



**Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species  
of Wild Animals**



## **SYNTHESIS OF PARTY REPORTS**

### **Part II: Information on Appendix I-listed Species**

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# **BIRDS**



## *Acrocephalus paludicola* (Aquatic Warbler)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 51
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 28
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 12

From the national reports obtained to date, it would seem that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. However, it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Several projects are being undertaken for the conservation of this species, with further projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Regularly found during migration. Numbers are not studied. It is mainly found along the Black Sea coast.
- **Czech Republic:** The Czech Republic hosts migrating populations only. Regularly migrating.
- **Denmark:** A very rare visitor.
- **European Community:** The aquatic warbler is considered vulnerable worldwide. The causes of its decline are probably linked to the rapid destruction (estimated at 40% over the last decade) of its breeding habitat due to drainage for agriculture or to peat extraction. In Europe, the aquatic warbler is considered an endangered species. *Acrocephalus paludicola* has a very fragmented distribution. It breeds in specific wetland environments (sedge meadows) in Germany, Belarus, Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Russia and the Ukraine. In Europe, its numbers are estimated at between 13,250 and 21,000 pairs.
- **Hungary:** Its breeding in the Hortobágy region was first reported in 1971. Since then the number of individuals reached 700 singing males. It is rare on passage in other regions of the country.
- **Latvia:** Lake Liepajas is the only site in which singing males were recorded.
- **Mali:** The latest data is not available at the moment because it contains an inventory error.
- **Poland:** Breeds in Poland (2,800-3,000 pairs).
- **Portugal:** Every year up to four individuals are ringed during the autumn migration at Santo André lagoon (southern Portugal). The species is also being sighted in central Portugal (Paul do Taipal and Paul de Arzila).
- **Senegal:** This species is encountered in the north of the country, particularly in the National Bird Park of Djoudj.
- **Switzerland:** Rare migrating species, which has been in constant decline since the 1960s due to the loss of habitats in breeding sites.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Ringing activities are irregularly conducted by Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.
- **Mali:** Joint Mission (May 2002) by DNCN – ONCFS and Wetlands International for the annual counting of migratory waterbirds and for the training of officers in the identification of birds and wetlands in the region of Mopti.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Co-ordinated by the Hortobágyi National Park Directorate.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **European Community:** This species is present at 14 sites that have been proposed by Member States for inclusion in the Natura 2000 ecological network.
- **Hungary:** The majority of the population breeds within the boundaries of protected areas; those breeding grounds that are unprotected are subject to future protection.
- **Latvia:** Lake Liepajas is a specially protected nature area.

## 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** shallow artificial spring flooding of habitats.

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **European Community:** Actions to increase the presence of *Acrocephalus paludicola* are included in a LIFE project on the protection of priority bird species in the Po Valley (00/7161). A management plan for this species has been approved by the Ornis Committee. It is listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive.
- **Latvia:** The Aquatic Warbler is a specially protected species in Latvia
- **Poland:** Poland is preparing to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Aquatic Warbler in the near future.  
The Polish Society for the Protection of Birds has started to prepare a National Action Plan for the Aquatic Warbler.
- **Portugal:** Ringing program. (Contact details provided.)

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future. The Hungarian population will all be included in Natura 2000 as Special Protection Area.
- **Mali:** Implementation of conservation projects and programmes for species of migratory birds in the wetlands of Mali.
- **Senegal:** Monitoring, protection and restoration of the habitat together with annual counting work.
- **Slovakia:** There is an effort to monitor the occurrence of the species in appropriate localities especially in the Eastern Slovakia and to prove the regular/irregular migration and probable breeding of the species on these sites.
- **Switzerland:** No planned action because the species is too small.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Slovakia:** Due to a small number of specimens which are only occasionally recorded in the country, no special efforts on monitoring and/or habitat protection activities have been implemented.

## *Agelaius flavus* (Saffron-cowled Blackbird)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 4
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Uruguay:** Approximately 1,000 individuals.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **7. Activities planned for the future**

None reported.

### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Uruguay:** Lack of funding.

## *Alectrurus risora* (Strange-tailed Tyrant)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 4
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Uruguay:** Threatened species, with only three records in one century.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Uruguay:** None, as this was a random finding.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Uruguay:** Research funding.

## *Anser erythropus* (Lesser White-fronted Goose)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 44
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 30
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 9

Although it is difficult to draw conclusions from the information received to date, it appears that the species is generally declining and is rarely seen in several of its Range States. Monitoring and habitat protection activities are being undertaken, with several other projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Wintering species, occurring in mixed flocks with White-fronted geese and Red-breasted geese. Mainly found in feeding groups. These species are difficult to distinguish which makes population data inaccurate. Wintering population estimated as being between 1-50 birds.
- **Czech Republic:** Host to migrating populations only. Rarely and irregularly migrating.
- **Denmark:** A very rare visitor.
- **Hungary:** Hungary is only a staging ground during the autumn and spring migrations of the species. A total of 50-100 individuals are seen each year with slightly declining numbers in the Hortobagy, and slightly increasing numbers in the north-western part of the country. This increase is, at least in part, due to more frequent surveys.
- **Latvia:** Breeding has never been recorded in Latvia. This species is a regular migrant, but in the last few years is present in decreasing numbers.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) migrating species.
- **Slovakia:** The occurrence of the species in Slovakia is evaluated as rare and uncommon. There are older records from the Danubian Lowland (1960ies, Hudec et al., 1994). In Eastern Slovakia it is also rare, having been recorded only several times inside the National Nature Reserve Senne-fishponds and its surroundings (1970ies – 1980ies, Danko, 1995). Trnka (1997) evaluates the species as a rare visitor (vagrant), recorded in Slovakia only before 1990ies.
- **Switzerland:** Chance visitor, and there has been no data since 1851.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Regular monitoring (two counts per month) are made at most important wintering sites by Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds.
- **Hungary:** A regular waterbird census.
- **Slovakia:** Since the late 1990s winter waterfowl counting has been organised by the Society for the Protection of Birds in Slovakia (SOVS). Until 1996 winter monitoring was organised by the Zoological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Science in Bratislava.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Most of the staging grounds are situated in protected areas.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

## **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Czech Republic:** The Lesser White-fronted Goose has been taken off the list of species that can be hunted.
- **Latvia:** The Lesser White-fronted Goose is a specially protected species.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Bulgaria:** Monitoring will continue.
- **Israel:** Information provided in section “General questions on Appendix I bird species”.
- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned (above) are to be continued in the future.
- **Slovakia:** No special activities are being planned for the future.
- **Switzerland:** No activities are planned because the species is too small.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Switzerland:** There have been no sightings since 1851.

## *Aquila adalberti* (Adalbert's Eagle)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 6
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 1
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Portugal:** A few individuals, mainly immature birds, are sighted every year in southern Portugal. There is no data of its occurrence as a breeding species.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Portugal:** Activities that have been implemented for the conservation of the Iberian Lynx will also benefit this species. Such activities include habitat conservation and increasing prey availability (rabbits). (Contact information provided.)

### 7. Activities planned for the future

None reported.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Aquila clanga* (Greater Spotted Eagle)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 89
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 26
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 11

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. However, it is difficult to ascertain general trends from the information provided. Several monitoring and habitat protection projects have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with further projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Mainly a migratory and wintering species. Found in scarce numbers along the migratory routes and important staging posts. Numbers are established at 2-4 wintering birds annually. The numbers of migrating birds are possibly higher because some observations may have been omitted and birds may be present in migrating flocks of Lesser Spotted Eagles.
- **Czech Republic:** Hosts migrating populations. Rarely and irregularly migrating.
- **Hungary:** The species is rare on migration during the autumn and sometimes during spring. Predominantly found in open steppe, as well as wetland areas. Occasionally overwinters. It is now annual in very low numbers. The increase in records is due to a better network of observers.
- **Israel:** Common winter visitor, mainly in wetlands.
- **Jordan:** It is a vagrant, which is distributed throughout Jordan.
- **Kenya:** No information on trends is known. However, concentration records have been reported in the Rift Valley. These reflect migration routes/wintering areas. All other records have been in areas that have rainfall between 500-1000mm.
- **Latvia:** The population is estimated to be 1-5 pairs.
- **Moldova:** Rare migratory and straying species.
- **Poland:** Breeds in Poland with 15 pairs that regularly breed. Stable population.
- **Slovakia:** Seldom and extremely rare occurrence during the spring and autumn migration.
- **Switzerland:** Chance guest, with 24 recordings since 1900.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** This species is already identified as vulnerable in Kenya.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Wintering birds which are regularly recorded during monitoring of wetlands and wintering waterfowl.
- **Hungary:** Regular synchrony census for birds of prey.
- **Kenya:** Monitoring protocols for the species have been developed but not yet tested.
- **Slovakia:** During their other monitoring activities, members of the SVODAS recorded the species. (Contact details provided).

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Jordan:** Through the establishment of reserves and the enforcement of law.
- **Kenya:** Its staging areas (such as Lake Nakuru) have some protection status.
- **Latvia:** The breeding sites are under protection.

In accordance with Cabinet Ministers Regulations No. 45 “On establishment, management and protection of Micro Reserves” (2001), nest protection micro-reserves must be established for *Aquila clanga* (area size 10-200 ha).

## **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

## **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Latvia:** The Greater Spotted Eagle is a specially protected species in Latvia.
- **Poland:** The breeding and resting sites of *Aquila clanga* are protected by areas of strict protection (O.J. 2001 No. 130, item 1456).

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Hungary:** As long as numbers remain low, no further action is necessary for the conservation of this species in Hungary.
- **Kenya:** Monitoring of population levels in its known staging areas in Kenya. Kenya plans to do more inventory work to identify other potential staging areas.
- **Moldova:** Study of situations and possible ways of restoring the species.
- **Slovakia:** Monitoring of migration occurrence.
- **Switzerland:** No activities are planned because the species is too small.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Hungary:** There is sufficient habitat for overwintering or migrating individuals and appropriate protection. The low number of individuals does not warrant further action in Hungary.
- **Kenya:** Much still needs to be done to identify other staging areas, and apply developed monitoring protocols.
- **Slovakia:** Rarely occurring species, and protection is restricted to the migration period only.

# *Aquila heliaca* (Imperial Eagle)

## Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 74
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 24
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 7

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. The population is stable and/or slightly increasing in three of the Range States, but otherwise population trends are difficult to ascertain. Several projects are being undertaken for the conservation of this species, with further projects being planned for the future.

## 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** There are nine confirmed breeding pairs and 11-15 possible breeding pairs. The population is stable but breeding success is low.
- **Czech Republic:** The Czech Republic hosts breeding populations. Rarely breeding (two pairs in 2001). Regularly migrating.
- **Hungary:** There is a stable or slightly increasing population of about 55-60 pairs breeding in the country, concentrated in northeast Hungary, mainly in the Bükk and Zemplén Mountains.  
There are reports of a few dozen migrating immature birds every year nationwide. Most of the juveniles and immature birds migrate, while the majority of adults are resident.
- **Israel:** Rare passage migrant and winter visitor.
- **Moldova:** Very rare straying species.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) migrating species.
- **Slovakia:** The Slovak population currently comprises approximately 40 breeding pairs. The population size is slightly increasing, especially in Eastern Slovakia.

## 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** “Conservation of the Imperial Eagle”: Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/BirdLife Bulgaria has run two projects in 2001 and 2002. The Project was awarded with a Henry Fort Conservation Award in 2001. It included investigations on breeding success, habitat requirements, prey availability, biology, etc.
- **Hungary:** A thesis has been written on the nesting habitat selection of the Eastern Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*) in Northeast Hungary.  
Produced a national report on the research activities performed in the competence area of the Hortobágy National Park Directorate on the nestling mortality of raptors.
- **Slovakia:** Monitoring of population dynamics, human impacts, food requirements, habitat requirements, etc. (Contact details provided.)

## 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** The Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/BirdLife Bulgaria has run two projects in 2001 and 2002. The project was awarded the Henry Fort Conservation Award in 2001. It included regular monitoring on breeding, nest security, etc.
- **Hungary:** Regular censuses have been conducted by national park directorates.
- **Slovakia:** Population monitoring throughout Slovakia. Almost the entire population is being monitored by SVODAS in cooperation with the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.

#### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** “Conservation of the Imperial Eagle”: The Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/BirdLife Bulgaria has run two projects in 2001 and 2002. The Project was awarded the Henry Fort Conservation Awards in 2001. It included proposals for protected areas, planting of wild poplars for nest base, prevention of habitat loss and destruction of nests.
- **Czech Republic:** Direct protection of a breeding site in southern Moravia.
- **Hungary:** Most of the nests and feeding grounds are found in protected areas
- **Slovakia:** Guidance of the forestry activities through the negotiation of Forest Management Plans. Individual actions on habitat protection. (Contact details provided).

#### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Soudlik reintroduction in potential feeding grounds for the Imperial Eagle.
- **Slovakia:** Restoration of feeding grounds in the framework of the Spermophilus citellus Restitution Programme. (Contact details provided).

#### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** “Conservation of the Imperial Eagle”: The Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/BirdLife Bulgaria has run two projects in 2001 and 2002. It included:
  - Nest guarding and disturbance prevention, artificial feeding, and protection of fledging young.
  - A National Species Action Plan (NSAP), prepared in line with CBD and Council of Europe requirements.
  - Posters and leaflets, stickers, an awareness campaign and close co-operation with local communities.
- **Hungary:** nest guarding, supervising forestry management plans, and consulting with hunters’ organisations
- **Slovakia:** Nest improvements, nest watching, and habitat photo-documentation. (Contact details provided.)

#### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Bulgaria:** Implementation of conservation measures listed in the NSAP, including continued planting of *Populus nigra* for nesting, nest-guarding and monitoring, and public awareness planned by BSPB/BirdLife Bulgaria.
- **Hungary:** Current activities are to be continued, including research. A LIFE Nature project is planned, which would include research and habitat management. The tagging of individuals with radio and satellite transmitters will form part of this research, for which permissions from the authority are expected to be issued.
- **Moldova:** Study of situations and possible ways of restoring species.
- **Slovakia:** Regular and consistent monitoring of the population, especially the breeding population. Monitoring of the population dynamic and trends.
  - Monitoring of human impact.
  - Elimination of adverse anthropogenic influence.
  - Restitution of food sources – restitution of prey species.
  - Protection of nests against robbers.
  - Protection and management of the nesting sites in accordance with the Recovery Plan, the Action Plan for Implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy, requirements of the international treaties, etc.
  - Daily species protection, fixing of the nests damaged by wind, saving of the young endangered by lightning and possible wounds etc.
  - Awareness campaign among hunters for the prevention of illegal shooting and poisoning of the eagles.
  - Implementation of a project for the adaptation of 22 kV electric wires to prevent the species from accidental injuries and deaths.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Slovakia:** A lack of financial sources has reduced the opportunities for species protection and management.

