## NATIONAL REPORT FROM UKRAINE

This reporting format is designed to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan associated with the Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Conservation Measures for the Aquatic Warbler (*Acrocephalus paludicola*). Reporting on the Action Plan's implementation will support information exchange throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions by the Signatories. The questions presented here go beyond the scope of information already requested from CMS Contracting Parties for national reports to the CMS Conference of the Parties.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

/hich agency or institution has been primarily responsible for the preparation of this report?
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ist any other agencies, institutions, or NGOs that have provided input:
krainian Society for Bird Protection
eports submitted to date: 30.04.2006, 15.04.2010
eriod covered by this report:
om 01/05/2010 to 01/04/2015 (dd/mm/yyyy) (dd/mm/yyyy)
lemorandum in effect in Signatory since (dd/mm/yyyy): 21/05/2003
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#### **OBJECTIVES**

#### 1.0 POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

- 1.1. To promote national and international broad policies and legislation which favour the conservation of the Aquatic Warbler and its habitat
- 1.1.1. Promote the full protection of the Aquatic Warbler and its habitats through national and international legislation
  - a) Is the Aquatic Warbler protected under national legislation in your country?
    - $\square$  Yes, the species is protected and protection level is sufficient
    - $\Box$  Yes, the species is protected, but protection level is not sufficient
    - $\Box$  No, the species is not protected
  - b) If Yes, please describe the state of protection and limitations and conservation responsibilities this protection status imposes on the state, conservationists and land-users.

Aquatic Warbler is included in the Third Edition of the National Red Data Book (2009). According to the Law of Ukraine «About the Red Data Book» (2002) sites of habitat of the Red Data Book species (including Aquatic Warbler) should be included into nature-reserved fund of state importance.

- c) If the Aquatic Warbler is not protected or protection level is not sufficient, please describe what your country is planning to do to ensure highest possible protection of the species.
- d) Is there national legislation in place in your country that ensures effective protection of Aquatic Warbler habitat (breeding, stop-over and wintering sites), including prevention of potentially detrimental activities (drainage, mineral extraction, industry, etc.).

 $\blacksquare$  Yes  $\square$  No

e) If Yes, please provide details.

Nearly almost 85% of Aquatic Warbler breeding sites in Ukraine included in protected territories. The Law of Ukraine "About Nature-reserved Fund of Ukraine" (1992) ensures effective protection of Aquatic Warbler breeding habitats. Ukraine is a Party to the Bern Convention and CMS to which appendices the species is included.

f) If No, please describe measures taken to ensure protection of Aquatic Warbler breeding habitats.

1.1.2. Seek national or international policy incentives to maintain suitable farming practices at breeding/migration/wintering sites which are impacted by drainage or threatened by succession

Are there any national or international policy incentives to maintain suitable farming practices at sites occupied by the Aquatic Warbler in your country (agro-environmental schemes, etc.)?

□ Yes ☑ No □ Country is outside of breeding range If yes, please describe briefly the nature of the incentives and whether they are effectively applied or used by farmers and land-managers.

If no, please describe what measures are being taken to ensure availability of such incentives.

Development of the National Programme for Biodiversity Conservation

### 2.0 SPECIES AND HABITAT PROTECTION

## 2.1. To promote adequate protection of sites occupied by the Aquatic Warbler and remove key factors adversely affecting the habitat

- 2.1.1. Seek designation as protected areas of all sites regularly holding breeding Aquatic Warblers.
  - a) In the table attached (Annex I), please provide details for all regularly occupied Aquatic Warbler sites in your country and indicate their protection status (*please expand the table if necessary*).
  - b) If Aquatic Warbler sites currently are not fully protected or protection level is not sufficient, please provide information about constraints and what your country is planning to do to ensure full and adequate protection of these sites.

The important condition of protection of AW is the conservation of its breeding sites. Without giving to these territories the legal status of protected areas this is difficult to ensure. And, undoubtedly, more reliable guarantee of their protection is a high conservation category of such areas. In 2007 the National Nature Park "Prypyat-Stokhid" was established and the protected status of AW sites became better. Now most part of birds (more than 55 %) habitats is located on the territories of national natural parks. 5 % and 19 % of Ukrainian AW breed on territories of zakazniks of national and local importance, respectively. Nearly 15% of the birds habitats are outside of protected areas. However, it is necessary to emphasize that the majority of these territories are at different stages of preparatory works on giving them the protected status. It is very important to create 3 reserves of state importance in Volyn region (The Prypiat population group) - UA-20: Turiia valley, marsh "Vyzhery", UA-23: Styr valley, area between Naviz – Kolky, UA-24: Lakes Bile and Pisochne . Its total area of suitable biotopes is 725 ha (nearly 10% of Ukrainian AW area).

c) If Site Management Plans have not been developed for all Aquatic Warbler sites, please describe what hampers development of Management Plans and what your country is doing to ensure development, approval and implementation of Site Management Plans for regular Aquatic Warbler sites.

