POLAND / POLOGNE / POLONIA

Ministry of the Environment

Poland

National Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

1997 –2001

Warsaw, July 2002

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

National Report of the Republic of Poland to the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of Parties

I. GENERAL INFORMATION.

- Name of the Party – POLAND.
- Entry into force of the Convention for the Party – 1st May 1996
- Date of the report - *June 2002*
- Period covered by the report - 1997-2001
- Reservations – none.

Other Conventions ratified by Poland:

- the Washington Convention (CITES) since 12th December 1990,
- the Ramsar Convention since 22nd March 1978,
- the Bern Convention since 1st January 1996,
- the Convention on Biological Diversity since 1996,
- the 1992 Helsinki Convention since 1999,
- the Espoo Convention since 10th September 1997,

II. Measures taken to implement decisions of the previous Conference of the Parties

1. Concerning species listed in Appendix I

a) Species for which the Poland is a Range State

There are seventeen Appendix I species occuring in the Poland: *Megaptera novaeangliae, Pelecanus crispus, Pelecanus onocrotalus, Anser erythropus, Branta ruficollis, Marmaronetta angustirostris, Aythya nyroca, Polysticta stelleri, Oxyura leucocephala, Haliaeetus albicilla, Aquila clanga, Aquila heliaca, Falco naumanni, Otis tarda, Vanellus gregarius, Numenius tenuirostris, Acrocephalus paludicola*. Four of them breed in the country: *Aythya nyroca, Haliaeetus albicilla, Aquila clanga, Acrocephalus paludicola*. Other species occur only on migration.

b) Population size and trends for the species

Megaptera novaeangliae

Not observed in the Baltic Sea, previously recorded from Dziwna mouth and Gdańsk Bay (1620 and 1979).

Pelecanus crispus

Extremely rare occuring species

Pelecanus onocrotalus

Rarely (irregularly) occuring species

Anser erythropus

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Branta ruficollis

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Marmaronetta angustirostris

Extremely rare visitor but status uncertain.

Aythya nyroca

40 pairs

Polysticta stelleri

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Oxyura leucocephala

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Haliaeetus albicilla

Regularly breeding (430-500 pairs), increasing tendency, monitored within the country

Aquila clanga

Regularly breeding (15 pairs), stable, monitored within the country;

Aquila heliaca

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Falco naumanni

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Otis tarda

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Vanellus gregarius

Extremely rare visitor

Numenius tenuirostris

Extremaly rare visitor

Acrocephalus paludicola

2800 – 3000 pairs

c) Measures taken in accordance with Article III (4)

All species listed above is strictly protected by the national legislation (O.J. 2001 No. 99, item 1079). The sites of breeding and resting of *Haliaeetus albicilla and Aquila clanga* are protected by zones of strict protection (O.J. 2001 No. 130, item 1456).

The most important wetland areas are designated as internationally important wetlands of the Ramsar Convetion.

Aythya nyroca

Just started the preperation of National Action Plan for this species.

Otis tarda

Poland is preparing to undersign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Middle-European population of the Great Bustard in the near future.

Acrocephalus paludicola

Poland is preparing to undersign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Aquatic Warbler in the near future. It has been started the preperation of National Action Plan of Aquatic Warbler by Polish Society for the Protection of Birds.

d) Measures taken in accordance with Article III (5)

Within the Polish legislation there are some laws and regulations which are directly or indirectly related to the species protection. The most important acts concerning nature conservation are as follows:

- Nature Conservation Law of 16th October 1991 (O. J. No 114, item 492) and renewed of 14th September 2001 (O. J. 2001, No 99, item 1079). The relevant authority is Minister of the Environment. This Law determines aims, rules as well as animated and inanimated profiles of nature conservation and the landscape as well.
- The Regulation of 26th September 2001 (O. J. No 130, item 1456) on the determination of the list of wild native animal species strictly and partially protected and restrictions related to these species as well as exceptions to these restrictions.
- Hunting Law of 13th October 1995 (O. J. No 147, item 713).
- The Regulation of 10 April 2001 (O.J. No 43, 480) on establishing a list of game species and designation of game shooting seasons and open seasons.
- Inland Fishery Law of 18th April 1985 (O. J. 1999, No 66, item 750). The relevant authority is Minister of the Agriculture and Rural Development. This Law regulates the rules and conditions concerning conservation, breeding and fish catching in surficial inland waters.
- Regulation of 15th March 1999 (O. J. No 38, item 370). This Regulation determines detailed conditions of conservation and fish catching as well as fish tools and fishery facilities.
- Marine Fishery Law of 16th September 2001 (O. J. No 129, item 1441). The relevant authority is Minister of the Agriculture and Rural Development. This Law is dealing with management of live marine resources and activity concerning marine fishery as well as determine the administrative councils responsible for marine fishery.
- Forest Law of 28th September 1991 (O. J. No 101, item 444). The relevant authority is Minister of the Environment. This Law determines the rules of preservation, conservation and enlargement of forest resources as well as the rules of forest management in connection with other environmental components.
- Minister's Council Regulations on constitution of national parks.