## *Aythya nyroca* (Ferruginous Pochard, Ferruginous Duck)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 100
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 62
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 17

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. The population is stable in one Range State and is decreasing in another. However, in general it is difficult to determine population trends from the information provided. Several projects are being undertaken for the conservation of this species, with a significant number of projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Breeding, migratory and rarely a wintering species. Main breeding sites along the Danube River, Black Sea coast and some inland wetlands, predominantly in extensive fish-farms and shallow lakes with rich aquatic vegetation. Mean breeding population established at 150 pairs, wintering 0-50 birds. The trend varies.
- **Chad:** Unknown population size. Found on Lake Tchad, in the lagoon basin and in Chari.
- **Czech Republic:** Nearly extinct. Irregularly breeding population (probably 0-3 pairs) and a rarely wintering population (1-5 individuals).
- **Denmark:** A very rare visitor.
- **Hungary:** About 500-600 pairs breed in Hungary, which may be a slight under-estimation. The main populations are those of the Hortobágy (around 100 pairs), Pácsmag (60 pairs), southern Danube, Gemenc (50 pairs), Mórchely (45 pairs), Kis-Sárrét (40 pairs) and the Pusztaszer Landscape Protection Area (40-50 pairs). The overall Hungarian population seems stable, with increasing bird numbers in some areas and declining numbers in others (mainly in the Kis-Balaton region due to serious unsolved management problems of the lake system). Birds are occasionally killed through illegal hunting, which causes the death of approximately 30 birds annually.
- **Jordan:** The last observation was in 2001 at Aqaba sewage station.
- **Kenya:** Scarce and rare Palearctic migrant. The species has not been spotted in Kenya for some time now.
- **Latvia:** The Ferruginous Duck is an irregular breeder, with the last recorded pair in 1992. There are no regular records.
- **Mali:** The latest data is not available at the moment because it contains an inventory error.
- **Moldova:** A rare nesting and migrating species. Included in the Red Book of the Republic of Moldova.
- **Poland:** Breeding population of 40 pairs.
- **Portugal:** A few individuals have been sighted in some lagoons in central and southern Portugal.
- **Senegal:** Present in the north of the country.
- **Slovakia:** Trnka (1997) evaluates the species as being a breeding, and regularly migrating and wintering species in the period 1990 – 1997. The number of breeding pairs is estimated at 20 – 40, while the population trend in 1973 - 1994 is evaluated as being a moderate decrease of population by 20 to 50 %.

In Western Slovakia the species bred near the Gabčíkovo a Cícov. Kalivodová et Darolová evaluate the species as rare and uncommon breeder of the Danubian area. At the present time (2000 – 2001) the species was not recorded as breeding in Western Slovakia (Rác in verb.).

In the Záhorie Lowland the species bred near Jakubovo. The current breeding of the species is not known. In Eastern Slovakia the species bred more frequently on several sites (Medzibodrožie, inundation area of the Latorica river Senné-Inacovce fishpond area and NNR Senné-fishponds (on the latter two sites 3-10 pairs bred annually during 1970 – 1985). In the Košice basin 4-6 pairs bred annually. Danko (1995) evaluated that 10-11 pairs bred sporadically in the NNR Senné-fishponds and

surrounding fishpond area in 1975 – 1994. Currently the breeding of the species in the same area is expected but the exact number is not known.

- **Switzerland:** Sporadic winter visitor. In mid-January there are between 5 and 27 individuals, which have always been insignificant. In two cases there has been evidence of nesting (1991,1992).
- **Tunisia:** 600 individuals.

## 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Breeding biology, habitat requirements, feeding ecology and habitat management studied by BSPB.
- **Kenya:** No specific research has been conducted on this species.
- **Mali:** Joint Mission (May 2002) by DNCN – ONCFS and Wetlands International for the annual counting of migratory waterbirds and for the training of officers in the identification of birds and wetlands in the region of Mopti.

## 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Regular monitoring of breeding numbers. A national census of the species by the Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds (BSPB) is taking place in 2002, supported by the CMS through BirdLife International.
- **Hungary:** Regular waterbird census.
- **Kenya:** Conducted within the framework of the bi-annual waterfowl counts and monitoring.
- **Portugal:** As part of the annual waterbird counts. (Contact details provided)
- **Slovakia:** Contact details provided.

## 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Habitat management measures have been proposed.
- **Czech Republic:** The most important sites are designated as wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites) and most of them are protected by national legislation. Legislative protection of potential breeding sites.
- **Hungary:** Most of the habitats lie in protected areas.
- **Kenya:** Most of the sites/habitats in Kenya are already gazetted protected areas. There is however a general decline in the quality of the habitats due to the negative impacts of land use and development in the catchment areas.
- **Slovakia:** Protection and management of the Senné-fishponds NNR in co-operation with SNC SR and SOVS.

## 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** Conducted within the framework of protected area management.

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** A National Species Action Plan (NSAP) has been prepared in line with CBD and Council of Europe requirements. (“Conservation of the Imperial Eagle”: Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/BirdLife Bulgaria runs two projects in 2001 and 2002. Project awarded with the Henry Fort Conservation Awards in 2001.)  
BSPB co-ordinates the International working group of the *Aythya nyroca* of BirdLife International.
- **Chad:** Foundation Working Group on International Waterbird and Wetland Research (WIWO), The Netherlands (1999, 2001 and 2002).
- **Latvia:** The Ferruginous Duck is a specially protected species in Latvia.
- **Poland:** Commenced the preparation of a National Action Plan for this species
- **Switzerland:** Federal protection of the species.

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Bulgaria:** An international workshop for updating the European action plan will take place in October in Sofia (contact details provided).
- **Burkina Faso:** Publicity/information campaign.
- **Chad:** Possible project for the restoration/rehabilitation of protected areas.
- **Hungary:** Activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future. Those habitats which possess large flocks and are not yet protected, for example, the Móríchely Lake, are considered for protection in the near future. Ferruginous Duck populations are taken into consideration in the designation of Special Protected Areas as part of Natura 2000.
- **Jordan:** There is a regular waterfowl census.
- **Kenya:** More inventories need to be carried out.  
Request for information from around the region to determine whether there are any recent records.
- **Mali:** Implementation of conservation projects and programmes for species of migratory birds in the wetlands of Mali.
- **Senegal:** Monitoring, protection and restoration of the habitat, together with annual counting work.
- **Slovakia:** Future activities will be concentrated on the monitoring and protection of historical and other suitable nesting sites.
- **Switzerland:** No planned action because the species is too small.
- **Tunisia:** Study of ecology, inventory and an Action Plan for the conservation of the species.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Burkina Faso:** The Office for Fauna and Hunting does not have either the logistical or the financial means to undertake surveillance and protection operations.
- **Kenya:** Inadequate resources, mainly funds.
- **Tunisia:** Lack of funds and experts.

## *Branta ruficollis* (Red-breasted Goose)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 38
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 19
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 8

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. Although one Party stated that the population is increasing slightly in its country, it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Several projects are being undertaken for the conservation of the species, including research, monitoring and habitat protection activities, with further projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Wintering species are mainly found in the Northern Black Sea coastal wetlands, along the Danube River and occasionally in inland wetlands in Southern Bulgaria. The minimum wintering population in Bulgaria is stable at 65,000 birds.
- **Czech Republic:** The Czech Republic hosts migrating populations only, which are rare and irregular.
- **Hungary:** Individuals of smaller flocks occur sporadically during migration, sometimes during winter. The number of individuals is increasing slightly. A total of approximately 150 individuals were estimated to appear in Hungary during the winter of 2000/01, this being the highest number ever identified. The birds are mainly concentrated in the Hortobágy region (approximately 70 birds), the Kiskunság (30-40 individuals) and the Fertő-lake (maximum of 22 birds).
- **Latvia:** Non-breeding population. There are very few records during migration.
- **Moldova:** These are not numerous migrating birds and are a rare wintering species.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) migrating species.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Research into feeding ecology, energetics, and flock formation and behaviour.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Regular monitoring (twice per month) by Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds (BSPB).
- **Hungary:** Regular waterbird census.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Foraging grounds are included in crop rotation schemes. Protection of wetlands. BSPB is constructing an observation tower at Durankulak Lake to facilitate monitoring.
- **Hungary:** most of the staging grounds are situated in protected areas.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Wardens patrol wintering grounds to prevent hunting.
- **Latvia:** The Red-breasted Goose is a specially protected species in Latvia.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Bulgaria:** Increase of agri-environment schemes in foraging grounds. Increase control in hunting season.
- **Israel:** Information provided in section “General questions on Appendix I bird species”.
- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned (above) are to be continued in the future.
- **Moldova:** The study of population change and the effects of threats.
- **Switzerland:** No activities are planned because the species is too small.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

None reported.

## *Chlamydotis undulata* (Houbara Bustard)

### **Overview**

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 54
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 18
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 4

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that the Houbara Bustard is threatened with extinction in one of its Range States, and a subspecies endemic to the Canary Islands is also classified as endangered. However, it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Research and habitat protection activities have been carried out in the reporting period, with further activities planned for the future.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **European Community:** The Houbara Bustard of the Canary Islands - *Chlamydotis undulata fuertaventurae* - is a subspecies endemic to this archipelago, and is found on the islands of Fuerteventura, Lobos, Lanzarote and Graciosa. The population is estimated at 700–750 birds (300–350 on Fuerteventura and Lobos, and 400 on Lanzarote and Graciosa). The species is protected by Spanish legislation and is classified as an endangered species in the national Red Book.

In Europe, the Houbara Bustard is to be found exclusively in the Canary Islands, which is host to the endemic *fuertaventurae* subspecies, and is provisionally classified as an endangered species.

- **Mali:** The latest data is not available at the moment because it contains an inventory error.
- **Switzerland:** Lost visitor, with one recording in 1916.
- **Tunisia:** The South Tunisian population is currently threatened with extinction (limited movement).

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Mali:** Joint Mission (May 2002) by DNCN – ONCFS and Wetlands International for the annual counting of migratory waterbirds and for the training of officers in the identification of birds and wetlands in the region of Mopti.

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **European Community:** This species is present at Natura 2000 protected sites in the Macaronesian region.

This species is present at one site which has been proposed by Member States for inclusion in the Natura 2000 ecological network.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **European Community:** A rehabilitation plan has been underway since 1985.  
A management plan for this species has been approved by the Ornis Committee.

The (sub)species is listed in Annex I of Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the conservation of wild birds. The Maghreb populations are listed in Appendix I of the Bonn Convention.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Mali:** Implementation of conservation projects and programmes for species of migratory birds in the wetlands of Mali.
- **Switzerland:** No activity planned because the species is too small.
- **Tunisia:** Study of the ecology of the species in Tunisia, and an Inventory and Action Plan for its conservation.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Tunisia:** Lack of funds and experts.

## *Chloephaga rubidiceps* (Ruddy-headed Goose)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 3
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** The population occurs only in the Region Duodécima (Magallanes). The size and trend of the population is not known.  
A bilateral project between Chile and Argentina is being developed to conduct research on this species, which is considered to be threatened with extinction.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Ongoing projects funded by CMS.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Work to monitor the total population and the breeding population.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** A project is being conducted in Punta Arenas to protect the breeding area in Magallanes.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Implementation of the joint project between Chile and Argentina.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Lack of resources.

## *Falco naumanni* (Lesser Kestrel)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 112
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 51
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 15

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that population sizes vary considerably in the different Range States. One Range State reported that the population was significant, while six Parties reported having small populations. Two Range States classified populations of this species as vulnerable, with three Parties stating that this species is rarely observed. As regards population trends, two Parties indicated that this species is in decline, whilst another reported a considerable increase in population. However, it is difficult to ascertain overall trends from the information provided. A significant number of projects have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with several further projects being planned for the future, including research and habitat restoration projects, and reintroduction programmes in particular areas.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Benin:** There is a significant population in the bush, grass and tree swamps of the North Benin region.
- **Bulgaria:** Marginal population. Breeding has not been recorded since 1991. Observations of post-breeding birds took place in 1999, 2000 and 2001. An extensive search of breeding pairs was completed in 1995-1997 without success.
- **Chad:** Small population. Status unknown. Found in the National Park of Zakouma; Wildlife Reserve of Siniaka Minia and Reserves ouidi Rimé and Achim.
- **Hungary:** Bred in Hungary until the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is now only a vagrant (April-September).
- **Israel:** As a result of a survey conducted in 2000, it is estimated that there are about 550 nesting pairs, which is 10% of the pre-1950s population.
- **Jordan:** Found in the south of Jordan.  
Two surveys were conducted: in Dana Nature Reserve the number of pairs was 25 and at Mujib Nature Reserve the number of pairs was 20.
- **Kenya:** This species is listed as vulnerable in Kenya. Its range is 89% above 500 m asl and only 8% within the driest (0-250mm), but rare on the coast. It passes through Kenya more than other East Africa countries. The following areas are known to be its staging areas in Kenya: Amboseli National Park, Lakes Baringo, Bogoria and Elmenteita, Masai Mara National Reserve and Mau Narok grasslands.
- **Moldova:** Rare and disappearing species. Nesting with no more 5-10 pairs.
- **Portugal:** In 2001 the Institute for Nature Conservation conducted a national census. It was estimated that there was a total of 270 to 272 breeding pairs within 31 colonies. These numbers represent an increase of 70% since the last published census and are the result of an increase in both the number of pairs at the major colonies of Castro Verde SPA (southern Portugal) and census effort.
- **Senegal:** This species is often counted in the centre of the country (in the region of Fatick). The population size is approximately 50.
- **Switzerland:** Chance guest, with four recordings since 1900.
- **Tanzania:** Winters in Tanzania. Population size and trends are not known although the literature shows that the species has undergone a rapid decline in its wintering grounds in Southern Africa, equivalent to 10% in each ten years since 1971.
- **Tunisia:** Vulnerable species with 600 individuals.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chad:** Project for the Conservation of the Environment in the South-east of Chad.
- **Israel:** A research, monitoring, rehabilitation and reintroduction project is being conducted.
- **Kenya:** Its staging sites have already identified through inventories.

- **Portugal:** Research is being conducted at the hunting area of Mértola (Guadiana Valley Natural Park, southern Portugal) (contact details provided).

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chad:** Contact details provided.
- **Kenya:** Not very regular but occasionally counted during the biannual bird counts (although the counting exercise is mainly on waterfowls).
- **Portugal:** A national census of Lesser Kestrel is conducted annually (contact details provided).

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Benin:** Expansion of the Pendjari National Park to cover the Atacora range and the Seri zone. (Contact details provided.)
- **Hungary:** Potential habitats for the species are ensured.
- **Kenya:** Most of its major staging sites in Kenya have protection status, except the Mau Narok grasslands.
- **Portugal:** Project on the Conservation of Stepic Birds at Castro Verde region (southern Portugal). (Contact details provided.)
- **Tanzania:** A number of wintering areas are protected as National Parks, Game Reserves or Conservation Areas (e.g. Serengeti NP and Ngorongoro CA).

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Israel:** Nesting boxes have been placed on shingled rooftops.
- **Kenya:** Covered under the general management of the protected areas.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Search for breeding pairs, habitat data collection and monitoring of Orthoptera populations. A National Species Action Plan (NSAP) has been prepared in line with CBD and Council of Europe requirements. It has been prepared as part of “Conservation of the Lesser Kestrel”: Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/BirdLife Bulgaria runs one project in 1995-1997. It has been a focus species in the “Biodiversity Conservation in the Eastern Rhodopes” project of BSPB.
- **Chad:** Joint project by WWF and the Office for the Protection of Wildlife and National Parks (2001) .
- **Israel:** Environmental education campaigns are especially directed at local populations and teachers.
- **Tanzania:** Some of the areas outside Serengeti and Ngorongoro have been earmarked for conservation under a local communities initiative.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Benin:** An inventory of the Natural Resources of the ‘W’ National Park, which straddles the borders of Benin, Burkina and Nigeria, and greater monitoring.
- **Bulgaria:** Possible reintroduction is being investigated.
- **Burkina Faso:** All of the species listed in Appendix I and present in Burkina Faso will be the subjects of intense publicity campaigns by leaflet.
- **Chad:** Possible project to restore/rehabilitate protected areas in general.
- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future.
- **Israel:** Information provided in section “General questions relating to Appendix I bird species”.
- **Jordan:** Repetition of the two surveys (see above).
- **Kenya:** Detailed studies focusing on some aspects of the ecology of the species in staging areas still need to be done.

Identification of other staging areas, both in Kenya and within the region, through collaborative regional surveys.