In 2007 due to the grant provided by the British Council (Ukrainian Office) the detailed study of 8 permanent breeding sites of the Desna-Dnipro population group (Kyiv and Chernigiv regions) was carried out. Besides, AW counts and hydrological measurements, there were other activities conducted to provide for more effective monitoring and management of the habitats. This list of activities includes: geobotanical description of habitats; detailed threats analysis; and developing objectives and recommendations for site management with accounting for conservation needs and community interests.

Management Plans for sites of the Pripyat population group are under development.

d) Please advise what assistance you would require to complete or improve existing Site Management Plans.

The financial support is required to improve the situation with Site Management Plans.

- 2.1.2. Prevent habitat alteration, habitat fragmentation, pollution and other factors that could be detrimental to the Aquatic Warbler in sites it regularly occupies for breeding/migration/wintering.
  - a) Are new *development* projects that could potentially have a detrimental effect on current or potential Aquatic Warbler sites (such as drainage, peat extraction, construction of highways, etc.) subject to environmental impact assessment in your country?

🗹 Yes 🛛 🗆 No

b) Have there been any potentially detrimental projects *implemented* in any Aquatic Warbler habitat in your country since signing this Memorandum of Understanding?

🗹 Yes 🛛 No

c) If yes, indicate sites involved, give details and describe the outcome of impact monitoring if available.

More than 20 years drainage melioration not is carried out in Ukraine. Though the attempts of the disguised drainage are undertaken regularly. One of them is the deepening of the river-bed on some parts of the Prypiat in 2004-2007 (the "Ecology-2010" Programme). As a result of the deepening works the water level of the river and the adjacent parts of the floodplain decreased by more than 50 cm of usual level. The number of the AW decreased significantly after the start of riverbed-deepening works - it was particularly noticeable in 2008, despite the fact that the year was rather water abundant. The total number of the AW was the lowest in the last 10 years being 80-100 males comparing with 300–350 in 2004.

d) Has implementation of any potentially detrimental project in any Aquatic Warbler habitat in your country been *halted* since signing this Memorandum of Understanding?

 $\square$  Yes  $\square$  No

e) If Yes, please give details.

Due to activity of Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds and Administration of National Nature Park "Prypiat-Stokhid" in 2008-2009 the works on deepening of the river Prypiat (the "Ecology-2010" Programme) were not carried out. The threat of resumption of such works remains.

## 2.2. To manage the breeding habitat to increase numbers, productivity and distribution and manage migration and wintering sites.

- 2.2.1. Regulate water levels and restore natural water conditions
  - a) Has water management been implemented at Aquatic Warbler breeding/migration/wintering sites in your country?

🗹 Yes 🛛 No

b) If Yes, please describe actions taken, sites involved and effects expected/achieved.

The greatest number of AW in Ukraine is located in valley of the rivers Prypiat and Tsyr between Vetly, Birky and Tsyr (UA-14). The part of the area is under influence of drainage canals. They are dug through the western and central parts of the area. Negative impact of the canals on about 120–150 ha of AW habitat can be proved based on our observations. There are no adjusting sluices at these drainage canals. If there were sluices, they could help to maintain optimal water level in low–water years and create suitable conditions for AW nesting, particularly the successful 2nd cycle of this species' nesting. Three wooden dams with sluices were constructed on the central canal during October 2005. Water levels in these habitats will be adjusted with the help of these dams during "dry season" in 2006-2008. During 2010-2014 the number of AW was very high on the territory (1-2 males/ha).

- c) What constraints are limiting implementation of these activities at other sites in need of effective water management?
- 2.2.2. Prevent natural succession of the vegetation by undertaking management where necessary
  - a) Has vegetation management been undertaken at Aquatic Warbler breeding/migration/wintering sites in your country to prevent natural succession?