- Minister's of the Environment Orders on constitution of nature reserves. Fauna reserves created in order to conserve fauna species, particularly rare or endangered of extinction.
- Governor's of a province Orders on creation of landscape parks, areas of protected landscape and nature monuments.

2. Concerning species listed in Appendix II

a) Species for which the Poland is a Range State

There are 228 Appendix II species regularly or rarely occuring in the Poland. 132 of them breed in the country. Other species occur only on migration.

b) Population size and trends for the species

CHIROPTERA

Rhinolophus ferrumequinum - strictly protected by law, least concern, observed in three localities in Poland: two in Kraków-Częstochowa Upland: Jaskinia Nietoperzowa, near Kraków and Wierna Cave near Myszków as well as in Szkieletowa Cave near Tarnów in Beskid Niski Mts., no available population data, monitored winter roosts, trend unknown.

Rhinolophus hipposideros – strictly protected by law, endangered of extinction, observed in East Sudety Mts., West and East Beskidy, Kraków-Częstochowa Upland, Bieszczady Mts. and Sandomierz Lowland, no available population data, monitored hibernating in caves, trend rather stable.

Myotis myotis – strictly protected by law, observed in a whole country excluding north-est part of contry, also its distribution extended in last years, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend stable.

Myotis bechsteinii - strictly protected by law, near threatened, observed mainly in eastern, southern, central and western Poland, estimated at several thousand individuals, monitored hibernating in caves, trend unknown.

Myotis emarginatus – strictly protected by law, endangered, observed from a few localities in the Kraków region, estimated at some hundred individuals, not monitored, trend extremely declining due to loss of suitable roosting sites.

Myotis nattereri - strictly protected by law, observed in a whole country, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend stable.

Myotis mystacinus - strictly protected by law, observed in whole country, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend unknown.

Myotis brandtii - strictly protected by law, observed commonly in a whole area, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend unknown.

Myotis dasycneme - strictly protected by law, endangered, observed mainly in caves, cellars, mines and probably in woods, recorded annually 2-7 individuals in 1988-1992 (winter censusses), monitored hibernating in caves, trend declining due to water pollution.

Myotis daubentonii - strictly protected by law, observed commonly in a whole country, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend increasing.

Vespertilio murinus - strictly protected by law, least concern, observed in some localities in different regions in the country mainly also in forests, often occurs in other bats, not monitored, trend unknown.

Eptesicus nilssonii - strictly protected by law, near threatened, observed in different regions of the country mainly in forested areas and in mountains (Tatra Mts.) as well as in the basin of the Vistula river, monitored hibernating in caves, estimated at some thousand individuals, trend unknown.

Eptesicus serotinus - strictly protected by law, observed commonly in a whole area, not monitored, trend unknown.

Pipistrellus pipistrellus - strictly protected by law, observed commonly on a whole area mainly in north-eastern and eastern part of the county including Mazurian Lake District, no available population data, not monitored, trend unknown.

Pipistrellus nathusii - strictly protected by law, observed irregularly in north-eastern and eastern part of the country (including Mazurian Lake District), not monitored, trend unknown.

Pipistrellus pygmaetus - strictly protected by law, observed irregularly in a whole area, not monitored, new bat species, trend unknown.

Nyctalus lasiopterus - strictly protected by law, observed sporadically in Wielkopolsko-Kujawska Lowland, no available population data, trend unknown.

Nyctalus noctula - strictly protected by law, observed in a whole country, no available population data, not monitored, trend unknown.

Nyctalus leisleri - strictly protected by law, vulnerable, observed probably all over the country, the rarest bat species, no available population data, not monitored, trend unknown.

Plecotus auritus - strictly protected by law, observed in a whole country mainly in forests and built-in areas, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend stable.

Plecotus austriacus - strictly protected by law, observed up to the: Kostrzyń-Drezdenko-Ciechocinek-Łomża-Terespol line, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend unknown.

Barbastella barbastellus - strictly protected by law, observed in a whole country, monitored hibernating in caves, no available population data, trend stable.