- **Moldova:** Study of situations and possible ways of restoring this species.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) migrating species.
- **Portugal:** The project “Re-establishment of the Lesser Kestrel (*Falco naumanni*) in Portugal” has been submitted by LPN to the LIFE program. The project aims at:
  - Improving and implementing available breeding sites, namely through the construction of walls specially designed to provide breeding sites;
  - Increasing the quality of the feeding areas, promoting farming techniques that are beneficial to the main prey occurrence;
  - Monitoring power lines in the main occurrence areas;
  - Elaborating proposals of Area Plans for two of the three SPAs considered for action (Guadiana Valley and Campo Maior); and
  - Promoting environmental education campaigns specially directed at the local populations and teachers.
- **Switzerland:** No activity planned because the species is too small.
- **Tunisia:** Study of the ecology of the species in Tunisia, an inventory and an Action Plan for its conservation.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Burkina Faso:** Lack of logistical and operational means.
- **Kenya:** Availability of funds.
- **Tanzania:** Many important areas are already included in the protected areas network in Tanzania.
- **Tunisia:** Lack of funds and experts.

## *Geronticus eremita* (Waldrapp, Hermit Ibis)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 25
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 12
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 4

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is under threat of extinction, but it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Habitat protection and research activities have been conducted, and further projects are planned for the future.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Hungary:** Three individuals were reported from Tótvázsony in October 1998, which were escapees from a zoo.
- **Mali:** The latest data is not yet available because it contains an inventory error.
- **Morocco:** The Hermit Ibis is regarded worldwide as a species under threat of extinction. The region of Agadir currently holds the largest and last wild colony in the world, numbering 300 individuals.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Mali:** Joint Mission (May 2002) by DNCN – ONCFS and Wetlands International for the annual counting of migratory waterbirds and for the training of officers in the identification of birds and wetlands in the region of Mopti.
- **Morocco:** Undertaken a breeding and research project for reintroduction and rehabilitation at Mezguitem (TAZA province).  
Signed an agreement for genetic research on this species in south-west Morocco (Souss-Massa and Tamri), between the National Park of Souss-Massa and IFCDW. Its objective is to establish a bank of samples, develop analysis techniques and conduct genetic study of the Hermit Ibis in the region.

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Hungary:** Most of the potential habitats for this species are within the boundaries of protected areas.
- **Morocco:** Created the National Park of Souss-massa on the Atlantic coast between Agadir and Tiznit for the protection of the species and the nesting sites.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Morocco:** Organised an international workshop at Agadir on 8-12 March 1999 to determine a strategy for the rehabilitation of this species.  
Organised training sessions for the Hermit Ibis keepers.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Hungary:** None planned.
- **Mali:** The implementation of conservation projects and programmes for species of migratory birds in the wetlands of Mali.
- **Tunisia:** Study of the ecology of the species in Tunisia, and an inventory and Action Plan for its conservation.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Tunisia** lacks funds and experts.

## *Haliaeetus albicilla* (White-tailed Eagle)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 73
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 39
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 11

Of the Parties that have submitted reports to date, eight Parties provided information on population size. Five Parties stated that the population is increasing in their countries, but it is difficult to ascertain from the information provided whether this trend is also to be found in the other Range States. Several projects for the conservation of this species have been carried out in the reporting period, with several more planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** There are seven confirmed and three probable breeding pairs.  
The wintering population is approximately 20 birds, mainly along the Danube River, Black-Sea Coast and the major inland wetlands.
- **Czech Republic** hosts breeding populations. There is an increasing population. In 2000, there were approximately 25 breeding pairs, and 40-80 regularly wintering individuals.
- **Denmark:** Seven pairs were breeding in 2001. The population trend is increasing, with distribution in the southern part of the country. This species began re-immigration as a breeding bird in Denmark in 1996. Seven pairs have been breeding successfully in 2001.
- **Israel:** Rare passage migrant and winter visitor.
- **Hungary:** The population size of the species has been constantly growing in the last years, rising from approximately 55-65 breeding pairs to about 100 pairs, most of which (58 pairs) breed in the south-western part of the country, within the competence area of the Duna-Dráva National Park Directorate. The majority of the nests are located in protected areas, and therefore their conservation seems to be secured. The number of overwintering individuals is also growing, reaching a total of about 300-400 birds, with a high concentration in the Hortobágy region and the south-eastern part of the country.
- **Jordan:** This species is a vagrant.
- **Latvia:** The breeding population is estimated at 15-25 pairs, with 20-50 wintering birds.
- **Moldova:** Irregular, during migration and winter.
- **Poland:** Breed in Poland. Regularly breeding (430-500 pairs), with increasing tendency.
- **Slovakia:** 55 – 60 wintering specimens (45 specimens on Danube in 2002). Increasing population trend, most abundant along the Danube, where they have bred since 1999. In 2002 there are four breeding pairs along Danube, one breeding pair in Vihorlat Mts., and two other possible breeding pairs near Oravska water reservoir and Latorica river. Breeding is being regularly monitored. During their spring migration a few specimens occurred on Liptovska Mara water reservoir (3-4 specimens) and Oravska water reservoir (8-11 specimens). The breeding of three pairs was recorded on Danube in 2001, although two were not successful due to disturbance by forestry activities and illegal video shooting. There was a further possible breeding near Oravska water reservoir and another pair near Latorica River. There were 40-50 wintering specimens (30-40) along Danube.  
During winter counting along the Danube a total of 45 specimens have been recorded in the area between Bratislava and Ostrihom.
- **Switzerland:** Sporadic visitor, with 58 sightings between 1950 and 1996. The length of stay of the White-tailed Eagle is normally one to several days. Winter visits of single young birds on the same site have been recorded on four occasions since 1966.

## 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Slovakia:** Mapping of the occurrence of the species, with winter counting of White-tailed Eagles along Danube and in Northern Slovakia.

## 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Regular monitoring of breeding and wintering populations.
- **Hungary:** Regular censuses conducted by national park directorates
- **Slovakia:** Monitoring of the breeding pairs in the Danube Floodplains.

## 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** The majority of breeding sites are protected.
- **Hungary:** Most of the nests and feeding grounds are found in protected areas.
- **Israel:** Part of the habitat for this species is protected at the Hula Nature Reserve and the restored Hula wetland.
- **Latvia:** Breeding sites are under protection.  
In accordance with Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 45 "On establishment, management and protection of Micro Reserves" (2001), nest protection micro-reserves must be established for *Haliaeetus albicilla* (area size 50-200 ha).
- **Slovakia:** Legislative protection of the habitats (designation of the Protected Range Oravska water reservoir), 2001/2002 – negotiation on assigning the 500m wide buffer zone around the nest trees for three breeding pairs during the breeding season.

## 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Israel:** This is part of the restoration project for the Hula wetland.
- **Slovakia:** Installation of artificial nests for White-Tailed Eagles near Oravska water reservoir in the framework of the project "Monitoring and protection of White-tailed Eagle in Slovakia".

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Artificial feeding during winter has been implemented in some regions of the country as part of vulture management programmes.
- **Hungary:** Nest guarding, supervising forestry management plans and winter feeding.
- **Israel:** The reintroduction project in the Hula Nature Reserve continues and is accompanied by monitoring of wintering and potentially nesting individuals in the Hulla Valley and Bet-Shean Valley.
- **Latvia:** The White-tailed Eagle is a specially protected species in Latvia.
- **Poland:** The breeding and resting sites of *Haliaeetus albicilla* are protected by strictly protected areas.
- **Slovakia:** Winter auxiliary feeding of the White-Tailed Eagles on Oravska and Liptovska Mara water reservoir in the framework of the project "Monitoring and protection of White-tailed Eagle in Slovakia".

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Bulgaria:** Improve habitat management in breeding areas, and the prevention of threats by forestry activities.
- **Denmark:** The immigration of the species will currently be followed up and conservation measures considered.
- **Israel:** Information is provided in section "General questions relating to Appendix I bird species".
- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued and further consideration of conservation aspects in forestry management plans is expected.

- **Moldova:** Study of situations and possible ways of restoring species.
- **Slovakia:** Winter accounting on the Danube (Southern Slovakia), Oravská, Liptovská Mara, Tvrdošín, Bešenová, Nová Bystrica water reservoirs (Northern Slovakia), Zemlínska Širava water reservoir, and Senné and Latorica Ramsar Sites (Eastern Slovakia).

Monitoring.

Nest watching and control of the nesting pairs along the Danube and in Northern (Oravská water reservoir) and Eastern Slovakia (Vihorlat Mts.).

Winter auxiliary feeding of the White-tailed Eagles on Oravská and Liptovská Mara water reservoirs.

- **Switzerland:** No planned action because the species is too small.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

None reported.

## *Hirundo atrocaerulea* (Blue Swallow)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 10
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 6
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2

Having obtained information from two Parties, it is difficult to draw any firm conclusions on population trends for this species. Indeed these Parties did not specify population levels, but one indicated that its (small) population is declining. Projects for the conservation of this species have been undertaken in the reporting period, and both Parties have further activities planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Kenya:** Little is known about its population levels. However, its distribution in Kenya is well known in Western Kenya around Busia and Ruma National Park. Its is recorded regularly between April and September.
- **Tanzania:** Breeds in south-western Tanzania i.e. Kitulo Plateau, Mbeya, Mufindi and Iringa. It occurs in north-western Tanzania in the Minziro Highlands and around Lake Victoria in the non-breeding season. The species is threatened by destruction of its grassland habitats on both its breeding ground and its wintering area. This is inferred to have led to a rapid reduction of its already small population.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** No specific research has been done on this species. Staging sites are already known in Kenya.
- **Tanzania:** Research on habitat needs in the southern Udzungwa Mountains in 1999-2000 by the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST).

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** Monitoring protocols for this species have been developed.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** Only one major staging site for the species in Kenya (Ruma National Park) has legal protection status as a National Park. The other site, Busia grasslands, has no legal protection and is experiencing extensive habitat degradation.
- **Tanzania:** One of the breeding sites in the Southern Highlands, the Kitulo plateau, is in the process of becoming a National Park.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** Being managed within the framework of a protected area. Habitat restoration has not been undertaken elsewhere.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Kenya:** Setting up a monitoring programme using developed protocols. Identification of other staging areas especially within the Western Kenya region. Establishing community-based conservation programmes in the non-protected range sites.

- **Tanzania:** The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCST) will develop a National Species Action Plan in year 2003. Moreover, the distribution of the species in Tanzania is covered by Important Bird Areas for which conservation initiatives are expected.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

None reported.

## *Larus atlanticus* (Olrog's Gull)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 3
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 2
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Uruguay:** It is a winter visitor that does not nest in the country.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Uruguay:** Monitoring activities.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Uruguay:** Research funding

## *Larus audouinii* (Audouin's Gull)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 27
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 17
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 4

Of the Parties that have submitted reports to date, three provided information on population size. However, it is not possible to ascertain population trends from the information provided. There have been two activities carried out for the conservation of this species in the current reporting period, with several more planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Portugal:** In 2001 a small colony (11 couples) bred at Castro Marim Saltmarsh Reserve (southern Portugal).
- **Senegal:** There are approximately 1,000 individuals (2001 count) in the centre of the country (Delta of the Saloum and Joal parks) and 13 individuals for the National Park of Djoudj in the south of the country.
- **Tunisia:** 390 individuals.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Portugal:** As part of the annual waterbird counts. (Contact details provided.)

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Jordan:** Through established reserves.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Jordan:** A census.
- **Senegal:** Monitoring, protection and restoration of the habitat, together with annual counting work.
- **Tunisia:** A study of the ecology of the species, an inventory and an Action Plan for its conservation.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Tunisia:** Lack of funds and experts.

## *Larus leucophthalmus* (White-eyed Gull)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 13
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 7
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2

From the reports submitted so far, no information has been provided on population size, trends or distribution. One Party has conducted habitat protection and habitat restoration activities, and activities are planned for the future by both of the Parties that have reported.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

None reported.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Jordan:** Through established reserves.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Jordan:** Resources.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Israel:** Information provided in section “General questions on Appendix I bird species”.
- **Jordan:** Census for the bird.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Marmaronetta angustirostris* (Marbled Teal)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 49
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 27
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 10

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that populations of this species are not well documented. Although one Party states that its population may be increasing, it is not possible to ascertain general trends from the information obtained. Some projects have been carried out in the reporting period for the conservation of this species (namely research and habitat protection activities), and six Parties have activities planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Guinea:** The species is spread throughout the coastal area of Guinea, giving the impression that the population size is experiencing an upwards trend.
- **Hungary:** Very rare vagrant. There are six accepted records, the last being from 1981.
- **Israel:** Approximately 20 individuals are observed during the winter waterfowl census. A few tens of breeding pairs are estimated each season in the Hulla Valley, most of them in the Hula Nature Reserve. Wintering and breeding populations are believed to be two separate populations.
- **Jordan:** Passage migrant. Found in all water bodies in Jordan. The last observation for this species was in 1990.
- **Mali:** The latest data is not available at the moment because it contains an inventory error.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Extremely rare visitor and its status is uncertain.
- **Senegal:** The species is present in the north of Senegal.
- **Switzerland:** Chance guest, which had probably escaped from captivity.
- **Tunisia:** Winter visitor and vulnerable.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Joint Mission (May 2002) by DNCN – ONCFS and Wetlands International for the annual counting of migratory waterbirds and for the training of officers in the identification of birds and wetlands in the region of Mopti.
- **Morocco:** Conducted a study on the status of this species in Morocco.  
A programme to read coloured rings is conducted by a group of Moroccan, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese researchers along the Moroccan Atlantic coast during the migration and wintering periods.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Most of the potential habitats for the species are within the boundaries of protected areas.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

## **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Morocco:** Within the framework of a LIFE project, the aim of which is to review the status of the species in the Iberian Peninsula and North Africa, a workshop was organised on 27-29 September 2001 at Guardamar in Spain. Experts and officials from the self-governing communities of Valencia and Andalusia, Morocco and Tunisia participated.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Israel:** Information is provided in section “General questions on Appendix I bird species”.
- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future.
- **Jordan:** A regular census for the waterfowl species
- **Mali:** The implementation of conservation projects and programmes for species of migratory birds in the wetlands of Mali.
- **Senegal:** Monitoring, protection and restoration of the habitat, together with annual counting work.
- **Switzerland:** No activities are planned because the species is too small.
- **Tunisia:** Study of the ecology of the species in Tunisia, an inventory and an Action Plan for its conservation.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Guinea:** Human and scientific factors.
- **Tunisia:** Lack of funds and experts.

## *Numenius borealis* (Eskimo Curlew)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 27
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 5
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** The Chilean population is considered extinct, since no specimens have been observed for several years.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Monitoring to identify whether the remaining population is recovering.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** La Unión de Ornitólogos de Chile (UNORCH) [Association of Chilean Ornithologists] continues their bird-watching activities throughout the country.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Lack of resources.