 $\square$  Yes  $\square$  No

b) If Yes, please describe actions taken (mowing, bush-removing, etc), what equipment was used for vegetation management and how efficient it was. Please refer to reports if available and comparative analysis of different types of equipment if it was conducted.

In the autumn of 2012, an area of 25 hectares was chosen on the monitoring site for cleaning it from the bushes (UA-14. Upper Prypiat, area between Vetly, Birky and Tsyr). This area was cleared from bushes in winter and early spring of 2013. Young shoots were cut down in winter 2013/2014. In 2014, 21 males were counted during the evening census on area of 10 hectares. For comparison, 11 males were counted on this area in 2010.

c) If No, what constraints are limiting vegetation management at other sites where it is needed and what is your country doing to ensure proper vegetation management at Aquatic Warbler breeding sites?

#### 2.2.3. Hand-scything and mowing

a) If historical information is available, please describe to which extent current Aquatic Warbler breeding sites were hand scythed and mown.

It is known that in 1950-1980 almost 100 % of AW breeding sites in valleys of the Pripyat, Turya, Stokhid, Styr were hand scythed and mown. Since 1990 the share of mowing territories started to decrease – in 2010-2015 its make only 10-20%.

b) Are hand-scything and mowing being applied for habitat conservation for the Aquatic Warbler in your country?

□ Yes ☑ No

- c) If Yes, please describe how this was approached, which sites were involved and the area covered. Please provide details if conservation effect of hand-scything and mowing has been evaluated. Please refer to published materials if available.
- d) What constraints are limiting hand-scything and mowing at sites where extensive habitat management is needed?

Last years we note reduction of the area haymakings in valleys of the rivers. The local people have received plots on fields after reforming collective farms. Many of them have ceased to mow a grass on the haymakings in mires. It also results in deterioration of AW biotopes.

- 2.2.4. Controlled burning
- a) Is controlled burning a legal habitat management tool in your country?

□ Yes ☑ No

- b) If Yes, is burning used as a habitat management tool for Aquatic Warbler? Please describe actions taken, sites involved and effects achieved or expected. Please refer to published materials if information regarding the effects of controlled burning has been summarized and published.
- c) If No, then what actions are being undertaken to legalize controlled burning?

This question requires detailed study.

#### 2.2.5. Grazing

- a) Has grazing been used for habitat management at Aquatic Warbler sites in your country? □ Yes ☑ No
- b) If yes, please describe which animals are used, which sites are involved and what effects are expected/achieved. Please give reference to published materials if information regarding the effects of grazing has been summarized and published.
- 2.2.6. Disseminate habitat management recommendations to land managers
  - a) Are Aquatic Warbler habitat management recommendations being disseminated to land managers and other interested parties in your country?

 $\Box$  Yes  $\Box$  No  $\Box$  Country is outside of breeding range

- b) If Yes, please describe ways of dissemination of habitat management recommendations to land managers used: events, publications, etc. Please give reference to published materials.
- c) If No, then what constraints are limiting dissemination of habitat management recommendations and what should be done to overcome these constraints?

There is a need to produce relevant guidelines, which should contain recommendations, and to be disseminated it to land managers preferably in their native languages. d) Please advise if there is successful experience other Range States can draw on and what assistance your country would require to help share this information.

Polish experience of vegetation management in AW breeding sites, in particular, using of biomass for briquetting is very valuable for Ukraine. In coming years an application of this technique in valley of the Pripyat is planned.

## 2.3. To protect the Aquatic Warbler and its habitat in the winter quarters and along the migration route

- 2.3.1. Promote the protection and appropriate management of wintering and passage sites
  - a) In the table attached (Annex I), please provide details about major Aquatic Warbler passage and wintering sites in your country (*please expand the table if necessary*)
  - b) Are primary Aquatic Warbler passage/wintering sites appropriately managed in your country?

 $\Box$  Fully  $\Box$  Partially  $\Box$  No

- c) Please list on-going and implemented projects and provide brief information about results achieved.
- d) What are the remaining gaps and what is your country planning to do to ensure sufficient protection and management of primary passage/wintering sites?

There is a section in the State Program for Biodiversity Conservation devoted to migratory species actions including those for AW.

#### 2.4. To restore habitats for the Aquatic Warbler

- 2.4.1. Undertake the ecological restoration of potential breeding sites of the Aquatic Warbler
  - a) Have potential or irregularly occupied Aquatic Warbler breeding sites in your country been evaluated?