CETACEA

Monodontidae

Delphinapterus leucas - strictly protected by law, endangered, observed in 1979 and in 1986

Phocoenidae

Phocoena phocoena – strictly protected by law, endangered, observed mainly in Gdańska Bay, estimated about 600 individuals in 1995, trend declining due to human activity and fishing by-catch.

Delphinidae

Lagenorchynhus albirostris - strictly protected by law, sporadic visitor in the Baltic Sea, previously recorded from the Gdańsk Bay and near Kołobrzeg, no available population data, trend unknown.

Tursiops truncatus - strictly protected by law, not observed in the Baltic Sea, previously recorded from the Vistula Lagoon (1885 and 1892).

Delphinus delphis - strictly protected by law, not observed in the Baltic Sea, previously recorded from Gdańsk Bay (1616 and 1885).

Ziphiidae

Hyperoodon ampullatus – strictly protected by law, not observed in the Baltic sea since since 1960s, previously recorded from Gdańsk Bay.

CARNIVORA

Phoca vitulina - strictly protected by law, extremely rarely, observed sometimes in the Baltic Sea and the Baltic Coast mainly near the Wolin Isle and the Szczecin Lagoon, monitored, recorded 2 observations since 1990, trend unknown.

Halichoerus grypus - strictly protected by law, endangered, observed occasionally and irregularly in the Baltic Coast, exceptionally in Pomerania Lake Region (mouths of Vistula and Odra rivers), but more often than other species, sporadically breeding on Polish coasts (Bay of Gdańsk), monitored, estimated at 6,500-7,000 individuals near Finland, Estonia, and Sweden in 1999, trend unknown.

<u>Aves</u>

GAVIIFORMES

Gavidae *Gavia stellata*

Regular visitor

Gavia arctica arctica

Regular visitor

Gavia immer immer

Irregular visitor

Gavia adamsii

Irregular visitor

PODICIPEDIFORMES

Podicipedidae — *Podiceps grisegena grisegena*

2500 – 3000 pairs

Podiceps auritus

0 – 1 pair breed in the country

PELECANIFORME

Phalacrocoracidae — *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*

Irregular visitor

Pelecanidae — *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

Irregular visitor

Pelecanus crispus

Extremaly rare visitor

CICONIIFORMES

Ardeidae — *Botaurus stellaris stellaris*

1100 – 1400 pairs, stable population

Ixobrychus minutus minutus

400 – 700 pairs, decreasing

Casmerodius albus albus

1 – 3 pairs, increasing

Ardea purpurea purpurea

1 – 3 pairs

Ciconiidae — *Ciconia nigra*

950 – 1100 pairs, stable, monitored regionally

Ciconia ciconia

42000 – 44000 pairs, increasing, monitored within the country by the State Biological Monitoring Programme

Threskiornithidae *Plegadis falcinellus*

Irregular visitor

Platalea leucorodia

Irregular visitor

PHOENICOPTERIFORMES

Phoenicopteridae *Phoenicopterus ruber*

Irregular visitor

ANSERIFORMES

Anatidae *Cygnus columbianus*

Migrant, wintering, increasing

Cygnus cygnus

10 – 15 pairs, migrant, wintering, increasing as breeder and wintering as well

Anser fabalis

Game, migrant and winter visitor

Anser brachyrhynchus

Game, breeding species

Anser albifrons Ssp.

Game, migrant and winter visitor

Anser erythropus

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Anser anser Ssp.

Game, 2000 – 3000 pairs, increasing

Branta canadensis

Irregular visitor

Branta leucopsis

Irregular visitor

Branta bernicla

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Branta ruficollis

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Tadorna ferruginea

0 - 1 pair but status uncertain

Tadorna tadorna

100 – 150 pairs, increasing

Anas penelope

20 – 50 pairs, migrant and wintering

Anas strepera

About 1500 pairs, migrant and wintering

Anas formosa

Extremely rare visitor

Anas crecca

Game, breeding species

Anas platyrhynchos

Game, breeding species

Anas acuta

100 – 150 pairs, migrant and wintering

Anas querquedula

Don’t show any symptoms of population decline and don’t belong to very rare.

Anas discors

Extremely rare visitor

Anas clypeata

About 1500 pairs, migrant and wintering

Netta rufina

10 – 20 pairs, migrant and wintering

Aythya ferina

Game, breeding species

Aythya nyroca

Game, breeding species

Aythya fuligula

Game, breeding species

Aythya marila

Migrant, wintering

Somateria mollissima

Irregular visitor

Somateria spectabilis

Migrant, wintering

Polysticta stelleri

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

Histrionicus histrionicus

Extremely rare visitor

Marmaronetta angustirostris

Extremely rare visitor but status uncertain.