## *Numenius tenuirostris* (Slender-billed Curlew)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 44
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 24
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 6

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. However, it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with further projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Irregularly observed during migration and wintering. It has a minimum wintering population of one bird. Most observations are along the Black Sea coastal wetlands.
- **Hungary:** Very rare visitor during spring (March –April) and autumn (September-November). During the reporting period there was one (yet unverified) record in 2001, which is being scrutinised by the Hungarian Rarities Committee.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Extremely rare visitor.
- **Tunisia:** Rare and vulnerable species.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Regular waterbird census.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Most of the potential habitats for the species lie in protected areas.
- **Jordan:** Through established reserves.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future.
- **Israel:** Information provided in the section “General questions on Appendix I bird species”.
- **Jordan:** A census for this species.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Otis tarda* (Great Bustard)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 61
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 27
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 7

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed and/or nearly extinct in several of its Range States. One Party states that its population is stable or very slightly increasing, but otherwise it is difficult to ascertain trends for the information obtained. Several projects have been conducted, and further activities are planned for the future, including research projects and habitat protection projects.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Former breeding species. Currently found as an irregular wintering species. There was a single observation from the Dobrudja plain in north-east Bulgaria.
- **Czech Republic:** Nearly extinct. Irregularly wintering (0-3 individuals in 2001-2002).
- **Hungary:** The Hungarian population consists of about 1,000-1,200 individuals. The largest flocks are found in the Kiskunság (approximately 400 individuals), Dévaványa (approximately 380 individuals) and the Hortobágy (approximately 110 individuals). The population now seems to be stable or very slightly increasing, though many factors threaten the survival of the species. The number of native predators (crows, magpies, martens, stone martens and foxes) is extremely high. The fox population has been growing steeply in the last few years due to recent alimentary vaccination against rabies.
- **Moldova:** Very rare straying species.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) migrating species.
- **Slovakia:** Currently the population of the Great Bustard in Slovakia is represented by 10 nesting hens. The wintering population comprises the specimens breeding in Hungary and Austria which visit Slovak territories in numbers of approximately 100 specimens. The population in Slovakia is at the critical limit for extinction and it requires exceptional conservation measures.
- **Switzerland:** Chance guest, with nine recordings since 1900.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Continuous research has been conducted for many years to improve the success of nestling repatriation.
- **Slovakia:** Research focused on human impacts and the influence of agricultural activities. (Contact details provided.)

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** A synchronised census is organised twice a year by all national park directorates.
- **Slovakia:** Regular monitoring within the species range in Slovakia. (Contact details provided.)

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Czech Republic:** In 2001 a temporarily protected area was established for the next ten years at the former breeding site in southern Moravia, near the Czech-Austrian border. A management plan for the site has been prepared, and financial resources are sought to fulfil its recommendations. A person is financially supported who is responsible for regular controls of the site in both breeding and winter seasons. There has been informal co-operation with Austrian ornithologists, which is aimed at the protection of the species. (The future existence of the Czech population will depend on the vitality of the neighbouring population in Austria, which has recently numbered 27-30 individuals.)

- **Hungary:** Rutting grounds are protected and nests are protected by buffer-zones in agricultural lands. Temporal and spatial limitation of reaping.
- **Slovakia:** Guidance on inappropriate agricultural activities (aeroplane application of pesticides and nutrients, restriction of the insecticides use, and guidance on the production of inappropriate crops). (Contact details provided.)

## 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Winter rape-growing,
- **Slovakia:** Land rental and planting of native plant communities, and the restoration of native species of plants and animals (insects, steppe species). (Contact details provided.)

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Predator control, the collection of eggs of abandoned nests and the repatriation of artificially raised nestlings.
- **Poland:** Preparing to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Middle-European population of the Great Bustard in the near future.
- **Slovakia:** Protection against disturbance on nesting habitats, guidance on hunting, and the elimination of improper predators on nesting sites.

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future. A second generation repatriation program is to be launched this year. Natura 2000 sites will be designated for the protection of the Bustard habitats.
- **Moldova:** Study numbers and the expansion of the species, and possible ways of restoration.
- **Slovakia:** Habitat protection, including long-term land rental and the establishment of wasteland plots on key sites for the species (nesting and display sites). A conservation programme will require the consecutive establishment of 2-3 permanent wasteland plots (of steppe character), with a total area of approximately 1,000 to 1,500 ha inside the historical range of the species in Slovakia. The established plots will have the function of the gene-pool areas for restoration of the steppe fauna and flora, establishment of the conservation regime to prevent the disturbance on key sites of the species occurrence, conservation and management of the nesting places in accordance to National Recovery Plan for the Great Bustard, Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy, requirements of international treaties, etc.
- **Switzerland:** No activity is planned because the species is too small.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Slovakia:** Before the year 2000, habitat protection was not adequately ensured, and/or it was not oriented on the establishment and maintenance of basic habitat requirements of the species, i.e. the establishment of permanent wasteland plots.

## *Oxyura leucocephala* (White-headed Duck)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 50
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 26
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 8

From the national reports obtained to date, it would seem that populations of this species are generally low. Although one Party states that its population is increasing, it is otherwise difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with several further projects being planned for the future by some of the Parties.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Predominantly migratory and wintering species. Main wintering ground found in the Burgas wetlands complex. Numbers established at a minimum of 175 and maximum of 2,260 in March 2000. The trend is increasing.
- **Israel:** Wintering individuals that are counted during the winter waterfowl census range from a few tens to about 300 individuals.
- **Hungary:** An irregular vagrant to fishponds in spring and autumn, and occasionally during winter. Records are slightly more numerous than in previous years, partly due to better coverage of areas by bird watchers.
- **Jordan:** This species is a vagrant.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) migrating species.
- **Switzerland:** Chance guest, with two recordings in 1902 and 1996.
- **Tunisia:** 620 individuals. Winter visitors. Vulnerable.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Feeding ecology and habitat requirements studied by a joint project.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Numbers regularly monitored.
- **Hungary:** Regular waterbird census.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** The most important wintering site is partially protected.
- **Hungary:** Most of the potential habitats for the species lie in protected areas.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Studying disturbance by fishing nets.  
National Species Action Plan (NSAP) prepared in line with CBD and Council of Europe requirements. The Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/BirdLife Bulgaria ran two projects in 2001 and 2002.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Hungary:** Activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future, occurring individuals are reported predominantly from protected areas.
- **Switzerland:** No activity planned.
- **Tunisia:** Study of ecology of the species, inventory and Action Plan for its conservation.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Switzerland:** The species is too small.
- **Tunisia:** Lack of funds and experts.

## *Pelecanus crispus* (Dalmatian Pelican)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 48
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 26
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 3

It appears that this species is found regularly in one Range State but is rarely observed in two of its Range States. It is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of the Dalmatian Pelican.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Breeding, migratory and wintering species. Breeds in Srebarna Biosphere Reserve at the Danube River. Breeding population of 105 pairs. Wintering population with a minimum population of 271 and maximum of 606 birds. The trend varies. Found regularly during migration and wintering along the Danube river, the Black sea coastal wetlands, and the Ovcharitsa and Rosov Kladenets reservoirs in Southern Bulgaria.
- **Hungary:** A rare spring and summer vagrant (May-July) on the Great Plain.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Extremely rare occurring species.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Breeding biology and ecology studied by the Central Laboratory of General Ecology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Breeding colony monitored by the Srebarna Reserve staff, with wintering and migrating numbers counted by the Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds and various organisations during wintering census.
- **Hungary:** Regular waterbird census.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Habitat fully protected. Management in place.
- **Hungary:** Most of the potential habitats for the species lie in protected areas.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Pelecanus onocrotalus* (White Pelican)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 102
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 28
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 9

From the reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States, but it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with some further projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Former breeding species. They are regular during migration and wintering, and there are large groups of non-breeding birds that stage in Burgas wetlands in spring and summer. The minimum breeding population is one pair, and the minimum wintering population is 1-6 birds.
- **Chad:** 154 (according to WIWO). Found in the whole of Chad, except the extreme north.
- **Guinea:** Seen on two sites only: 56 on 31 January 1999 at Khonibombé and 194 on 15 January 2000 at Khonibenki-Yongosali.
- **Hungary:** A rare vagrant mainly at fishponds on the Great Plain, solitarily or in small flocks (April-September).
- **Jordan:** This species is a passage migrant.
- **Mali:** The latest data is not available at the moment because it contains an inventory error.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) occurring species.
- **Switzerland:** Chance guest, with two recordings in 1902 and 1996.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Joint Mission (May 2002) by DNCN – ONCFS and Wetlands International for the annual counting of migratory waterbirds and for the training of officers in the identification of birds and wetlands in the region of Mopti.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Bulgaria:** Breeding pair monitored by the Srebarna Reserve staff, and wintering and migrating numbers are counted by the Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds and various organisations during wintering census.
- **Hungary:** Regular waterbird census.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Most of the potential habitats for the species lie in protected areas.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Guinea:** No plans.
- **Israel:** Information provided in the section "General questions on Appendix I bird species".
- **Hungary:** Activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future.
- **Mali:** Implementation of conservation projects and programmes for species of migratory birds in the wetlands of Mali.
- **Switzerland:** No activity planned.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Guinea:** Human and scientific factors and a lack of the equipment needed for conservation.
- **Switzerland:** The species is too small.

## *Phoenicopterus andinus* (Andean Flamingo)

### Overview

- Number of countries in distribution range: 5
- Number of Parties to CMS in distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** The species occurs in Chile in salt lakes in highlands in the regions Primera (Tarapacá), Segunda (Antofagasta) and Tercera (Atacama).  
Populations have remained stable during 1997, 1998 and 1999, totalling 17,397, 16,953 and 16,351 specimens respectively (according to the January censuses).

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** There are several projects already finished and ongoing in relation to feeding, behaviour and ecology. (Two projects identified.)

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Since 1986 censuses have been conducted in several Andean wetlands. There is one ongoing project financed by the CMS to conduct simultaneous censuses in Chile, Bolivia and Argentina.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** The majority of places where the species occurs belong to the Sistema Nacional de Areas Silvestres Protegidas del Estado (SNASPE) [National System of Wild Protected Areas] National Parks Lauca, Volcán Isluga, Llullaillaco and Nevado de Tres Cruces, National Reserves Las Vicuñas and Los Flamencos and Natural Monument Salar de Surire.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Continue with new studies and maintain the censuses twice every year.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** This is due in part to the lack of financial resources from the State. Some mining companies have collaborated with funding for projects for the study of these species.

## *Phoenicopterus jamesi* (Puna Flamingo)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 4
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** The species occurs in salt lakes in highlands in the regions Primera (Tarapacá), Segunda (Antofagasta) and Tercera (Atacama). Populations have increased during 1997, 1998 and 1999, totalling (January censuses) 8,081, 8,492 and 10,703 specimens respectively.

### 2. Research activities carried on in the reporting period

- **Chile:** There are several projects already finished and ongoing in relation to feeding, behaviour and ecology. (Lists two projects.)

### 3. Monitoring activities carried on in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Since 1986, censuses have been conducted in several Andean wetlands. There is one ongoing project financed by the CMS to conduct simultaneous censuses in Chile, Bolivia and Argentina.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried on in the reporting period

- **Chile:** The majority of places where the species occurs belong to the Sistema Nacional de Areas Silvestres Protegidas del Estado (SNASPE) [National System of Wild Protected Areas] National Parks Lauca, Volcán Isluga, Lullailloco and Nevado de Tres Cruces, National Reserves Las Vicuñas and Los Flamencos and Natural Monument Salar de Surire.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried on in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried on in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Continue with new studies and maintain the censuses twice every year.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Lack of financial resources from the State. Some mining companies have collaborated with funding for projects for the study of these species.

## *Polysticta stelleri* (Steller's Eider)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 21
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 7
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 3

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. One Party stated that its population of Steller's Eider is increasing, but it is difficult to ascertain general trends from the information obtained.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Denmark:** A very rare visitor.
- **Latvia:** Steller's Eider appears irregularly (max. 7 birds). The wintering population of Steller's Eider has been increasing.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Rarely (irregularly) migrating species.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Latvia:** Steller's Eider is a specially protected species in Latvia.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

None reported.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Serinus syriacus* (Syrian Serin)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 7
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Jordan:** Breacbon Rocky mountains and mountain slopes with broad-leafed bushes, Juniper or relict cedar. Their range is Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Jordan:** Study on the distribution of the Syrian Serin.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

None reported.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Spheniscus humboldti* (Humboldt Penguin)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 4
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 2
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** 1996: 8,658 specimens  
1997: 5,490 specimens  
1998: 7,500 specimens  
1999: 25,564 specimens  
2000: 29,074 specimens  
2001: 25,930 specimens

Trends: currently the Humboldt Penguin is threatened by several factors. Among them are: (a) climate change, including torrential rain which in some regions destroys nests and results in the loss of eggs and chicks; (b) bycatch in local fisheries; and (c) marine disturbances.

Other secondary threats are: (a) depredation by mice and exotic species; and (b) anthropogenic pollution.

Distribution: the Humboldt Penguin is endemic to the Humboldt Current, and is restricted to the coasts of Chile and Peru. The breeding area spans from the Foca Island (5°12'S) in Perú to the Piñihuil Islands (42°S) in Chile.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** There are several projects already finished and ongoing in relation to breeding, and assessment of the population status (lists three projects).

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Since 1988 censuses have been conducted.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Most places where the species occurs belong to the Sistema Nacional de Areas Silvestres Protegidas del Estado (SNASPE) [National Protected Areas System], National Reserves Pinguino de Humboldt, y Natural Monuments Isla Cachagua and Islotas de Puñihuil.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Continue with new research projects and maintain censuses.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Chile:** lack of resources.

## *Sporophila cinnamomea* (Chestnut Seedeater)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 4
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Uruguay:** Threatened species with few records.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Uruguay:** Threatened species, depending on grazing areas, with very few records.

### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Uruguay:** Lack of funding for research.

## *Sporophila zelichi* (Zelich's Seedeater)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 1
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Uruguay:** Not available.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Uruguay:** Threatened species, depending on grazing areas, with very few records.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Uruguay:** Research funding.

## *Tryngites subruficollis* (Buff-breasted Sandpiper)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 82
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 5
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2

One Party indicated that this species is very rarely observed. However, from the information provided, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species. Activities for the conservation of the buff-breasted sandpiper are planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Hungary:** Very rare vagrant. There have been three accepted records, all of them in the last decade.
- **Uruguay:** Spring visitor. (Contact details provided.)

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Potential habitats for the species are ensured.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future.
- **Uruguay:** Monitoring, surveys, and habitat identification.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Vanellus gregarius* (Sociable Plover)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 53
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 15
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 4

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States. However, it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Monitoring and habitat protection activities have been conducted, and further projects are planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Hungary:** Very rare vagrant. About one recorded every three years.
- **Jordan:** This species is vagrant to Jordan. The last record was in Aqaba in 2000.
- **Poland:** Migrating population only. Extremely rare visitor.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Regular waterbird census.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Hungary:** Most of the potential habitats for the species are within the boundaries of protected areas.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Hungary:** The activities mentioned above are to be continued in the future.
- **Israel:** Information provided in section "General questions on Appendix I bird species".
- **Jordan:** Regular waterfowl census.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

# **MARINE MAMMALS**



## *Balaena glacialis australis* (Southern Right Whale)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 11
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 6
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 4

From the national reports obtained to date, the relatively small populations of this species appear to be increasing. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been conducted and further research and monitoring projects are planned for the future.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Australia:** The Australian population of Southern Right whales is thought to number 1,200, although only a proportion of these will visit Australia each year. In Australia the Southern right whale is distributed south of 30°S, principally around the southern coastline from Perth (Western Australia) to Sydney (New South Wales), including Tasmania. Key localities include Point Ann and Point Charles (Western Australia), the Head of the Great Australian Bight (South Australia), and Warrnambool (Victoria). There has been a steady increase (up to 7%) of Southern right whales observed in Australia each year.
- **Chile:** Population size is not known, but on the basis of data from Aguayo (1966, 1974) from a cruise organised between 32°S and 47°S in October 1966 it is possible to estimate an abundance index of 0.20 animals/day. Moreover, Aguayo-Lobo and Olavarría (1998) in an observation effort averaging 5 to 6 hours the abundance index was 0.19 and 0.33 animals/day, respectively. Moreover, Aguayo et al. (1992) indicated that between 1964 and 1982 yearly sighting was 0.36 animals/day and 1983 to 1989 was 6.0 animals/day, which suggests that the population in Chilean waters is recovering. From 1990 to 1998 a yearly value of 2.2 animals per year was obtained, a value that must be due to the recorded sightings not reported in the last 10 years (Aguayo-Lobo et al, 1998b). On the other hand, Evans (1987) notes that for the Southern Hemisphere, after the 1982 restriction, there were about 3,000 specimens from an original population of 100,000 individuals.
- **New Zealand:** The trend is positive. The population was close to extinction in the mid-1920s and was the subject of illegal takes by the USSR in the late 1950s. The maximum single count in the major breeding area in the Auckland Islands (sub-Antarctic) is 125, with a population estimate of 200-300. A marine mammal sanctuary and a World Heritage site protect this sub-Antarctic breeding area.
- **Uruguay:** Not available.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia** lists 39 research papers.
- **Chile:** Proyecto INACH N°163. "Ecología de cetáceos" [Cetacean Ecology] Anelio Aguayo-Lobo, Carlos Olavarría.
- **New Zealand:** Collaboration with Australia.