 $\Box$  Fully  $\Box$  Partially  $\Box$  No  $\Box$  Country is outside of breeding range

- b) If Yes, what initiatives aimed at ecological restoration of potential breeding sites have been undertaken in your country? Which sites are involved and what effects are expected/achieved?
- c) If No, what are the constraints and which actions should be taken in order to overcome these constraints?

Lack of financial resources.

#### 3.0 MONITORING AND RESEARCH

#### 3.1. To develop and implement a monitoring programme enabling population trends to be tracked

#### 3.1.1. Distribution of a methodology for counting Aquatic Warblers

a) Is the methodology adopted for counting Aquatic Warblers used on the national level *different* to what is advised in the Aquatic Warbler Species Action Plan?

 $\Box$  Yes  $\Box$  No  $\Box$  No methodology is adapted

- b) If Yes, please describe briefly possible differences and amendments.
- c) Does your country have experience applying this methodology and what can be learned from this experience?
- d) What does your country do to distribute and familiarize relevant institutions/specialists with this methodology?

#### 3.1.2. Undertake national surveys to estimate breeding populations

- a) Have national (all-country) surveys of Aquatic Warbler breeding population been undertaken in your country?
  - ☑ Yes (give years) **2002-2014**
  - □ No
  - $\Box$  Country is outside of breeding range
- b) If Yes, what methodology is used (full counts, transect counts, etc.) and what organization was coordinating the survey?

The monitoring of 6 key AW breeding sites is carried out since 2002 every year (exception 2011, 2013). For this purpose 2 breeding sites were chosen of the Desna-Dnipro population group (UA-01: the Supii Valley, area between Vilne and M.Berezanka; UA-05: the Udai valley, area between Dorohinka and Monastyryshche) and 4 breeding sites of the Pripyat ' population group (UA-09: Upper Prypiat, area between Richytsia and Pidhiria (Shchedrohir); UA-14: Upper Prypiat, area between Vetly, Birky and Tsyr; UA-20: Turiia valley, marsh "Vyzhery"; UA-23. Styr valley, area between Naviz – Kolky). These six key breeding sites support nearly 56 % of Ukrainian population of AW. The main positions of monitoring researches are following: in all six plots the censuses of Aquatic Warblers were carried out on routes only, which usually have length of 1.5 km; the birds were counted on a strip of 200 m width. Area of monitoring plots is 260 ha (3,75% of total suitable sites).

In addition to 6 monitoring plots other sites were also surveyed. For example, in 2012 the censuses was carried out on 1202 ha (17%), in 2014 - on 1415 ha (20%).

c) What is the size and trend of the national breeding population (vocalizing males)? Please refer to published materials if applicable.

Year of survey: 2002	Year of survey: 2003	Year of survey: 2004	
Population size: 2470-3130	Population size: 2020-2520	Population size: 3105-3550	
Year of survey: 2005	Year of survey: 2006	Year of survey: 2007	
Population size: 3700-4315	Population size: 3470-4110	Population size: 3230-3790	
Year of survey: 2008	Year of survey: 2009	Year of survey: 2010	
Population size: 3805-4365	Population size: 3975-4740	Population size: 4215-4925	

Year of survey: 2012	Year of survey: 2014
Population size: 3550-4050	Population size: 3400-3780

During 2002-2009 the increase of AW number in Ukraine is marked. The main reason of this trend is finding of new breeding sites. In particular, in 2004 two territories (UA-24, UA-25) were found where about 250 males habitat; in 2005 – one territory (UA-15) with 250-300 males; in 2008 - two territories (UA-21, UA-21) with 170-180 males. The highest AW number in traditional breeding sites was in 2010 (4215-4925 males).

d) If Yes, to which extent was the territory of your country covered by the survey:

- $\Box$  Fully (> 90 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- ☑ High (60-90 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- □ Medium (30-60 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- $\Box$  Low (< 30 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- e) When is the next national (all-country) survey of the Aquatic Warbler planned in your country?

2015

f) If no national surveys have been conducted, please indicate existing constraints and what you country going to do to ensure that national surveys of the Aquatic Warbler are conducted?

#### 3.1.3. Collect data at the major known passage sites and identify further resting sites

a) Have studies at known Aquatic Warbler passage sites been conducted in your country?

