministry of Education of the Czech Republic, grant No. 1P05OC029 „ Ecology of Great Cormorant in the Czech Republic“

Ecology of selected waterfowl species in conditions of intensively managed fishponds

Petr Musil, Magda Brožová, , Michaela Nachtigalová, Zuzana Musilová et al.

Department of Zoology, Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Viničná 7, Praha 2, CZ-128 44

Charles University in Prague has a long-term research programme aimed at ecology and biology of waterbirds in South-Bohemian fishponds, the principal breeding site and migration stopover for waterbirds.

Project is aimed at various issues of ecology of target species (grebes, ducks, Coot, Mute Swan, Greylag Goose): i.e. seasonal pattern of distribution and numbers, assessment of reproduction success, investigation of factors affecting nest predation, genetic structure of population.

Supported by:

Ministry of Environment grant of C.R., grant No. SP/2d3/109/07 „The long-term changes in numbers and distribution of waterbirds in the Czech Republic in relation to climate and environmental changes“

Evolutionary determinants of brood parasitism in ducks

Petr Musil, David Hořák, Tomáš Albrecht, Magda Brožová, Šárka Neužilová et al.

Department of Zoology, Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Viničná 7, Praha 2, CZ-128 44

The research is focused on the environmental determinants of conspecific and inter-specific brood parasitism at a population level; relative reproductive success of an alternative reproductive tactics at individual level (Conspecific brood parasitism and regular breeding) and the role of kin-ship in modulating CBP. Both experimental and descriptive approach are used to assess reproductive costs for the host and its anti-parasitic nest defense strategies (parasitic egg recognition and its subsequent burial or displacement). Parasitic eggs are determined by using both traditional (abnormalities in laying sequence; egg size, colour and shape) and molecular methods (protein fingerprinting, DNA microsatellite analysis). Four duck species are investigated with a special focus on Common Pochard (*Aythya ferina*).

Supported by:

Grant of Grant Agency of Academy of sciences of the Czech Republic No. IAA6093403.

Breeding ducks colour marking project in the Czech Republic

Petr Musil, Michaela Nachtigalova , Zuzana Musilova, Magda Brozova et al.

Department of Zoology, Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Viničná 7, Praha 2, CZ-128 44

The main aim of the project is to investigate of movements and survival of individual diving duck broods and its relation to:

- female body condition, egg and clutch size and clutch initiation date
- feeding conditions (i.e. fish stock density, density and composition of benthos and plankton, water transparency) on the breeding locality and in surroundings
- weather conditions during brood rearing period
- extent and structure of littoral vegetation (anti-predator refuge) at the breeding locality and in its surroundings

Moreover, resightings of marked ducks also improve our knowledge of migration and movements and fidelity patters of investigated species.

Supported by:

Ministry of Environment grant of C.R., grant No. SP/2d3/109/07 „The long-term changes in numbers and distribution of waterbirds in the Czech Republic in relation to climate and environmental changes“

Neckband marking of Greylag Goose in the Czech Republic

Michal Podhrázký Petr Musil et al.

Department of Zoology, Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Viničná 7, Praha 2, CZ-128 44

The catching and ringing of Greylag Goose (i.e. flightless moulting adults and flightless goslings) in the Czech Republic started in 1936. This catching and marking scheme was re-established in 2005. The red neckbands with white letters and/or numbers were use in the Czech Republic.

The following main aims of ringing and marking of Greylag Goose are recently appointed:

- to analyse long-term and regional pattern of migration and movements
- to investigate fidelity ratio in core and new breeding sites
- to compare migration and movements of wild and semi-captive Greylag Goose

Supported by:

Ministry of Environment grant of C.R., grant No. SP/2d3/109/07 „The long-term changes in numbers and distribution of waterbirds in the Czech Republic in relation to climate and environmental changes“

Appendix 5: List of national institutions involved in migratory waterbird conservation

Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic, Vrsovicke 1442/65, 100 10 Praha 10

Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic,
Nuselska 39, 140 00 Praha 4

Czech Society for Ornithology, Na Belidle 252/34, 150 00 Praha 5 - Smichov

National Museum Prague, bird-ringing centre, Hornomecholupska 34,
100 00 Praha 10 – Hostivar

Charles University, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Zoology, Vinicna 7, 102 00 Praha 2

Czech University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Environmental Science, Kamycka 129,
165 21 Praha 6 – Suchdol

Institute of Forest and Game Management, Strnady 136, 156 04 Praha 5 - Zbraslav

Appendix 6: List of relevant World Wide Web addresses for national institutions involved in migratory waterbird conservation

Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic, Vrsovicke 1442/65, 100 10 Praha 1
www.env.cz

Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic,
Nuselska 39, 140 00 Praha 4
www.nature.cz

Czech Society for Ornithology, Na Belidle 252/34, 150 00 Praha 5 - Smichov
www.birdlife.cz

National Museum Prague, bird-ringing centre, Hornomecholupska 34,
100 00 Praha 10 – Hostivar
www.nm.cz/prirodovedecke-muzeum/krouzkovaci-stanice.php

Charles University, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Zoology, Vinicna 7, 102 00 Praha 2
www.natur.cuni.cz/zoologie/

Czech University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Environmental Science, Kamycka 129,
165 21 Praha 6 – Suchdol
www.czu.cz/cs/

Institute of Forest and Game Management, Strnady 136, 156 04 Praha 5 – Zbraslav
www.vulhm.cz

Appendix 7: List of relevant migratory waterbird and habitat conservation projects initiated, ongoing or completed in the last three years