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Australian Coastwatch; Australian Cetacean Sighting Database (Environment Australia).

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Through the Australian Whale Sanctuary, established in 1980.
- **New Zealand:** Marine mammal sanctuary and World Heritage site around New Zealand's Sub-Antarctic islands.

## **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

## **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individual.
- **Chile:** Interaction with local fisheries and salmon farming.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Australia:** Ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection if required.
- **Chile:** Photographic identification of cephalic callosities and attainment of skin biopsies for genetic studies.
- **New Zealand:** Ongoing research and monitoring.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Chile:** Lack of funding and lack of an appropriate vessel.
- **Uruguay** lacks funding.

## *Balaena glacialis glacialis* (Northern Right Whale)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 23
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 10
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2 (Note: Morocco indicated that it is a Range State by providing a published distribution reference, but did not provide further information.)

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

#### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Portugal:** Unknown

#### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Portugal:** No specific activities planned.

#### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Portugal:** The species is extremely rare in the Portuguese EEZ and within its range occurs in very low numbers.

## *Balaenoptera musculus* (Blue Whale)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 47
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 46
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 8

From the reports obtained so far, four Parties were unable to provide information on population size or trends. One Party stated that the species is endangered and that there is no indication that the population is increasing, whilst another reports that the species is common. Two Parties provided estimates of the number of individual blue whales in their coastal waters. Research, monitoring and habitat restoration projects have been conducted, with several projects planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Australia:** The blue whale is classified as 'Endangered' with extinction in Australian waters, as the population size is estimated to be as low as 1,000. There is little or no evidence to suggest that the population size is increasing. The blue whale has been recorded from all Australian marine areas between 20°S and 70°S. They are generally observed more than 2km off the Australian continent and islands, except off the south-western and south-eastern areas of the continent. Blue whales are known to feed in key localities, including the Rottneest Trench (Western Australia), Portland (Victoria) and Eden (New South Wales).
- **Benin:** There have been sea trips to observe only and there is no realistic possibility of assessing the population.
- **Chile:** From the information published by Aguayo-Lobo et al., (1998) abundance indices are provided between 0.005 animals/day (Findlay et al., 1998) and 0.51 animals/day (Aguayo-Lobo et al., 1998). Moreover, Aguayo-Lobo et al, (1998) cite FAO data (1985) saying that currently there are about 8,000 specimens of blue whale, of which probably 5,000 are *Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda*, figures that according to Evans (1987) correspond to the current population, of which 90% correspond to *B. m. brevicauda*.
- **Guinea:** Common on the continental plateau and decreasing or increasing periodically.
- **New Zealand:** Occasional coastal sightings in New Zealand in spring and early summer during migration south to Antarctic waters. No local population data, but the IWC estimates that there are less than 1,000 individuals in the Southern Hemisphere.
- **Portugal:** Unknown. Every year a few individuals are sighted in the waters of the Azores.
- **Senegal:** There is no precise information about this species.
- **Uruguay:** Not available.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** lists 32 research papers.
- **Chile:** Names provided of relevant researchers and institutes.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Australian Coastwatch; Australian Cetacean Sighting Database (Environment Australia)
- **Benin:** Pursuit of ships that violating Bénin's territorial waters (contact details provided).
- **New Zealand:** An aerial survey off the north-eastern coast records migrating whales.
- **Portugal:**  
Azores: Project MARE. Integrated management of coastal and marine areas in the Azores. LIFE Project, contract LIFE B4-3200/98-509.

Madeira: Project for the conservation of cetaceans in Madeira archipelago. LIFE Project, contract LIFE 99 NAT/P/6432.

#### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Through the Australian Whale Sanctuary, established in 1980.

#### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individuals.

#### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Australia:** Ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection if required.
- **Benin:** Dependent upon the resources that become available.
- **Chile:** Plans to continue with research, on the basis of donations from various foreign and international organisations.
- **Guinea:** Nothing planned.
- **New Zealand:** Further aerial monitoring.
- **Senegal:** Would like to put in place a strategy for the preservation and protection of this species.

#### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Benin:** Lacks resources.
- **Guinea:** Human, scientific and technical factors.
- **Senegal:** Lacks knowledge, expertise and the financial means to facilitate good monitoring of this species.
- **Uruguay:** Lacks funding.

## *Lontra felina* (Marine Otter)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 3
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** Information about population size is poor, due to the difficulties in the species habitat. However, it has been possible to determine density in terms of animals per kilometre of coast. For Region I, this value oscillates between 1.0 and 1.5 animals/km.; for Region III the value oscillates between 1.0 and 2.7 animals/km; Region IV between 0.5 and 2.5 animals/km; in Region V 0.9 and 6.2 individuals/km; Region X 2.0 and 10.0 specimens/km; Region XII 0.4 to 2.0 specimens/km. On the basis of the data provided by Sielfeld and Castilla (1999), Sielfeld (1992) estimates that for the 4,718 km of Chilean coast, with a density of 1.6 animals population could only be estimated for Region XII, this being 7,549 specimens. Also if the density of dens per km of coastline is taken into account, the value would increase to about 12,266 animals, considering one individual per den. For Region V Región, Valenzuela and Vargas (1999) estimated for 64 km of coastline about 62 animals and taking into consideration the rocky coastline (103 km), in is possible to estimate an abundance of 99 animals. It occurs throughout the Chilean littoral from the first to the twelfth Region.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Jorge Acevedo, Walter Sielfeld, Juan Carlos Castilla, Carlos Cabello; Gonzalo Medina.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Ecological studies of *Lontra felina*.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** There is no funding or platforms to undertake necessary studies spanning the extensive Chilean littoral.

## *Lontra provocax* (Southern River Otter)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 2
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 2
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** It occurs in the littoral and southern freshwater bodies, ninth and twelfth Regions.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Various ongoing projects in Regions IX and X, by Gonzalo Medina, Universidad Austral de Chile.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Interaction with salmon farming industry in the south of the country.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Ecological studies of *Lontra provocax* in the south of Chile.

### 8. 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Lack of funding and lack of a platform that facilitated coverage of the vast Chilean littoral territory from Chiloé at the south.

## *Megaptera novaeangliae* (Humpback Whale)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 64
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 48
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 13

From the national reports obtained to date, figures for population size were provided by one Party, whilst one Party stated that this species was common and another stated that humpback whales were observed occasionally. Three Parties indicated that populations were increasing but it is difficult to ascertain general trends for the information obtained. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with several further projects planned for the future.

### *1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution*

- **Australia:** The Humpback whale is known as a coastal species in Australian waters in winter and spring, and occurs in waters south of 15°S. Key locations include sites along the Western Australian, Queensland and New South Wales coasts. Breeding locations are known off the northern Western Australian coast and the central Great Barrier Reef area. The western Australian population is estimated to be 4,000-6,000, and the eastern Australian population is approximately 5,000, with population increases estimated to be in the order of 10% per annum.
- **Benin:** Occasional observation trips, without any real means to assess the population.
- **Chile:** Aguayo-Lobo et al., (1998a) noted a relative abundance index of 0.13 animals/day in May 1994 in the waters between Valparaíso and isla de Pascua, when most of the population ought to have been in warm waters. Other values are 0.1 – 0.25 animals/day for Chilean northern waters and 0.33 animals/day for the southern zone between December 1997 and January 1998, according to Findlay et al. (1998) and Hucke-Gaete (1998), when most of the population ought to be in Antarctic waters (Aguayo-Lobo et al, 1998b). In Chilean Antarctic Territorial waters, the abundance index was calculated to be 28.4 to 53.7 animals/day between the Bransfield strait and the Gerlache strait (Aguayo-Lobo et al, 1995, 1996, 1997; Aguayo-Lobo y Olavarría, 1998), thus showing an interesting recovery of the population (Aguayo-Lobo et al, 1998b). The work of Olavarría (2000) indicates that cetacean migrations occur between the Southern Ocean and the South Pacific, and suggest that work is needed with the South Atlantic stocks to verify whether there is genetic interchange.
- **Congo:** Intensive hunting in the Asia region has resulted in a large presence of Humpback Whales in recent years, which have been observed from oil rigs.
- **Guinea:** Common on the continental plateau and decreasing or increasing periodically.
- **Kenya:** Not very populous though occasionally observed. Passes along the Kenyan coast between August and October. The last survey in September 2001 recorded one mother and calf.
- **New Zealand:** Humpback whales migrate through New Zealand waters to breeding grounds in Tonga and New Caledonia.
- **Poland:** Not observed in the Baltic Sea. Previously recorded from Dziwna Mouth and Gdańsk Bay (1620 and 1979).
- **Portugal:** Unknown.
- **Senegal** lacks knowledge, expertise and the financial means to facilitate good monitoring of this species.
- **Tanzania, United Republic of:** Population size and trends are not known. The species occurs in Tanzanian coastal waters.
- **Tunisia:** Consult the Department of Fishing and Aquaculture [la Direction Générale de la Pêche et de l'aquaculture].
- **Uruguay:** Not available.

## 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia** lists 65 research papers.
- **Chile:** A. Aguayo-Lobo and C. Olavarría.
- **New Zealand:** Mark/recapture estimates suggest that Tongan population has grown from as few as 15-30 mature animals in the mid-1960s to 700 (+200) now. Trends for New Caledonia and Tonga are upward but are still <20% of the pre 20th century abundance. Population in New Caledonia is around 300-500. (South Pacific Whale Research Consortium, C/- Dr C S Baker, Molecular Ecology Lab, School of Biological Science, Auckland University). Also Ministry of Fisheries, Private Bag, Nuku'alofa, Tonga.

## 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Australian Coastwatch; Australian Cetacean Sighting Database (Environment Australia).
- **Benin:** Surveillance patrols in Benin's territorial waters (contact address provided).
- **Chile:** A. Aguayo-Lobo and C. Olavarría.
- **Kenya:** Rapid baseline survey of large animals with special emphasis on Humpback Whales in Kenya.

## 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Through the Australian Whale Sanctuary, established in 1980.
- **Kenya:** Six Marine Protected Areas. May also be found outside the protected areas.

## 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individual.
- **Chile:** Proyecto INACH N°163. "Ecología de cetáceos" [Cetacean Ecology] Anelio Aguayo-Lobo, Carlos Olavarría. Projects on monitoring and habitat are conducted.

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Australia:** Development of a Recovery Plan under federal legislation. Ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection if required.
- **Benin:** It depends on the future availability of resources.
- **Chile:** Continue with the production of photographs of fins and skin biopsies for genetic studies.
- **Guinea:** Nothing planned.
- **Kenya:** Monitoring, training in photo identification, DNA and song analysis, subject to funds being available.
- **New Zealand:** Ongoing monitoring and research in existing study areas and also, potentially, in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.
- **Portugal:** No specific activities planned.
- **Tanzania, United Republic of:** Research and monitoring of the migration patterns in the Tanzanian territorial waters.
- **Tunisia:** Consult DGPA/M.A.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Benin:** Lack of human and practical resources.
- **Chile:** Activities in Chilean territory have been interrupted due to lack of funds and the lack of an adequate vessel for these activities.
- **Guinea:** Human and scientific factors.
- **Portugal:** The species is extremely rare in the Portuguese EEZ.
- **Senegal** lacks knowledge, expertise and the financial means to facilitate good monitoring of this species.
- **Tanzania, United Republic of:** There has been lack of resources.
- **Tunisia:** Consult DGPA/M.A.
- **Uruguay:** Lack of funding.

## *Monachus monachus* (Mediterranean Monk Seal)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 25
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 16
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 6

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is threatened with extinction in several of its Range States and one Party reported that it is already extinct. Although the population is increasing in one Range State, it is difficult to ascertain general trends from the information obtained. Monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with further projects being planned for the future.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Bulgaria:** Extinct.
- **European Community:** The Mediterranean monk seal is the most threatened pinniped species in the world, and is currently in critical danger of extinction. Formerly present in the whole of the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and along the Atlantic coast, there are today probably fewer than 400 individuals left.  
These individuals survive in the quietest areas of the Mediterranean and on Africa's north-western shores. The largest populations are located in Mauritania/Western Sahara, Greece and Turkey; there are also small numbers in Morocco, Algeria, Libya, the Desertas Islands (Madeira), Croatia and Cyprus.  
The species is very sensitive to disturbances. The increased use of motorboats, the extension of fishing, and building on coastlines have all contributed to disturbing the Mediterranean monk seal, which is forced to seek refuge in caves with underwater entrances. These caves protect the seals from disturbances but by using them they are exposing themselves to increased risks of accidents (in particular when the caves collapse).
- **Morocco** is one of the four range states for this species in the Atlantic. This seal is threatened with extinction and has been a subject of concern since 1986.
- **Portugal:** In Portugal, the Madeira archipelago is the only place where monk seals can be found. There is a resident colony in the Deserta Islands and Madeira Island is an area of occurrence of the species. The population of the Deserta Islands is estimated at 24 individuals and is increasing. The number of births per year, presently three, is also increasing.
- **Tunisia:** Very rare.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Portugal:** In the Desertas Islands the monk seal study and monitoring programme, which was initiated in 1989, is maintained. It is based on direct observation of the seals without disturbing them. There are 24 lookout-sites located around the Desertas, from where the observations are documented.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **European Community:** This species is present at Natura 2000 protected sites in the Macaronesian region.
- **Portugal:** The surveillance of the Natural Reserve has been under the responsibility of the nature wardens who regularly patrol the islands by boat.

## **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

## **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **European Community:** The species is listed in Annexes II and IV of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
- **Morocco:** An international strategy for action has been developed, “The Plan for the Care of the Monk Seal”. A committee for the safeguard of the species was established following a meeting on 2 March 2000 regarding the implementation of the Barcelona Convention. The aim of this meeting was to identify the resources needed to safeguard this species on the Moroccan coast. Recommendations designed to reverse the decline of the Monk Seal were put forward.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Israel:** A system to monitor the seals inside caves is in preparation.
- **Portugal:** A system to monitor the seals inside caves is in preparation.
- **Tunisia:** Consult DGPA.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Tunisia:** Consult DGPA.

## *Pontoporia blainvillei* (La Plata Dolphin, Franciscana)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 3
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 2
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Uruguay:** Not available. Apparently mortality would have fallen to 20-30 specimens per year, given that shark fishing activities with big nets has decreased (greater than 20 cm) (Praderi, com. pers.).

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Uruguay:** Project put forward to the CMS.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Uruguay:** Lack of funding.