🗆 Yes 🗹 No

- b) If Yes, please describe briefly, which major passage sites are being monitored, what monitoring is being conducted (Aquatic Warbler population, habitat parameters, impact assessment, migration strategy, etc) and which organizations are involved?
- c) What are the main findings and what conservation implications do they have?
- d) If Yes, to what extent are major known Aquatic Warbler passage sites are being monitored in your country?
  - $\Box$  Fully (> 90% of known sites)
  - $\Box$  High (60-90 % of known sites)
  - $\square$  Medium (30-60 % of known sites)
  - $\Box$  Low (< 30 % of known sites)
- f) To what extent have major Aquatic Warbler passage sites been identified in your country?

- $\Box$  Fully (> 90 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- □ High (60-90 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- □ Medium (30-60 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- $\Box$  Low (< 30 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- $\Box$  No monitoring is conducted
- g) What are the gaps and what is your country doing to address them?

#### 3.1.4. Identify major wintering areas

a) Have studies aimed at identifying Aquatic Warbler wintering areas have been conducted in your country?

 $\Box$  Yes  $\Box$  No  $\blacksquare$  Country is outside of wintering range

b) If Yes, what are the main findings and conservation implications? If available, please refer to published reports.

During 2010-2012 47 geolocators were attached to breeding birds (males) in the Central Ukraine (UA-01: Supii Valley, area between Vilne and M.Berezanka). 6 geolocators which collected data from the autumn migration were recovered in 2011 and 2013. They revealed a previously-unknown migration route via southern Europe to stopover sites in south-western France and Spain. In West Africa, one bird spent some time well south of known non-breeding areas. For the conservation of some Aquatic Warbler populations, protection of hitherto unknown stopover sites in southern Europe and Africa may be crucial.

Salewski V., Flade M., Poluda A., Kiljan G., Liechti F., Lisovski S., Hahn S. An unknown migration route of the 'globally threatened' Aquatic Warbler revealed by geolocators // Journal of Ornithology. – April 2013. – Vol. 154, Issue 2. – P. 549-552 Poluda A., Flade M., Foucher J., Kiljan G., Tegetmeyer C., Salewski V. First confirmed connectivity between breeding sites and wintering areas of the globally threatened Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* // Ringing & Migration. – 2012. – 27, Part 2. – P. 57-59.

- c) If Yes, To what extent was the territory of your country covered by the survey of wintering areas?
  - $\Box$  Fully (> 90 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
  - □ High (60-90 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
  - □ Medium (30-60 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
  - $\Box$  Low (< 30 % of suitable habitats surveyed)
- d) If wintering sites have been identified, to what extend are these sites being monitored during migration?
  - $\Box$  Fully (> 90% of known sites)
  - $\Box \qquad \text{High (60-90 \% of known sites)}$
  - $\square \qquad \text{Medium (30-60 \% of known sites)}$
  - $\Box \quad Low (< 30 \% \text{ of known sites})$
  - $\Box$  No monitoring is conducted
- e) If your country is outside of Aquatic Warbler wintering range, which international initiatives aimed at identification of Aquatic Warbler wintering grounds has your country been involved in? What are the main findings?

The representative of Ukraine (Poluda A.) took part in the international expedition in Senegal in 2007, when the large wintering areas of AW were found.

f) What are the gaps and what needs to be done to help address them?

#### 3.1.5. Research into habitat characteristics at migration and wintering sites

a) Has research into habitat characteristics at migration and/or wintering sites been conducted in your country?

□ Yes ☑ No

- b) If Yes, please provide a list of on-going and completed studies with references if results are already published.
- c) What are the main findings and conservation implications?
- d) What are the remaining gaps and what needs to be done to address them?

#### 3.1.6. Research on movements during the breeding season / exchange of subpopulations

Has research on Aquatic Warbler movements during breeding season/exchange of subpopulations been conducted in your country?

 $\Box$  Yes  $\Box$  No  $\Box$  Country is outside of breeding range

If Yes, please describe which territories were covered, what methods were used (colour ringing, radio-tagging, etc.) and what were the main findings. Please give reference to published materials if available.

If Yes, was the research on movements during the breeding season coordinated with researchers from neighbouring Aquatic Warbler Range States.

 $\Box$  Yes  $\Box$  No

If the research hasn't been conducted, what is your country planning to do to initiate such cooperation?

We are planning to carry out investigation of movements of AW between four breeding sites which are located in the Supii valley.

#### 3.1.7. Develop and implement an international monitoring programme

Is your country participating in development and/or implementation of international Aquatic Warbler monitoring programmes?