Clangula hyemalis

Migrant, wintering

Melanitta nigra

Migrant, wintering

Melanitta fusca

Migrant, wintering

Bucephala islandica

Extremely rare visitor

Bucephala clangula

700 – 900 pairs, migrant, wintering

Mergus albellus

Migrant, wintering

Mergus serrator

25 –50 pairs, migrant, wintering

Mergus merganser

Breeding, increasing

Oxyura leucocephala

Rarely (irregularly) migrating species

FALCONIFORMES

Pandionidae *Pandion haliaetus*

70 – 75 pairs, increasing, monitored within the country

Accipitridae *Pernis apivorus*

1000 – 2000 pairs

Elanus caeruleus

Extremely rare visitor

Milvus milvus

650 – 700 pairs, increasing, monitored within the coutry

Milvus migrans

300 – 400 pairs, decreasing, monitored within the country

Haliaeetus albicilla

430 – 500 pairs, increasing, monitored within the coutry

Haliaeetus leucoryphus

Extremely rare visitor

Neophron percnopterus

Irregular visitor

Gyps fulvus

Irregular visitor

Aegypius monachus

Irregular visitor

Circaetus gallicus

10 – 15 pairs, decreasing, monitored within the country

Circus aeruginosus

4000 – 9000 pairs, increasing

Circus cyaneus

About 50 pairs, decreasing

Circus macrourus

Irregular visitor

Circus pygargus

550 – 600 pairs, increasing

Accipiter brevipes

Extremely rare visitor

Accipiter nisus

1300 – 2700 pairs

Accipiter gentilis

3500 – 5000 pairs

Buteo buteo

35000 – 45000 pairs

	Buteo rufinus	
		Irregular visitor
	Buteo lagopus	
		Winter and migrant visitor
	Aquila pomarina	
		1700 – 1900 pairs, stable, monitored within the country
	Aquila clanga	
		About 15 pairs, stable, monitored within the country
	Aquila nipalensis	
		Irregular visitor
	Aquila chrysaetos	
		35 – 40 pairs, increasing
	Aquila heliaca	
		Irregular visitor
	Hieraaetus pennatus	
		0 – 5 pairs
Falconidae	*Falco naumanni*	
		Irregular visitor
	Falco tinnunculus	
		1500 – 2000 pairs, decreasing
	Falco vespertinus	
		Irregular visitor
	Falco columbarius	
		Winter and migrant visitor
	Falco eleonorae	
		Irregular visitor
	Falco subbuteo	
		1000 – 2000 pairs
	Falco cherrug	
		Occasional breeder
	Falco rusticolus	
		Irregular visitor
	Falco peregrinus	
		0 – 5 pairs

GALLIFORMES

Phasianidae — *Coturnix coturnix coturnix*

Don't show any symptoms of population decline and don't belong to very rare.

GRUIFORMES

Rallidae — *Porzana porzana*

2500 – 3500 pairs, decreasings

Porzana parva parva

1200 – 1800 pairs, stable

Porzana pusilla

Status uncertain

Crex crex

35000 – 45000 calling males, increasing,
census run in 1997 & 1998

Gruidae — *Grus grus*

5000 – 7000 pairs, increasing, monitored within the contry by the State Biological Monitoring Programme

Otididae — *Otis tarda*

Irregular visitor

CHARADRIIFORMES

Recurvirostridae — *Himantopus himantopus*

Sporadic breeder, irregular visitor

Recurvirostra avosetta

Sporadic breeder, irregular visitor

Burhinidae — *Burhinus oedicnemus*

Less than 10 pairs, decreasing, close to extinction

Glareolidae — *Glareola pratincola*

Irregular visitor

Glareola nordmanni

Irregular visitor

Charadriidae — *Charadrius alexandricus*

Scarce breeder

	Charadrius dubius	
		2000 – 4000 pairs, stable
	Charadrius hiaticula	
		330 – 400 pairs, decreasing
	Charadrius leschenaultii	
		Irregular visitor
	Charadrius morinellus	
		Migrant, breeding status unknown
	Pluvialis fulva	
		Irregular visitor
	Pluvialis apricaria	
		Migrant
	Pluvialis squatarola	
		Migrant
	Vanellus gregarius	
		Extremely rare visitor
	Vanellus vanellus	
		Don’t show any symptoms of population decline and don’t belong to very rare.
Scolopacidae	*Calidris canutus*	
		Migrant
	Calidris alba	
		Migrant
	Calidris alpina	
		10 – 30 pairs, decreasing, migrant
	Calidris ferruginea	
		Migrant
	Calidris maritima	
		Migrant, winter visitor
	Calidris minuta	
		Migrant
	Calidris temminckii	
		Migrant