# **MARINE TURTLES**



## *Caretta caretta* (Loggerhead Turtle)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 75
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 47
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 11

From the information obtained to date, it would seem that this species is considered to be endangered in Europe but is relatively abundant in several Range States outside Europe. One European Party states that the population seems to be increasing slightly, but otherwise it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. A significant number of activities have been undertaken in the reporting period, including research projects, monitoring activities and habitat protection projects. Further activities are planned for the future, including research and habitat restoration projects.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Australia:** The Australian nesting populations are genetically distinct from those in other countries. Within Australia there are two genetically independent breeding populations. The eastern Australian population is the only significant population for the species for the entire South Pacific Ocean. This population is centred in the southern Great Barrier Reef and adjacent mainland near Bundaberg with an estimated population size of 1,000 females, 300 of which are breeding annually. The western population is estimated to be among 1,500-2,000 females, with breeding mainly centred on Dirk Hartog Island within Shark Bay, and Muiron Islands (North West Cape). A small population feeds within Northern Territory waters, and the Loggerhead is known as an occasional visitor to the island state of Tasmania.
- **Chile:** It is relatively abundant.
- **European Community:** In Europe, the loggerhead sea turtle is considered an endangered species, and breeds only on the beaches of western Greece and in Crete. Elsewhere in the Mediterranean it also breeds in Turkey, Cyprus, Syria, Libya and Tunisia. The Mediterranean breeding individuals number at most several thousand females.
- **Guinea:** The species is plentiful in the coastal area, particularly on the shores of the Islands of Loos (Kassa, Tamara, Room, Soro, Rogbanè, Rio Pongo and in the north west of the country).
- **Israel:** In the 2000 nesting survey, 69 nests were found along the Mediterranean coast, and about 4,200 hatching turtles were released. In 2001, 65 nests were found.
- **Kenya:** Along most areas of the Kenyan coast, with higher concentrations in the northern parts. Seasonal variations in distribution are a major factor.
- **Monaco:** Rarely and fleetingly present.
- **Portugal:** The individuals observed in Portuguese waters are mainly juveniles. The EEZs of the Azores and Madeira harbour mainly US-born animals (Atlantic population). Population size seems to be increasing slightly. The origin and status of the Algarve (southern Portugal) population is unknown: animals can originate from the Atlantic (U.S.), from Cape Verde or from the Mediterranean populations and are probably a mixture, with predominant Atlantic (U.S.) origin.
- **Senegal:** It is common in the centre of the country and has been spotted in the north in the Park of the Barbary Coast, but there has been no precise information about the size of the population.
- **Tanzania:** Population size and trends are not known. There is no nesting record of the loggerhead turtle in Tanzania. Three loggerhead turtles tagged in South Africa in 1985, 1992 and 1999 have been captured in Mafia over the past two years.
- **Uruguay:** Not available.

## 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Key Sites for Turtle Projects in Queensland (through the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, and/or Queensland Environment Protection Agency):  
Shoalwater Bay green turtle foraging;  
Milman Island hawksbill turtle nesting;  
Raine Island green turtle nesting;  
Moreton Bay green and loggerhead turtle foraging;  
Heron Island green, loggerhead and hawksbill turtle foraging;  
Capricorn Bunker Islands green and loggerhead nesting;  
Mackay coastal areas - flatback nesting;  
Townsville coastal areas - flatback nesting; and  
Swains Reefs - green and loggerhead nesting.  
Lists 36 research papers.
- **Chile:** Pincheira-Donoso Donoso, Miguel Presence of marine turtles in the Chilean littoral and its interaction with sword fish
- **Portugal:** In Madeira:  
2001-2003“Diving behaviour in juvenile pelagic stage loggerhead sea turtles and its relation to the black-scabbard longline fishery in Madeiran waters” (Portuguese Science Foundation);  
1999-2002“Trophic ecology and population structure of juvenile pelagic stage loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the North Atlantic Ocean” (Portuguese Science Foundation);  
1997-2001“Conservation support project for North Atlantic *Caretta caretta* sea turtles”, funded by the EU-DG XI Life-Nature-program.  
(Contact details provided for Madeira and the Azores.)

## 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Refers to the list of research papers provided in relation to research activities.
- **Israel:** Nesting surveys are being conducted along the Mediterranean coast.
- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and biodiversity monitoring.
- **Portugal:** All the research projects identified above also monitor sea turtles.
- **Tanzania:** Monitoring of mortalities in Mafia Islands.

## 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Marine Protected Areas cover certain critical turtle habitat.
- **European Community:** Two LIFE projects deal with the conservation of *Caretta caretta* over the period covered by the report. The first of these concerns urgent conservation measures on the islands of Lampedusa and Linosa. The other project foresees measures to manage the habitats of this species around the Balearic Islands, while giving particular attention to incidental catches.  
A LIFE Project 99/72588 on the conservation and management of the wetlands of Amvrakikos in Greece involves *Caretta caretta*.  
This species is present at Natura 2000 protected sites in the Macaronesian region.
- **Israel:** Protection of nesting sites.
- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and marine protected areas management.

## 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** Only applicable when oil spills and pollution are addressed.

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individual.
- **Chile:** SERNAPESCA and CPPS 2001 Workshop to define priority action guidelines for a programme for the conservation of marine turtles.
- **European Community:** Judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Communities of 30 January 2002 on the protection of this species (Case C-103/00). It is listed in Annex II and IV of Directive 92/43/EEC.
- **Israel:** Rehabilitation of stranded and injured turtles at a rehabilitation centre.
- **Portugal:** Rehabilitation of stranded animals. (Contact details provided.)

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Australia:** Ongoing research and monitoring programmes, with additional habitat protection if required.
- **Chile:** To determine the distribution of the various species and, once known, plan more complex research.
- **Guinea:** Restoration of habitat following the guidelines of the National Strategic Action Plan for Biological Diversity concerning species of Marine Turtle.  
Training of administrators of the said habitats.  
Raising the awareness of fishermen and sailors who must assist with the conservation of marine turtles.  
Raising the awareness of local coastal communities.
- **Kenya:** More monitoring and habitat assessment to determine specific populations and threats that affect the species
- **Portugal:** Funding is sought for a central database, stranding and rescue network and tagging program. Satellite telemetry project: applications are planned, as well as genetic sampling to separate the three populations (Atlantic, Mediterranean and Cape Verde).
- **Senegal:** Putting into place a national strategy for the conservation of turtles.
- **Tanzania:** Formation of a technical committee that will co-ordinate all turtle conservation programmes in Tanzania.
- **Uruguay:** Four research lines have been established: genetic, impacts from fisheries, environmental education, and feeding areas.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Difficulties are of logistic and economic nature.
- **Guinea:** Lack of adequate financial resources.
- **Tanzania:** Lack of resources and information.
- **Uruguay** has signed the Agreement for the Protection and Conservation of Marine Turtles, which came into force on 2 May 2002. However, this has not been ratified yet.

## *Chelonia mydas* (Green Turtle)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 134
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 43
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 11 (Note: In its reported, Congo indicates that it is a Range State for this species, but does not provide any further information.)

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is relatively abundant in several Range States but may be less common in the Mediterranean Sea. One Party indicated that there is evidence that populations may be declining, but it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. A significant number of projects have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with further activities being planned for the future, including research, monitoring and habitat restoration projects.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Australia:** The Australian nesting populations of green turtles are genetically independent stocks. In addition, there are green turtles that feed in Australia that are part of stocks that breed in other countries (e.g. Indonesia, PNG, New Caledonia and Pacific Mexico). Green turtles are found in Australian waters off the Northern Territory, Queensland, and Western Australia, and are occasional visitors to the island state of Tasmania. Green turtles are the most predominant species within foraging populations of 3,250 at Nigaloo, 4,250 at Exmouth Gulf and 8,400 at Shark Bay.
- **Chile:** Donoso-barros (1970) indicates that its distribution range in the Chilean Pacific goes from Arica to Chiloé, Region X. However, the southern limit has been identified as Desolación island, in Region XII. It is a common species in Chilean waters. The population size is unknown.
- **Guinea:** It is plentiful from the third quarter of the rainy season (July to mid-October) and spreads out over the whole of the coastal area of Guinea.
- **Israel:** Eight nests were found in the Mediterranean shore during the 2000 season, and about 800 hatchlings were released. In 2001, 3 nests were found.
- **Kenya:** Distributed along the entire Kenyan coastline, albeit with seasonal variations in the distributions.
- **Portugal:** *Chelonia mydas* is a rare visitor to Portuguese waters. Most individuals observed in Madeira and the Azores are juveniles.
- **Senegal:** This species is present in abundance in the National Park of the Delta of the Saloum where intensive conservation and protection work is carried out. There is also a presence in the north of the country in the National Park of the Barbary Coast.
- **Tanzania:** The population size is not known. It has been estimated to be about 300 nesting annually in 1982 in Tanzania. The population trend is not known. However, there is much evidence that a number of former turtle nesting areas have been vacated and suitable nesting sites are in decline. Reported to be breeding at Saadani, Bagamoyo, Kilwa (?), Mtwara, Pemba, Zanzibar and Mafia Islands and adjacent smaller islands. Recent estimates in two sites are 50 nesting females in Mafia and 30 in Mnemba Island, Zanzibar.
- **Uruguay:** Not available.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Key Sites for Turtle Projects in Queensland (through the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, and/or Queensland Environment Protection Agency):
  - Shoalwater Bay - green turtle foraging;
  - Milman Island - hawksbill turtle nesting;
  - Raine Island - green turtle nesting;
  - Moreton Bay - green and loggerhead turtle foraging;

Heron Island - green, loggerhead and hawksbill turtle foraging;  
Capricorn Bunker Islands - green and loggerhead nesting;  
Mackay coastal areas - flatback nesting;  
Townsville coastal areas - flatback nesting; and  
Swains Reefs - green and loggerhead nesting.

Australia lists 49 research papers.

- **Chile:** Literature references are provided.
- **Guinea:** Preliminary research has been carried out by The Boussara National Centre of Halieutic Research (CNRHB).

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Refers to the list of papers provided in relation to research activities.
- **Israel:** Nesting surveys are being conducted.
- **Kenya:** By aerial surveys conducted every two years. In some areas fishermen have been required to file reports on sightings.
- **Tanzania:** Seventeen active nesting beaches on Mafia Island are monitored regularly by the Mafia Island Turtle and Dugong Conservation Programme. (Contact details provided.)

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Marine Protected Areas cover certain critical turtle habitat.
- **Benin:** Protection of sites that are thought to be egg-laying areas against anthropological pressures (lighting, housing, the taking of sand).
- **Israel:** Nests are being moved locally to protected enclosures, and hatching turtles are released.
- **Kenya:** By virtue of being in marine protected areas
- **Tanzania:** The community-based Marine Turtle and Dugong Research and Habitat Protection Programme, Mafia Island.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Kenya:** May only occur during oil spill clean-ups.
- **Tanzania:** Saadani area has been incorporated in the protected area network by extending the Game Reserve, which is in the process to be upgraded to a National Park.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individuals
- **Chile:** SERNAPESCA and CPPS 2001 National Workshop to define priority action guidelines of a programme for the conservation of marine turtles.
- **Israel:** Rehabilitation of stranded and injured turtles at a rehabilitation centre.
- **Kenya:** Re-introduction of hatchlings.
- **Portugal:** Monitoring activities for *Caretta caretta* will also detect this species. (Contact details provided.)

### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Australia:** Ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection if required.

- **Benin:** Raising the awareness of the public at large, and the installation of ‘Eco-gardes’ (Eco-monitors) over the whole of Benin.
- **Chile:** None reported. However the desire to conduct research is always present (at least its distribution and migration) through satellite monitoring.
- **Guinea:** Restoration of the habitat along the guidelines of the National Strategic Action Plan for Biological Diversity and those of the Project FEM for the combined management of natural resources of the coastal area.
- **Kenya:** Continue with monitoring to determine specific populations and distributions.  
Protection and surveillance to continue the protection of nesting sites through community participation.  
Enforcement of relevant laws and more public education and awareness.
- **Portugal:** None are specifically targeted on this species, but activities for *Caretta caretta* will benefit it indirectly.
- **Senegal:** Consolidation of current work by putting in place a national strategy for the conservation of turtles.
- **Tanzania:** A proposal has been developed by the Mafia Island District, with assistance from the Mafia Island Turtle and Dugong Conservation Programme, to close Nyoro, Shung-mbili and Mbarakuni Islands adjacent to Mafia for temporary settlements part or whole year for turtle nesting to recover.  
Formation of a technical committee that will co-ordinate all turtle conservation programmes in The United Republic of Tanzania.
- **Uruguay:** Four research lines were established: genetic, impacts from fisheries, environmental education, and feeding areas.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Lack of funds to undertake specific studies. Also, lack of a platform to move about the Chilean littoral, including oceanic islands (Archipelago de Juan Fernández, isla San Félix y San Ambrosio e isla de Pascua).
- **Portugal:** The species is rare.

## ***Dermochelys coriacea* (Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle)**

### **Overview**

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 95
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 49
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 13

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed in several of its Range States but is more abundant in others, particularly off the coast of Africa. However, it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Projects have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with several further activities being planned for the future, including research projects, monitoring and habitat protection projects.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Australia:** Only a small population of leatherback turtles have been found breeding and nesting in eastern Australia, mainly from December to January, and they do not nest in Australia in any significant numbers. Animals from populations in PNG, Malaysia and Indonesia use the continental waters of Australia to feed and migrate to temperate waters. While a small number of females nest in scattered sites in Queensland, New South Wales and the Northern Territory, there have only been a small number of sightings off the mid-west coast of Australia, and very rarely there are sightings off Victoria and Tasmania.
- **Benin:** The second most frequently observed species of marine turtle, after the *Lepidochelys olivacea*.
- **Chile:** Population size unknown. Published work indicates that “this is the most abundant marine turtle species in Chilean seas, as it is the most frequently caught by fishermen”. In March and April 1990, 14 specimen adults were recorded, one in Valdivia and 13 in Region VIII.
- **Congo:** The 100 km section of the South Atlantic, between Mayumba (Gabon) and Conkouati (Congo) constitutes the second egg-laying area of the leatherback turtle. Leatherback turtles have been observed near the beaches of Pointe-Noire. Present in the Conkouati National Park.
- **Guinea:** Spread out, particularly in the north-west area of Guinea. This species is frequently observed and encountered in fishing nets between October and December (the last three months of the rainy season).
- **Israel:** This species is rare. In 2001, one female got stranded and injured in a fishing net, and subsequently died at the rehabilitation centre.
- **Kenya:** Along most areas of the Kenyan coast, with higher concentrations in the northern parts. Seasonal variations in distribution are a major factor.
- **Portugal:** This species has the largest distribution range of all turtles and uses all temperate open sea habitats. It is occasionally captured accidentally in the Azores where it is a regular visitor. Except for the Azores, it is a rare, though regular visitor.
- **Senegal:** Common in the centre of the country in the National park of the Delta of the Saloum, and spotted in the north in the National Park of the Barbary Coast. There is no precise information about the size of the population.
- **Tanzania:** Population size and trends are not known. There is no nesting record of a Leatherback Turtle in Tanzania. One mortality was recorded in Dar-Es-Salaam and Mafia since January 2001.
- **Uruguay:** Not available.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Key Sites for Turtle Projects in Queensland (through the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, and/or Queensland Environment Protection Agency):  
Shoalwater Bay - green turtle foraging;  
Milman Island - hawksbill turtle nesting;

Raine Island - green turtle nesting;  
Moreton Bay - green and loggerhead turtle foraging;  
Heron Island - green, loggerhead and hawksbill turtle foraging;  
Capricorn Bunker Islands - green and loggerhead nesting;  
Mackay coastal areas - flatback nesting;  
Townsville coastal areas - flatback nesting; and  
Swains Reefs - green and loggerhead nesting.  
Lists 32 research papers.

- **Portugal:** Onboard observation at the Azores fishing fleet.