 $\square$  Yes  $\square$  No

If Yes, please list on-going and completed projects and indicate which areas they focus on and which other countries are involved. Please provide reference to published results if available.

During 2010-2014 monitoring program in Ukraine financed by RSPB and Ukrainian Society for Bird Protection (USPB).

Poluda A.M. Breeding sites of the Aquatic Warbler in Ukraine and their conservation

status // Berkut, 18 (1-2). - 2009. - P. 143-163

Poluda Anatoly, Legeyda Ivan. The Aquatic Warbler in the National Park «Prypyat-Stokhid»: state of breeding sites and the problems of their conservation // Scientific Bulletin of the National Park «Prypyat – Stokhid», 2011, Issue 1. – P. 10-28 Poluda Anatolii, Iliukha Oleksandr, Khymyn Mykhailo, Leheida Ivan. Monitoring of the state of breeding sites of Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* in Ukraine in 2012 // Scientific Bulletin of the National Park «Prypyat – Stokhid», 2012, Issue 2. – P. 24-51

Poluda Anatolii, Iliukha Oleksandr, Khymyn Mykhailo, Korkh Yurii, Leheida Ivan. Monitoring of the state of breeding sites of Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* in Ukraine in 2014 // Scientific Bulletin of the National Park «Prypyat – Stokhid», 2014, Issue 2. – P. 15-42

Poluda A. Aquatic Warbler core populations dynamics and its possible reasons in Ukraine // The international conference on Aquaqtic Warbler conservation. Book of abstracts (November 14-15, 2013, Vilnius, Lithuania). – Vilnius, 2013. – P. 5

Are there areas that haven't been properly addressed, if so, what needs to be done to assist your country in addressing these gaps?

## 3.2. To promote research useful for the conservation of the Aquatic Warbler in the future

## 3.2.1. Undertake comparative studies on breeding success and population recruitment in different habitats

- a) Have studies on breeding success and population recruitment in different habitats been conducted in your country?
  - □ Yes, in collaboration with other Range States
  - $\Box$  Yes, on the national scale
  - $\square$  No comparative studies have been conducted
  - $\Box$  Country is outside of breeding range
- b) If available, please list on-going and completed studies and give reference to published reports.
- c) What are the main findings of these studies?
- d) Are there any future comparative studies your country is able to initiate? What would be needed to do this?
- e) If no comparative studies are being implemented, what is your country planning to do to stimulate this research and what assistance would be required?

## 3.2.2. Assess the effect of burning, scything, mowing, grazing and water conditions on breeding populations

a) Effect of which of the following factors and potential habitat management techniques on Aquatic Warbler breeding population was assessed in your country?

(what)

- □ Controlled burning
- ☑ Scything
- $\Box$  Mowing
- $\blacksquare$  Water conditions
- □ Other \_\_\_\_
- $\Box$  No assessment has been conducted

b) What are the main findings and conservation implications? If available, please give reference to published reports.

In 2005 three wooden dams with sluices were constructed on the drainage canal in site UA-14: Upper Prypiat, area between Vetly, Birky and Tsyr. Water levels in these habitats had been adjusted with the help of these dams during "dry season" in 2006-2008. Due to regulation of a level of water on the territories adjacent to the canal the successful nesting of AW during the 2nd cycle was achieved.

- c) Are there any gaps? What limits further assessment of this factor's effects?
- 3.2.3. Develop collaborative research and monitoring programmes between range-states
  - a) Is your country involved in international collaborative and monitoring programmes on the Aquatic Warbler?

🗆 Yes 🗹 No

- b) If yes, please provide brief details about on-going and completed projects. Which Aquatic Warbler range states are involved? What fields studied?
- c) What are the main findings and conservation implications?
- d) What are the gaps and what is needed to address them?

## 4.0 PUBLIC AWARENESS

## 4.1. To ensure development of a strong network of organisations and individuals committed to the conservation of the Aquatic Warbler

a) Does a network of organisations/individuals committed to the conservation of the Aquatic Warbler exist in your country?

🗆 Yes 🗹 No

- b) If Yes, how broad is this network and what organizations/individuals are taking the lead in facilitation and coordination of its development?
- c) What actions does your country undertake to broaden the circle of organisations and individuals committed to conservation of Aquatic Warbler?
- d) What successful experience can other Range States draw on?
- e) What would be needed to establish a network if it does not already exist or to improve an existing one?
- f) In the table attached (Annex II), please list key people in your country (scientists, conservationists, etc.) who are dealing with Aquatic Warbler conservation, research and implementation of the Aquatic Warbler MoU and Action Plan.