Calidris melanotos

Extremely rare visitor

Gallinago media

750 – 800 displaying birds, decreasing

Limicola falcinellus

Migrant

Xenus cinereus

Irregular visitor

Tringa glareola

0 – 5 pairs, decreasing, close to extinction, migrant

Tringa hypoleucos

1000 – 2000 pairs, decreasing, migrant

Tringa ochropus

3000 – 6000 pairs, decreasing, migrant

Tringa stagnatilis

0 – 5 pairs, increasing, migrant

Tringa erythropus

Migrant

Tringa totanus

1000 – 1300 pairs, migrant, wintering

Tringa nebularia

Migrant

Tringa melanoleuca

Extremelly rare visitor

Tryngites subruficollis

Extremelly rare visitor

Philomachus pugnax

150 – 200 females, migrant, wintering

Lymnocryptes minimus

5 – 10 pairs, migrant, wintering

Gallinago gallinago

Don’t show any symptoms of population decline and don’t belong to very rare.

	Gallinago media	
		550 – 600 pairs, migrant
	Limnodromus ssp.	
		Extremelly rare visitor
	Scolopax rusticola	
		Game, breeding species
	Limosa limosa	
		7000 – 8000 pairs, migrant
	Limosa lapponica	
		Migrant
	Numenius phaeopus	
		Migrant
	Numenius arquata	
		400 – pairs, migrant, wintering
	Numenius tenuirostris	
		Extremely rare visitor
	Xenus cinereus	
		Irregular visitor
	Actitis hypoleucos	
		Don’t show any symptoms of population decline and don’t belong to very rare.
	Arenaria interpres	
		Migrant
	Phalaropus lobatus	
		Migrant
	Phalaropus fulicarius	
		Extremely rare visitor
Laridae	*Larus ichthyaetus*	
		Extremely rare visitor
	Larus melanocephalus	
		20 – 30 pairs, increasing
	Larus genei	
		Extremely rare visitor

Sterna caspia

Migrant

Sterna sandvicensis sandvicensis

Migrant, sommer visitor

Sterna hirundo hirundo

5500 – 7000 pairs, decreasing

Sterna paradisaea

Migrant

Sterna albifrons

1000 – 1300 pairs, decreasing

Chlidonias niger niger

5000 – 7000 pairs, decreasing

Chlidonias leucopterus

Population fluctuaction, usually 400–500 pairs, increasing

CORACIIFORMES

Meropidae *Merops apiaster*

50 – 80 pairs, stable

Coraciidae *Coracias garrulus*

100 – 150 pairs, decreasing

PASSERIFORMES

Muscicapidae *M. (s.l.) spp.* – All species excluding *Acrocephalus paludicola, Acrocephalus dumetorum, Hippolais polyglotta* don't show any symptoms of population decline and don't belong to very rare.

Locustella naevia,

Locustella fluviatilis,

Locustella luscinioides,

Acrocephalus paludicola,

2800 - 3000 pairs, migrant

Acrocephalus dumetorum

Irregular visitor

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus,

Acrocephalus palustris,

Acrocephalus scirpaceus,

Acrocephalus arundinaceus,

Hippolais polyglotta

Extremely rare visitor

Hippolais icterina

Sylvia nisoria,

Sylvia curruca,

Sylvia communis,

Sylvia borin,

Sylvia atricapilla,

Phylloscopus trochilloides,

Phylloscopus borealis

Extremely rare visitor

Phylloscopus proregulus

Irregular visitor

Phylloscopus inornatus

Irregular visitor

Phylloscopus schwarzi

Extremely rare visitor

Phylloscopus bonelli

Phylloscopus fuscatus

Extremely rare visitor

Phylloscopus sibilatrix,

Phylloscopus collybita,

Phylloscopus trochilus,

Regulus regulus,

Regulus ignicapillus,

Muscicapa striata,

Ficedula parva,

Ficedula albicollis,

Ficedula hypoleuca,

Pisces

ACIPENSERIFORMES

Acipenseridae

Acipenser sturio – strictly protected by law, probably extinct in the wild since 1960s, recorded last time in the Bay of Gdańsk in 1967, once was commonly observed in the Polish waters, it started to decrease in the early 20th century, deadline was caused due to overfishing, regulation of rivers and water pollution.

c) Measures taken in accordance with Article III (4 and 5)

Not all species listed above is strictly protected by the national legislation (O.J. 2001 No. 99, item 1079). Among the total 228 species there are 8 game species covered game protection (O.J. No 43, 480). The protection seasons for them are as follows:

- *Anas platyrhynchos, Anas crecca, Aythya ferina, Aythya fuligula* (22.12 – 14.08),
- *Anser anser, Anser fabalis, Anser albifrons* (22.12 – 14.09),
- *Scopolax rusticola* (16.05 – 14.04).