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and biodiversity monitoring.
- **Portugal:** Onboard observation from the Azores fishing fleet.
- **Tanzania:** Monitoring of mortalities in Mafia Islands.
- **Togo:** The Office of Fauna and Hunting (DFC) has labelled/tagged eight turtles of this species which were washed up on the beach.

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Marine Protected Areas cover certain critical turtle habitat.
- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and Marine protected areas management.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Kenya:** Only applicable when oil spills and pollution are addressed.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individuals.
- **Benin:** Safeguarding of supposed egg-laying sites.
- **Chile:** SERNAPESCA and CPPS 2001 Workshop to define priority action guidelines of a programme for the conservation of marine turtles.
- **Portugal:** Monitoring activities for *Caretta caretta* will also detect this species.

### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Australia:** Ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection if required.
- **Benin:** Raising the awareness of the public.
- **Chile:** The basic information required is the distribution of the population, and basic aspects of its biology, given that this is the most abundant species in Chilean waters.
- **Guinea:** Restoration of the habitat following the guidelines of the National Strategic Action Plan for Biological Diversity in respect of Marine Turtles.  
Training of administrators of the habitats.  
Raising the awareness of fishermen and sailors so that they can contribute to the conservation of marine turtles.  
Strengthening of institutional powers.
- **Kenya:** Further monitoring, including habitat assessment, to determine specific populations, distributions and threats that affect the species
- **Senegal:** Putting into place a national strategy for the conservation of turtles.

- **Tanzania:** Formation of a technical committee that will co-ordinate all turtle conservation programmes in Tanzania.
- **Tunisia:** To be decided.
- **Uruguay:** Four research lines were established: genetic, impacts from fisheries, environmental education, and feeding areas.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** As in the case of all other marine species, lack of funding and lack of a platform to work throughout the Chilean littoral is a big limiting factor.
- **Guinea:** Lack of financial resources and technical support.
- **Senegal:** Lack of material and finance.
- **Tanzania:** Lack of resources and information.

## *Eretmochelys imbricata* (Hawksbill Turtle)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 119
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 38
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 10 (Note: this includes the Congo which indicates in its report that it is a Range State for this species, but does not provide any further information.)

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is relatively abundant in several of its Range States. However one of the Parties stated that the hawksbill turtle is rarely observed in its coastal waters. Although one Range State reported that there was some evidence that its population of hawksbill turtles is declining, it is difficult to ascertain general trends from the information obtained. Several activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species in the reporting period, with further projects being planned for the future, including research and monitoring activities.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Australia:** Hawksbill turtles migrate from New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, Western Australia, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea to breeding and nesting sites in Western Australia, north Queensland and the Northern Territory. In addition, many migrate to breeding sites in neighbouring countries including PNG, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands. Breeding occurs year round in the Northern Territory, the Torres Strait and the northern Great Barrier Reef. The Western Australian stock is centred in the southern north-west shelf, with an annual nesting population of possibly several thousand females. Hawksbill turtles are also occasional visitors to Tasmania.
- **Benin:** A relatively weaker population than that of *Chelonia mydas*.
- **Chile:** Reported on Easter Island, with a specimen trapped in fishing gear in the central Chilean zone. Its presence on the Chilean coast is doubtful.
- **Guinea:** Spread out, particularly in the north west zone of Guinea. This species is frequently observed and encountered in fishing nets between October and December (the last three months of the rainy season).
- **Kenya:** Along most areas of the Kenyan coast, with higher concentrations in the northern parts. Seasonal variations in distribution are a major factor.
- **Portugal:** The hawksbill turtle is a rare visitor to the EEZs of Madeira and the Azores. The nearest population is located in the Caribbean. Most of the individuals observed in Madeira and the Azores are juveniles.
- **Senegal:** It has been seen in the centre of the country and it has been spotted in the north in the Park of the Barbary Coast. However, there has been no precise information about the size of the population.
- **Tanzania:** It was estimated that 50 nested annually in 1982. The population trend is not known. However, there is much evidence that a number of former turtle nesting areas have been vacated and that suitable nesting sites are in decline. The hawksbill turtle was recorded in Mafia Island, Mtwara and Zanzibar. Of 24 nests on Shungi-mbili Island (adjacent to Mafia Island) six were hawksbill and 18 were green turtles. During January-June 2002, three out of 100 or so nests in Mafia were hawksbill.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Key Sites for Turtle Projects in Queensland (through the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, and/or Queensland Environment Protection Agency):
  - Shoalwater Bay - green turtle foraging;
  - Milman Island - hawksbill turtle nesting;
  - Raine Island - green turtle nesting;
  - Moreton Bay - green and loggerhead turtle foraging;
  - Heron Island - green, loggerhead and hawksbill turtle foraging;

Capricorn Bunker Islands - green and loggerhead nesting;

Mackay coastal areas - flatback nesting;

Townsville coastal areas - flatback nesting; and

Swains Reefs - green and loggerhead nesting;

Lists 33 research papers.

- **Tanzania:** Mafia Island Turtle and Dugong Conservation Programme.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Refers to the list of research papers provided in relation to research activities.
- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and biodiversity monitoring.
- **Tanzania:** Seventeen active nesting beaches on Mafia Island are monitored regularly.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Marine Protected Areas cover certain critical turtle habitat.
- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and marine protected areas management.
- **Tanzania:** Community-based Marine Turtle and Dugong Research and Habitat Protection Programme, Mafia Island.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Kenya:** Only applicable when oil spills and pollution are addressed.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individuals.
- **Benin:** Protection of nesting sites.
- **Israel:** Monitoring activities for other species may detect this species.
- **Portugal:** Monitoring activities for *Caretta caretta* will detect this species.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Australia:** Ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection if required.
- **Benin:** Safeguarding of supposed nesting sites.
- **Chile:** To learn about its distribution in the country.
- **Guinea:** If the technical and financial means are acquired, it is envisaged that systematic research on the species will be undertaken.
- **Kenya:** More monitoring, including habitat assessment, to determine specific populations, distributions and threats that affect the species.
- **Portugal:** None specifically targeting this species, but activities for *Caretta caretta* will benefit it indirectly
- **Senegal:** Putting in place a national strategy for the conservation of turtles.
- **Tanzania:** A proposal has been developed by the Mafia Island District with assistance from the Mafia Island Turtle and Dugong Conservation Programme to close Nyoro, Shung-mbili and Mbarakuni Islands adjacent to Mafia for temporary settlements part or whole year for turtle nesting to recover. Formation of a technical committee that will co-ordinate all turtle conservation programmes in Tanzania.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Benin:** Lack of resources.
- **Chile:** Lack of funding and logistic support. Its presence in Chile is doubtful.
- **Guinea:** Lack of financial resources.
- **Portugal:** The species is rare.
- **Senegal:** Work has been on a small scale and only in part of the centre of the country.

## ***Lepidochelys kempii* (Kemp's Ridley Turtle, Atlantic Ridley Turtle)**

### ***Overview***

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 10
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 7
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that this species is rarely observed. One Party reported that its population is increasing slightly, but it is impossible to ascertain overall trends from the information obtained. Activities are planned for the future.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Portugal:** Kemp's ridleys are the rarest and most endangered sea turtle of the world. They nest on only one location in the Gulf of Mexico. The population is still extremely low, but growing slightly. Most individuals observed at Madeira and the Azores are juveniles and it may well be that this species uses Macaronesian waters regularly as a developmental habitat. However, the low population numbers drastically reduce the chances of sighting this species.
- **Senegal:** Seen sporadically in the centre of the country and in the north in the National Park of the Barbary Coast.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Portugal:** Monitoring activities for *Caretta caretta* will detect this species. (Contact details provided.)

### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Portugal:** None specifically targeted for this species, but activities for *Caretta caretta* will benefit it indirectly.
- **Senegal:** Putting into place a national strategy for the conservation of turtles.

### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Portugal:** The species is extremely rare.
- **Senegal:** Lack of precise detail on the presence of the species although it has been spotted in the centre of the country.

# *Lepidochelys olivacea* (Ridley Turtle, Olive Ridley Turtle)

## Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 44
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 32
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 9

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that populations of this species are not well documented. Although one Party states that Olive Ridley turtles are seen with increasing frequency, it is difficult to ascertain general trends from the information obtained. Several projects have been carried out in the reporting period for the conservation of this species, with eight of the Parties planning further projects in the future.

## 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Australia:** The Australian population of the Olive Ridley turtle is poorly documented. They migrate from their feeding grounds in Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia, to reach breeding and nesting sites in the Gulf of Carpentaria (Queensland) and the Arafura Sea (Northern Territory). They have not been recorded nesting in Western Australia. The females nest all year round.
- **Benin:** Species have been seen with increasing frequency.
- **Chile:** It has been reported in Region V (Valparaíso) and Region VIII, in Lirquén and Arauco.
- **Congo:** Very few egg-laying sites are known. Ridley Turtles have been observed near the beaches of Pointe-Noire. North of Pointe Noire, individuals have been accidentally captured by fishermen out at sea. Present in the Conkouati National Park.
- **Kenya:** Along most areas of the Kenyan coast, with higher concentrations in the northern parts. Seasonal variations in distribution are a major factor
- **Senegal:** Spotted in the centre of the country and in the north in the National Park of the Barbary Coast. There is no precise information on the size of the population.
- **Tanzania:** Population size and trends are not known. There is no nesting record of the Olive Ridley Turtle in Tanzania. It formerly nested in Maziwi Island (Tanga Region) which became inundated in the 1980s and which may have been the only (known?) nesting sites in Tanzania. There have been no records of mortalities in Mafia since January 2001 but fishermen say they do occur from time to time.

## 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Key Sites for Turtle Projects in Queensland (through the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, and/or Queensland Environment Protection Agency) are:

Shoalwater Bay - green turtle foraging;  
Milman Island - hawksbill turtle nesting;  
Raine Island - green turtle nesting;  
Moreton Bay - green and loggerhead turtle foraging;  
Heron Island - green, loggerhead, hawksbill turtle foraging;  
Capricorn Bunker Islands - green and loggerhead nesting;  
Mackay coastal areas - flatback nesting;  
Townsville coastal areas - flatback nesting;  
Swains Reefs - green and loggerhead nesting.  
(Lists 32 research papers.)

## 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Australia:** Refers to research papers listed in relation to Research Activities.

- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and biodiversity monitoring.
- **Tanzania:** Monitoring of mortalities in Mafia Islands.

#### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Marine Protected Areas cover certain critical turtle habitat.
- **Kenya:** Within the framework of coastal zone and marine protected areas management.

#### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Kenya:** Only applicable when oil spills and pollution are addressed.

#### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Australia:** Federal and State legislation controlling activities that may impact upon populations or individuals.
- **Benin:** Safeguarding of supposed egg-laying sites.
- **Chile:** SERNAPESCA and CPPS 2001 Workshop to define priority action guidelines of a programme for the conservation of marine turtles.

#### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Australia:** Ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection if required.
- **Benin:** Publicity, education, and raising awareness.
- **Chile:** To learn more about its distribution in Chile.
- **Guinea:** In-depth research, protection and restoration of the habitat, and public communication and information campaigns.
- **Kenya:** More monitoring, including habitat assessment, to determine specific populations, distributions and threats that affect the species.
- **Senegal:** Putting into place a national strategy for the conservation of turtles.
- **Tanzania:** Formation of a technical committee that will co-ordinate all turtle conservation programmes in Tanzania.
- **Uruguay:** Similar studies to those developed for the three species mentioned previously.

#### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Chile:** Lack of adequate funding for research and logistic support to cover the Chilean littoral and oceanic islands.
- **Guinea:** Lack of subsidy and technical support.
- **Senegal:** Work has been on a small scale and only in part of the centre of the country.
- **Tanzania:** Lack of resources and information.



**TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS  
(OTHER THAN BATS)**



## *Addax nasomaculatus* (Addax)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 11
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 7
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 4

From the national reports obtained to date, this species appears to be in decline and there have been relatively few sightings. Monitoring and habitat protection activities have been conducted, and further projects are planned for the future, including research projects, habitat restoration projects and programmes for the reintroduction of the species in particular areas.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chad:** Becoming extinct. Two have been seen by WWF and the Parks Office (2001). Decreasing population. Found in the far north of Kanem.
- **Mali:** The evolution of antelopes has not been studied in any depth in Mali. The difficulty of access to the areas and the absence of totally protected areas in the Sahélien and desert regions of the country have meant that little historical information is available.  
To a certain extent, caravanners, herders, tourists and soldiers have helped to circulate general information about fauna in the dry regions.  
Today, species of antelope are observed singly or in groups of 2-5 individuals. Herds of ten individuals are extremely rare. Their total population on national territory numbers around 10,000.  
According to very dated sources, the size of the Addax population is no more than twenty or so individuals.
- **Tunisia:** Sixty animals live in semi-captivity and are involved in the Reintroduction Project in the Bouhedma National Park.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Research has been conducted on biological diversity and ecosystems/habitats. Joint Mission of 28 January 2002 - 9 February 2002 by the National Office of Nature Conservation (DNCN) and the National Office of Hunting and Wild Fauna (ONCFS). The aim of the mission was the recognition of the FFEM project, the remit of which is the creation of a protected area of 500,000 ha to shelter the Sahelo-Sahariennes antelopes of the Gao and Kidal regions (Tamesna).

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Security surveillance and forestry policing in and around the protected areas (parks and fauna reserves).

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Habitat protection. Classification of sites and prohibitions. Opening of trails and fire-breaks, and replanting of trees.

- **Morocco:** Developed a programme (in collaboration with Germany) for the reintroduction of this species in the National Park of Souss-Massa.

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chad:** Project to restore/rehabilitate the area. The « PROENNEDI » Project. Conservation Project (FFEM).
- **Mali:** The principal activities planned are:  
The restoration of habitat, the opening of trails and fire-breaks, and the replanting of trees (reafforestation);  
Research into biological diversity, ecosystems and habitats, education, information and communication about wild fauna;  
Security and surveillance/ forestry policing in and around the protected areas (parks and fauna reserves);  
The creation of new protected areas in high potential ecological zones (Tamesna in the region of Gao-Kidal, the Chimpanzee Sanctuary and the Kouroufing Reserve sheltering the Elan de derbi in the Bafing).  
The reintroduction into certain protected areas of species that have disappeared or are in the process of disappearing.
- **Tunisia:** Continuation of the reintroduction operations in the Djebil National Park in the Grat Oriental Erg (Sahara).

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chad:** Suggestions have been made but no firm action has been taken.
- **Mali:** Factors that prevent much work being carried out for these populations are the lack of trained personnel, insufficient practical resources, and concern with the satisfaction of human needs to the detriment of the fauna.

## *Cervus elaphus barbarus* (Barbary Stag, Barbary Deer)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 3
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 2
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2

None of the national reports obtained to date included information on population size, trends and distribution.

#### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

None reported.

#### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Morocco:** Developed a programme (in collaboration with Germany) for the reintroduction of this species in the National Park of Tazekka.

#### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Tunisia:** Ecological study and inventories of this species.

#### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

None reported.

## *Equus grevyi* (Grevy's Zebra)

### *Overview*

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 5
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

#### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Kenya:** The species is found in northern Kenya within the arid and semi-arid zones. The size of the population is not well established but there are a few hundred and they are fairly stable within their range.

#### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Kenya:** Within the framework of ecological and biodiversity monitoring in the northern regions. Monitoring of the Grevy's zebra is a special commitment due to their status.

#### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Kenya:** Within the framework of environmental protection of protected area, which are also the major habitats of the species in those regions.

#### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

#### **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Kenya:** More monitoring including habitat assessment to determine specific population size, distributions and threats that affect the species.

#### **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

None reported.