#### 4.2. To use the Aquatic Warbler as a flagship species

a) Has the Aquatic Warbler been used as a flagship species in your country for the inventory and protection of wetlands?

☑ Yes □ No

b) If Yes, please briefly describe how and provide examples if available.

In August 2010-2011 within the framework of the GEF-project the competitions on handscything (about 100 participants) were carried out. They passed on territory of site UA-17 under the slogan of conservation of AW breeding biotopes.

c) If No, what limits promotion and use of the Aquatic Warbler as a flagship species and how does your country plan to address this?

#### 4.3. To prepare educational materials promoting and giving information

- a) Have any educational and promotional materials about Aquatic Warbler been developed in your country?
  - $\square$  Yes, specifically devoted to the Aquatic Warbler.
  - □ Yes, the Aquatic Warbler is included into materials with a broader context.
  - □ No, Aquatic Warbler is not covered in educational and promotional materials.

If Yes, please describe the nature of such materials and how they were disseminated. Please give reference to published materials if available.

Web-site of Ukrainian Society for Bird Protection (www.birdlife.org.ua) contains various materials about AW (life history, threats, conservation status, projects etc.)

If No, please describe what limits development of such materials and give details about what your country is planning to do to promote Aquatic Warbler and its conservation.

### PART II. COUNTRY-SPECIFIC ATIONS

Please report on the implementation of the country-specific actions listed for your country in Part II of the Action Plan and provide information if that is not already covered by your answers under Part I. Please describe not only the measures taken but also their impact on the Aquatic Warbler or its habitat in the context of the objectives of the Memorandum of Understanding and the Action Plan. Where you have already answered on country-specific actions in Part I, please only add a reference to the relevant answer here.

# To promote the creation of protected areas for main breeding groups of Aquatic Warbler...

In 2011 the Hydrological zakaznik of national importance "Bohdanivskii" is created (20-35 males, 80 ha of suitable biotopes). Nearly 85% of Aquatic Warbler breeding biotopes in Ukraine are located on the protected territories. The majority of the territories, which aren't included in the natural-reserve fond, are at different stages of preparatory works on giving to them a protected status.

## **Realization of monitoring work...**

The monitoring of 6 key settlements of AW has been carried out annually since 2002. These six key breeding sites keep nearly 56 % of Ukrainian population. Besides 6 monitoring plots other sites also were surveyed.

## **Development of Management Plans...**

Management Plans for 8 permanent breeding sites of the Desna-Dnipro population group (Kyiv and Chernigiv regions) were prepared.

# Continue the national survey to clarify distribution and numbers in regions which have not been adequately surveyed...

During 2010-2014 a survey of new potential sites was carried out in Volyn region of Ukraine. New breeding sites were found only in valleys of the Pripyat river (150-180 males).

Annex I

Code of site	Name of the site, geographical coordinates	Status (B – breeding, W – wintering P – passage)	Aquatic Warbler population supported (vocalizing males (breeding) or individuals (migration or wintering))	Year of survey	Total area of the site (suitable habitats)	Area of the site under protection	Type of protection	Does protection level fully reject possible detrimental developments? [Yes/No]	Site Management Plan (D – developed, A - approved, I – implemented)
UA-01	Supii valley, area between Vilne and M.Berezanka (Vilne-Berezanka): 50.25; 31.45	В	70-80	2014	220	100%	zakaznik of national importance	Yes	А
UA-02	Supii valley, area near Novii Bykiv (Bykiv): 50.34; 31.40	В	12-15	2014	50	100%	zakaznik of local importance	No	А
UA-03	Supii valley, area near Bilotserkivtsi (Bilotserkivtsi): 50.39; 31.37	В	3-5	2014	40	100%	zakaznik of local importance	No	А
UA-04	Supii valley, area near Voronky (Voronky): 50.42.30; 31.34.30	В	10-12	2014	60	100%	zakaznik of local importance	No	А
UA-05	Udai valley, area between Dorohinka and Monastyryshche (Dorohinka- Monastyryshche): 50.51; 32.09	В	300-320	2014	420	100%	zakaznik of national importance	Yes	А
UA-06	Halka valley, area between Bohdanivka and Leonidivka (Halka): 50.48; 31.58.30	В	20-25	2014	120	100%	zakaznik of national importance	No	А
UA-07	Perevid valley, area near Paskivshchyna (Paskivshchyna): 50.29; 31.57	В	15-20	2014	50	0%		No	А
UA-08	Mire to SE from Petrivka (zakaznik "Horodok") (Horodok): 51.50; 31.49	В	23-25	2014	40	100%	zakaznik of local importance	No	А