219 species is strictly protected by the national legislation (O.J. 2001 No. 99, item 1079). The sites of breeding and resting of *Aquila clanga, Aquila pomarina, Haliaeetus albicilla, Hieraaetus pennatus, Milvus migrans, Milvus milvus, Pandion haliaetus, Falco peregrinus, Circaetus gallicus, Ciconia nigra, Burhinus oedicnemus, Coracias garrulus* are protected by zones of strict protection (O.J. 2001 No. 130, item 1456).

III. Other changes with respect to the inplementation of the Convetion

a) Agreement on the Coservation of Bats in Europe

Poland has been a Party of the Bats Agreement since 1996. Untill now 22 species of bats occur in Poland. All species of bats existing on territory have been protected since 1952. Actually bats are strictly protected by law. Full information about implementation of this Agreement Poland sended to Secretary of the Agreement.

Agreement on Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the North and Baltic

Poland is a Party Agreement on Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the North and Baltic Sea since 1996.

African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement

Poland is preparing to undersign the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement in the near future.

IV. National activities relating to migratory species listed in Appendices I and II

a) Specific policy plans, national and regional, for the protection of flora, fauna and their habitat

Poland is undertaking wide measures concerning flora, fauna conservation and their habitats both on national and regional level. The most important thing is especially mitigation of further degradation of ecosystems, loss of rare or endangered species and their genetic diversity caused mainly by human activity or any other independent factors. Therefore the Government of Poland has started measures concerning the preparation in near future the national strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity with its action plan as well. This strategy is going to be entered into force in this year. The main purpose of this strategy is conservation wide biodiversity both on ex-situ and in-situ levels which is acceptable with long-term ecological policy of the Government up to 2025. The main strategic purposes of this policy covered in action plan would be as follows:

- monitoring of biodiversity state as well as its present and potential threats,
- removing or reducing of present or potential threats concerning biodiversity,
- preserving and/or enrichment of present or renewing of lost biodiversity elements,
- integration of activity on biodiversity conservation together with other activities important for management sector and public administration as well as society, including NGO communities.

These actions will be fulfilled and coordinated with other international conventions and agreements. These results create the overall process of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Poland.

b) Research

In 1997-2000 the most important projects/programs in relation to species on App. I and II were carried out:

- Elaborating of national-wide draft of the bird's network mainstays.
- Restitution program of migratory fish species (1998): Acipenser sturio, Salmo salar, Salmo trutta m.trutta, Salmo trutta m. lacustris, Vimba vimba and Coregonus lavaretus f. lavaretus in 3 main areas: Vistula and Odra rivers as well as in Pomeranian rivers (Source of information: Inland Fisheries Institute).
- Local project concerning *Myotis myotis* entitled „Batmanówka" conducted by Polish Society of Nature Conservation „Salamandra" (1998).
- Monitoring, territorialism and mating behavior of *Pipistrellus nathusii* males conducted by Polish Society of Nature Conservation „Pro Natura" (1997).
- Since 1997 up to now has taken place monitoring and conservation of bats hibernating in caves in Poland for: *Rhinolophus hipposideros, Myotis myotis, Myotis daubentonii, Myotis nattereri, Myotis dasycneme, Myotis mystacinus, Myotis brandtii, Myotis bechsteinii, Eptesicus nilssonii, Plecotus auritus, Plecotus austriacus, Barbastella barbastellus)*.
- Since 1997 up to now has taken place the project concerning use of artificial shelters in conservation of forest bats in Poland for*: Myotis nattereri, Nyctalus leisleri, Pipistrellus nathusii, Plecotus auritus)*.
- Since 1997 up tp to now has taken place monitoring and conservation of bat's summer shelters in Poland for: *Myotis myotis, Eptesicus serotinus, Plecotus auritus, Plecotus austriacus.*
- Since 1997 has taken place interventional activity concenring presence of bats in anthropogenic objects for: *Eptesicus serotinus, Vespertilio murinus, Pipistrellus nathusii.*
- Since 1991 up to the end of 2000 has finished program of *Parnassius apollo* in the Pieniński National Park.

c) Any further new actions.

Projects/programmes aiming at the conservation of European flora, fauna and their habitat on a multilateral basis.

- Co-operation in an interational project "Primary Butterfly sites in Europe".
- "ABC - project" - Atlas of Bats of the Carpathians. An international project with participation of Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine.

- Co-operation program of bats conservation in border areas: Polish-Germany and Polish-Czech Republic started in 1998, conducted by Polish Society of Nature Conservation “Pro Natura”.

V. Publications

The most important publications or literature concerning flora conservation from Appendix I and their habitat were as follows:

1. Bereszyński A., Graczyk R. 2000: results of studies on the breeding of bustard, *Otis tarda* L. In Poland. Scientific Papers of Agricultural Univ. of Poznań, Animal Science vol. 2/2000 (in English).
2. Borzęcka I. 1998: The historical picture of summer and winter sea trout occurrence in the Vistula river. Bull. Sea Fish. Inst. Vol. 8 (in English).
3. Borzęcka I. 1999: The age of migrating Vistula sea trout and the variability of smolt recruitment to the sea before damming the river. Bull. Sea Fish. Inst. Vol. 5 (in English).
4. Brodecki Z., Żmudziński L. (red.) 1997: Morskie Obszary Chronione w Polsce. Centrum Badań Morza PAN - Uniwersytet Gdański, Gdańsk (in Polish).
5. Dmowski K. 1999: Birds as bioindicators of heavily metal pollution: review and examples concerning European species. Acta orn. 34: 1-25 (in English).
6. Głowaciński Z. (red.) 1992a: Polish Red Data Book of Animals. PWRiL, Warszawa (in Polish).
7. Głowaciński Z (red.) 1992b: Red list of threatened animals in Poland. Zakład Ochrony Przyrody PAN, Kraków (in Polish).
8. Głowaciński Z. (red.) 2001: Polish Red Data Book of Animals. PWRiL, Warszawa (in Polish).
9. Głowaciński Z. 1997. Nowe kategorie IUCN/WCU dla gatunków zagrożonych i ginących (New IUCN/WCU categories of threatened and disppearing species). Chrońmy Przyr. Ojcz. 1: 60-66 (in Polish).
10. HELCOM 1998: Red list of Marine and Coastal Biotopes and Biotope Complexes of the Baltic Sea, Belt and Kattegat. Balt. Sea Environ. Proc. No. 75 (in English).

11. Kowalski, M., Lesiński, G. (eds.) 2000: Poznajemy nietoperze. ABC wiedzy o nietoperzach ich badaniu i ochronie. OTON, Warszawa, 1-140 (in Polish).
12. Kuklik I., Skóra K.E. 1997: „Ssaki morskie". W: Encyklopedia Geograficzna Świata T VII, . Oceany i morza. OPRESS, Kraków 189-193 (in Polish).
13. Kuklik I., Skóra K. E. 1999 (in preparation): Stan populacji i zagrożenia dla morświnów w polskich wodach Bałtyku (in Polish).
14. Lesiński G., Fuszara E., Kowalski M. 2000: Foraging areas and relative density of bats (Chiroptera) in differently human transformed landscapes. Z. Säugetierkunde 65: 129-137 (in English).
15. Mitka J., Starmühler W. 2000: Phenetic variability of *Aconitum lasiocarpum* (Rchb.) Gáyer (Ranunculaceae): extension of taxonomic and geographic borders. Acta Soc. Bot. Pol. 69(2): 145-155 (in Polish).
16. Ochman, K. 1999: Analysis of Holocene bat fauna from Pod Sokolą Górą cave in systematics and zoogeographical aspects. Abstracts of the VIIIth EBRS, Kraków, p. 44 (in Polish).
17. Piksa, K., Nowak, J. 1999: The bat fauna of the Polish Tatra caves. Abstracts of the VIIIth EBRS, Kraków, p. 50 (in English).
18. Postawa, T. 1999: Monitoring cave microclimates by external climate conditions and its influence on populations of bats hibernating inside the cave. Abstracts of the VIIIth EBRS, Kraków, p. 82 (in English).
19. Ruczyński, I., Ruczyńska, I. 1999: Roosting sites of Leisler's Bat, *Nyctalus leisleri* in the Białowieża Forest. Abstracts of the VIIIth EBRS, Kraków, p. 58 (in English).
20. Rodziewicz M., Brewka B. 1998: Wstępne wyniki projektu Komitetu Ochrony Orłów „Ochrona orłów i innych rzadkich gatunków ptaków drapieżnych w Polsce w latach: 1993-1997". Biul. KOO 8: 41-63 (in Polish).
21. Sągin P. 1998: Karsiborska Kępa – ochrona ornitofauny i halofilnej szaty roślinnej. W: Szata roślinna Pomorza - zróżnicowanie, dynamika, zagrożenia, ochrona. Przewodnik Sesji Terenowych 51 Zjazdu PTB. Red. J. Herbich, M. Herbichowa. Wyd. UG, Gdańsk, s. 63-66 (in Polish).
22. Skóra K. E., Haluch M. 1997: The food composition of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar* L.) sea trout (*Salmo trutta* L.) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss* Walbaum) caught in the Puck Bay (Baltic Sea). International Council for the exploration of the sea. C. M. 1997/P:23 "Diadromous fish extinction: Threats on local and global scales": 1-10 (in English).