UA-09	Upper Prypiat, area between Richytsia and Pidhiria (Shchedrohir) (Richytsia- Pidhiria): 51.47; 24.43	В	15-20	2014	250	100%	zakaznik of local importance	No	D
UA-10	Upper Prypiat, area between Pidhiria (Shchedrohir) and Turiia mouth (Pidhiria-Turiia mouth): 51.48; 24.49	В	5-10	2014	175	100%	zakaznik of local importance	No	D
UA-11	Upper Prypiat, area to east from Turiia mouth (Prypiat- Turiia): 51.48; 24.53	В	60-80	2014	90	90%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-12	The Pripyat valley to east from canal Wizhewskiy: 51.51; 24.55	В	80-90	2014	350	20%	national natural park (10%), zakaznik of local importance (10%)	No	D
UA-13	Upper Prypiat, area to the south of Nevir (including mire "Zalissia") (Zalissia): 51.49; 24.57	В	150-180	2014	> 600	100%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-14	Upper Prypiat, area between Vetly, Birky and Tsyr (Vetly- Birky): 51.51; 25.12	В	1500-1600	2014	~ 1900	90%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-15	Upper Prypiat, area between Vetly, Hirky and Liubotyn (Hirky-Liubotyn): 51.53; 25.16	В	250-300	2014	> 500	100%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-16	Upper Prypiat, area to west from Grechishcha and Shlapan (Hrechyshcha- Shlapan): 51.52; 25.26	В	80-100	2014	~ 250	100%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-17	Upper Prypiat, area to north from Liubiaz lake (lake Liubiaz): 51.52; 25.29	В	30-35	2014	50	100%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-18	Upper Prypiat, area near lake Rohozne (lake Rohozne): 51.55; 25.09	В	30	1997	40	40%	national natural park	No	D
UA-19	Areas near Wolyanske lake	В	80	2005	100	100%	zakaznik of local	No	

	and canal "Khabarische": 51.53; 24.55						importance (70%), national natural park (20%)		D
UA-20	Turiia valley, mire "Vyzhery" (Vyzhery): 51.42; 24.49	В	30-40	2014	275	10%	zakaznik of local importance	No	D
UA-21	Stokhid valley, area near Sudche (Sudche): 51.45; 25.35	В	150	2014	150	100%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-22	Stokhid valley, area near Berezna Volia (Berezna Volia): 51.48; 25.38	В	50-60	2014	> 150	100%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-23	Styr valley, area between Naviz – Kolky (Naviz-Kolky): 51.03; 25.29	В	15-20	2014	300	40%	zakaznik of local importance	No	D
UA-24	Lakes Bile and Pisochne (Bile-Pisochne): 51.32; 24.12	В	260-290	2014	285	0%		No	D
UA-25	Chornohuzka valley, area near Tseperiv and Baiv (Tseperiv- Baiv): 51.34; 23.57	В	70-80	2014	430	100%	zakaznik of local importance	No	D
UA-26	Shatski lakes, mire "Unichy" (Unichy): 51.34; 23.57	В	25	2007	100	100%	national natural park	Yes	D
UA-27	Upper Prypiat, lake Nobel (lake Nobel): 51.52.35; 25.45.00	В	10	2011	10	0%		No	D
UA-28	Mire near Perebrody (Perebrody): 51.45.31; 27.02.36	В	8	2004	5-6	100%	natural reserve	Yes	D
UA-29	Stokhid valley, area near St.Chervyshche (Chervyshche): 51.35.13; 25.22.00	В	15-20	2009	20	100%	zakaznik of national importance	Yes	D
UA-30	Mire near Stare Selo (Stare Selo): 51.36.20; 27.05.22	В	10-15	2009	30	0%		No	D
UA-31	Upper Prypiat, area near Senchytsi (Senchytsi): 51.52.12; 25.51.41	В	13	2011	20	0%		No	D

## Annex II

Name	Title	Field of interest	Position, Organization	Contact address and email	Comments
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