23. Skóra K., Kuklik I. 1997: Ssaki morskie Nadmorskiego Parku Krajobrazowego. [w:] A. Janta (red.) Nadmorski Park Krajobrazowy. Wydawnictwo Nadmorskiego Parku Krajobrazowego. Władysławowo: 101-107 (in Polish).
24. Skóra K., Kuklik I. 1997: Ssaki morskie Nadmorskiego Parku Krajobrazowego. [w:] A. Janta (red.) Nadmorski Park Krajobrazowy. Wydawnictwo Nadmorskiego Parku Krajobrazowego. Władysławowo: 101-107 (in Polish).
25. Węgiel A., Węgiel J. 1998: Bat protection in caves in Poland. Myotis 36: 63-69 (in English).
26. Węgiel A., Węgiel J., Szkudlarek R., Paszkiewicz R. 1997: The situation of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat in Poland. In: Zur Situation der Hufeisennasen in Europa. Arbeitskreis Fledermäuse Sachsen-Anhalt e. V., Stecklenberg: 161-164 (in English).
27. Węgiel J., Węgiel A. 1997: Studies on the nocturnal activity in nursery colonies of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*). In: Zur Situation der Hufeisennasen in Europa. Arbeitskreis Fledermäuse Sachsen-Anhalt e. V., Stecklenberg: 157-159 (in English).
28. Witkowski A., Błachuta J., Kotusz J., Hesse T. 1999: The Red list of freshwater lampreys and fishes in Poland. Chrońmy Przyr. Ojcz. 55, 4, 5-19 (in Polish).
29. Woźniewski M., Dębowski P., Bartel R. 1999: Telemetric observations of the Vistula sea trout behaviour below the dam to improve an efficiency of fishway at Włocławek. Rocz. Nauk. PZW, Vol. 12 (in Polish).
30. Zagorodniuk, I., Postawa, T., Wołoszyn, B.W. 1999: A field Key to Bats from the underground of Eastern Europe. Publication of the Chiropterological Information Center Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków (in Ukrainian).

VI. Meetings

1. Symposium on Ecology of the Lower Vistula (Toruń, 19-22 September 2000).
2. Conference on angling in water and fish stock conservation (Łódź, 1997).
3. 4th European Bat Detector Workshop" organised by Polish Society of Wildlife Friends "Pro Natura" (Wrocław) and Pieniny National Park, 27 - 30 August 1999.
4. 11th National Chiropterological Conference, Kraków, 8-9 November 1997).
5. 12th. Krzyklina Mała (near Wrocław, Western Poland) on 14-15 November 1998 organized by Group on Bat Researches and Conservation PTPR "Pro Natura" (Wrocław).

6. 13th. Błażejewko (near Poznań) on 5-7 November 1999 organized by Polish Society for Nature Conservation "Salamandra" (Poznań).
7. 14th. Rogów (near Łódź) 10-12 Nov. 2000 organised by the Polish Zoological Society, Division Łódź and the University of Łódź.
8. Seminar “Regional Fish Species Protection”. State, threats, conservation trends (Łopuszna near Nowy Targ, 25-27 May, 2000).
9. National conference “Functioning and conservation of water ecosystems on protected areas” (Wigry, 11-13 May, 1998).

VII. General implementation problems as caused by the Convetion

There are some problems with integration of nation-wide studies concerning species covered in the Appendixes. In general it was impossible to arrange an action plan for each species endangered or threatened by extinction as well as more species should to be monitored and studied in order to better knowledge about them. Besides the financial support is needed in order to implement approved plans for the species conservation. Some mechanism for the control of the implementation of the Convention was ineffective due to legislation.