## *Gazella cuvieri* (Cuvier's Gazelle)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 4
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 2
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2

Having obtained information on population size, trends and distribution from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Tunisia:** There are 135 individuals in the Chaambi National Park, 11 in the Boukornine National Park (as a result of reintroduction), 40 in the Nature Reserve of Kachem El-Kaleb and 20 in the Nature Reserve of Etolla.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Morocco:** Developed a programme (in collaboration with Germany) for the reintroduction of this species in the National Park of Souss-Massa.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Tunisia:** An ecological study, conservation of the species and restoration of its habitat.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Gazella dama* (Dama Gazelle)

### *Overview*

- Number countries in the distribution range: 12
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 9
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 5

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that populations are relatively small and this species has generally been in decline (although one Party reported that its population is now expanding). Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been conducted, and further projects are planned for the future, including habitat restoration projects and programmes for the reintroduction of the species in particular areas.

### **1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution**

- **Chad:** Population of 15, but expanding. Found north-west of Kanem.
- **Mali:** The evolution of antelopes has not been studied in any depth in Mali. The difficulty of access to the areas and the absence of totally protected areas in the Sahelien and desert regions have meant that little historical information is available.  
To a certain extent, caravanners, herders, tourists and soldiers have helped to circulate general information about fauna in the dry regions. Along with Dorcas Gazelle, the Dama Gazelle is the best known species to travellers.  
Before the great drought in Sahel, the Dama Gazelle were generally observed in herds of approximately 10-50 individuals and of varying size. Sometimes large groupings numbered 200 antelopes.  
Today, species of antelope are observed singly or in groups of 2-5 individuals. Herds of ten individuals are extremely rare. Their total population on national territory numbers around 10,000.
- **Senegal:** There is a small group of 55 Gazelles at the Wildlife Sanctuary of Gueumbel.
- **Tunisia:** About 28 are living in semi-captivity and are involved in the reintroduction project in the National Park at Bouhedma.

### **2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Mali:** Research has been conducted on biological diversity and ecosystems/habitats.  
There was a Joint Mission by the National Office of Nature Conservation (DNCN) and the National Office of Hunting and Wild Fauna (ONCFS) on 28 January - 9 February 2002. The aim of the mission was the recognition of the FFEM project, the remit of which is the creation of a protected area of 500,000 ha to shelter the Sahelo-Saharienne antelopes of the Gao and Kidal regions (Tamesna).

### **3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Mali:** Security surveillance and forestry policing in and around protected areas.

### **4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Mali:** Classification of sites and prohibitions.

### **5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period**

None reported.

### **6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period**

- **Mali:** Education, information and communication.

- **Morocco:** Developed a programme (in collaboration with Germany) for the reintroduction of this species in the National Park of Souss-Massa.

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chad:** Project for the rehabilitation of the area.
- **Mali:** The principal activities planned are:
  - The restoration of habitat, the opening of trails and fire-breaks, and the replanting of trees (reafforestation);
  - Research into biological diversity, ecosystems and habitats, education, information and communication about wild fauna;
  - Security and surveillance/ forestry policing in and around the protected areas;
  - The creation of new protected areas in high potential ecological zones. (Tamesna in the region of Gao-Kidal, the Chimpanzee Sanctuary and the Kouroufing Reserve sheltering the Elan de derbi in the Bafing).
  - The reintroduction into certain protected areas of species that have disappeared or are in the process of disappearing.
- **Senegal** needs to strengthen the existing group by bringing in new individuals. There are also plans to allow several gazelles to go to the wildlife sanctuary of Du Ferlo Nord.
- **Tunisia:** An ecological study, and conservation and restoration of the species and its habitat.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chad:** Suggestions were made but no action has been taken.
- **Mali:** Factors that prevent much work being carried out are the lack of trained personnel, insufficient practical resources, and concern with the fulfilment of human needs to the detriment of the fauna.

## *Gazella dorcas* (Dorcas Gazelle)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 22
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 11
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 4

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that populations of this species have declined in several of the Range States and are now relatively low. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, and further projects are planned for the future, including habitat restoration projects and programmes for the reintroduction of the species in particular areas.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chad:** Population of 3,057 individuals (WWF and Office of Parks, 2001). Decreasing population. Found in North Kanem.
- **Mali:** The evolution of antelopes has not been studied in any depth in Mali. The difficulty of access to the areas and the absence of totally protected areas in the Sahelian and desert regions of the country have meant that little historical information is available.

To a certain extent, caravanners, herders, tourists and soldiers have helped to circulate general information about fauna in the dry regions. Along with Dama Gazelle, the Dorcas Gazelle is the best known species to travellers.

Before the great drought in Sahel, the Dorcas Gazelle were generally observed in herds of approximately 10-50 individuals and of varying size. Sometimes large groupings numbered 200 antelopes.

Today, species of antelope are observed singly or in groups of 2-5 individuals. Herds of ten individuals are extremely rare. Their total population on national territory numbers around 10,000 individuals.

- **Senegal:** Some individuals (less than ten) are said to be in the National Bird Park of Djoudj in the north of the country.
- **Tunisia:** 103 at Bouhedma National park, 189 in the Orbata Fauna Reserve, five at the Dghoumes National Park and nine in the Oued Dekouk Nature Reserve.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Research has been conducted on biological diversity and ecosystems/habitats.

A Joint Mission by the National Office of Nature Conservation (DNCN) and the National Office of Hunting and Wild Fauna (ONCFS) took place on 28 January - 9 February 2002. The aim of the mission was the recognition of the FFEM project, the remit of which is the creation of a protected area of 500,000 ha to shelter the Sahelo-Sahariennes antelopes of the Gao and Kidal regions (Tamesna).

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Security surveillance and forestry policing in and around the protected areas.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Classification of sites and prohibitions.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chad:** Project by WWF and the Office for the Protection of Fauna and National Parks.
- **Mali:** Education, information and communication.

## 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chad:** Project for the rehabilitation of the area.
- **Mali:** The principal activities planned are:
  - The restoration of habitat, the opening of trails and fire-breaks, and the replanting of trees (reafforestation);
  - Research into biological diversity, ecosystems and habitats, education, information and communication about wild fauna;
  - Security and surveillance/ forestry policing in and around the protected areas (parks and fauna reserves);
  - The creation of new protected areas in high potential ecological zones (Tamesna in the region of Gao-Kidal, the Chimpanzee Sanctuary and the Kouroufing Reserve sheltering the Elan de derbi in the Bafing).
  - The reintroduction into certain protected areas of species that have disappeared or are in the process of disappearing.
- **Tunisia:** Ecological study, conservation and restoration of its habitat.

## 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Chad:** Suggestions have been made but no formal action has been taken.
- **Mali:** Factors that prevent much work being carried out are the lack of trained personnel, insufficient practical resources, and concern with the satisfaction of human needs to the detriment of the fauna.
- **Senegal:** Lack of precise information on the actual presence of the species.

## *Gazella leptoceros* (Slender-horned Gazelle, Rhim)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 9
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 7
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 3

From the national reports obtained to date, this species appears to have declined and populations are relatively low. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, and further projects are planned for the future, including habitat restoration projects and programmes for the reintroduction of the species in particular areas.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chad:** Unknown population size and trends. According to the literature on the subject, it is found in the far north.
- **Mali:** The evolution of antelopes has not been studied in any depth in Mali. The difficulty of access to the areas and the absence of totally protected areas in the Sahelian and desert regions of the country have meant that little historical information is available.  
To a certain extent, caravanners, herders, tourists and soldiers have helped to circulate general information about fauna in the dry regions.  
Today, species of antelope are observed singly or in groups of 2-5 individuals. Herds of ten individuals are extremely rare. Their total population on national territory numbers around 10,000.
- **Tunisia:** Ten in the National Park of Sid-Toui.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Research has been conducted on biological diversity and ecosystems/habitats.  
A Joint Mission by the National Office of Nature Conservation (DNCN) and the National Office of Hunting and Wild Fauna (ONCFS) was carried out on 28 January - 9 February 2002. Its aim was the recognition of the FFEM project, the remit of which is the creation of a protected area of 500,000 ha to shelter the Sahelo-Sahariennes antelopes of the Gao and Kidal regions (Tamesna).

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Security surveillance and forestry policing in and around the protected areas.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Classification of sites and prohibitions.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chad:** Joint project by WWF and the Office for the Protection of Fauna and National Parks (2001)
- **Mali:** Education, information and communication.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chad:** Project for the rehabilitation of the area.

- **Mali:** The principal activities planned are:
  - The restoration of habitat, the opening of trails and fire-breaks, and the replanting of trees (re-forestation);
  - Research into biological diversity, ecosystems and habitats, education, information and communication about wild fauna;
  - Security and surveillance/ forestry policing in and around the protected areas;
  - The creation of new protected areas in high potential ecological areas (Tamesna in the region of Gao-Kidal, the Chimpanzee Sanctuary and the Kouroufing Reserve sheltering the Elan de derbi in the Bafing).
  - The reintroduction into certain protected areas of species that have disappeared or are in the process of disappearing.
- **Tunisia:** Ecological study, conservation and restoration of the species and its habitat.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Chad:** Suggestions have been made but no firm action has been taken.
- **Mali:** Factors that prevent much work being carried out are the lack of trained personnel, insufficient practical resources, and concern with the satisfaction of human needs to the detriment of the fauna.

## *Gorilla gorilla beringei* (Mountain Gorilla)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 3
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Given that one Party reported on this species (and did not have any information on population size, trends or distribution), it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

None reported.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Congo:** The Republic of the Congo has been granted a UNEP project on Big Apes entitled “Project for the Survival of Big Apes” (GRASP).

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Congo:** The Lessio-Louna sanctuary provides veterinary and sanitary care for baby orphan gorillas in nurseries. The gorillas are released into the wild and their adaptation to the wild is monitored. This monitoring is conducted from tracks and migration paths.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

None reported.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

## *Hippocamelus bisulcus* (South Andean Deer)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 2
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 2
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** The species occurs discontinuously throughout the south of Chile, with a population nucleus in the Andean zone in Region VIII, and a more continuous population from the tenth to the twelfth Regions.

The population in Region VIII consists of about 60 specimens and, regrettably, continues declining.

In the southern Regions censuses have been conducted only in few sites, such as the National Reserve Tamango with about 60 specimens, the National Park Torres del Paine with about 50 individuals, sector Río Claro of the National Park Río Simpson with 10 specimens. The total population of the species is estimated to be about 2,000 individuals.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** There are several finished and ongoing projects on the behaviour and ecology of the species.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Since 1974 censuses have been conducted at various sites in Regions VIII and XI.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Many places where the species occurs belong to the Sistema Nacional de Areas Silvestres Protegidas del Estado (SNASPE) [National Protected Areas System], National Parks Río Simpson, Laguna San Rafael, Bernardo O'Higgins and Torres del Paine and National Reserves Los Huemules de Niblinto, Ñuble, Futaleufú, Tamango, Cerro Castillo, Las Guaytecas, Alacalufes and Laguna Parrillar.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** A plot of land has been obtained, next to National Reserve Ñuble, with a winter habitat for the species in the mountain range in Region VIII.  
Between 15 and 18 April a 4th Chilean-Argentinean meeting took place about strategies for the conservation of the South Andean Deer (Huemul).

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Continue with research and censuses for the species.

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

None reported.

# *Oryx dammah* (Scimitar-horned Oryx)

## Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 15
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 11
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 5

From the national reports obtained to date, it appears that populations of this species are small in two of its Range States, and it is difficult to ascertain trends from the information obtained. Research, monitoring and habitat protection activities have been undertaken for the conservation of this species, with further projects, including reintroduction programmes, being planned for the future.

## 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chad:** No information on this species. A joint mission of the WWF and the Office of Parks saw a few old horns.
- **Mali:** The evolution of antelopes has not been studied in any depth in Mali. The difficulty of access to the areas and the absence of totally protected areas in the Sahelien and desert regions of the country have meant that little historical information is available.  
To a certain extent, caravanners, herders, tourists and soldiers have helped to circulate general information about fauna in the dry regions.  
Today, species of antelope are observed singly or in groups of 2-5 individuals. Herds of ten individuals are extremely rare. Their total population on national territory numbers around 10,000.
- **Senegal:** A small group of Oryx was reintroduced to the Gueumbeul sanctuary in February 1999 and a further two females from the Bois de Vincennes zoo in February 2002. The current population is 23 animals.
- **Tunisia:** 110 at the Bouhedma National Park, 26 at Sidi-Toui National park and four in Oued Dekouk Nature Reserve.

## 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Research has been conducted on biological diversity and ecosystems/habitats.  
A Joint Mission by the National Office of Nature Conservation (DNCN) and the National Office of Hunting and Wild Fauna (ONCFS) was carried out on 28 January - 9 February 2002. The aim of the mission was the recognition of the FFEM project, the remit of which is the creation of a protected area of 500,000 ha to shelter the Sahelo-Sahariennes antelopes of the Gao and Kidal regions (Tamesna).

## 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Security surveillance and forestry policing in and around the protected areas.

## 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Classification of sites and prohibitions.

## 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

## 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Mali:** Education, information and communication.

- **Morocco:** Developed a programme (in collaboration with Germany) for the reintroduction of this species in the National Park of Souss-Massa.

## **7. Activities planned for the future**

- **Chad:** Reintroduction of species into the area.
- **Mali:** The principal activities planned are:
  - The restoration of habitat, the opening of trails and fire-breaks, and the replanting of trees (reafforestation);
  - Research into biological diversity, ecosystems and habitats, education, information and communication about wild fauna;
  - Security and surveillance/ forestry policing in and around the protected areas (parks and fauna reserves);
  - The creation of new protected areas in high potential ecological zones (Tamesna in the region of Gao-Kidal, the Chimpanzee Sanctuary and the Kouroufing Reserve sheltering the Elan de derbi in the Bafing).
  - The reintroduction into certain protected areas of species that have disappeared or are in the process of disappearing.
- **Tunisia:** Study of the ecology of the species, its conservation and the restoration of its habitat.

## **8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

- **Chad:** Suggestions have been made but no action has been taken.
- **Mali:** Factors that prevent much work being carried out are the lack of trained personnel, insufficient practical resources, and concern with the satisfaction of human needs to the detriment of the fauna.

## *Vicugna vicugna* (Vicugna)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 4
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 3
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 1

Having obtained information from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary information on population size, trends and distribution

- **Chile:** The species occurs in Chile in the highlands in Regions First (Tarapacá), Second (Antofagasta) and Third (Atacama), between 3,700 and 4,800 metres above sea level.  
Protection of the species started in 1975 in wild areas in the Parinacota province (Region I), when 2,176 specimens were counted. From that time the population has been increasing with oscillations. In 1995 there were 19,169 specimens.  
In the Antofagasta and Atacama regions the censuses were commenced in 1995 with 320 and 291 specimens respectively.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** There are various ongoing and finished projects on various aspects of the behaviour and ecology of the species. These include: Galaz, J., y B. Urquieta. 1996. Ecología de la Vicuña; and Castellano G. C Gajardo y A. Regí. 1996 Variación estacional de la composición botánica, disponibilidad de materia seca, valor pastoral y valor nutritivo de los bofedales de un sector de la provincia de Parinacota.

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Since 1975 censuses have been conducted in various sites in the highlands.

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** Many places where the species occurs belong to the Sistema Nacional de Areas Silvestres Protegidas del Estado (SNASPE) [National Protected Areas System] National Parks Lauca, Volcán Isluga, Llullaillaco and Nevado de Tres Cruces, National Reserves Las Vicuñas and Los Flamencos and Natural Monument Salar de Surire.

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

- **Chile:** A project is being undertaken on the rational use of the species to obtain fibre, with the participation of the Aymara communities.

### 7. Activities planned for the future

- **Chile:** Continue with activities of the International Agreement on the Conservation of the Vicuña (Chile, Perú, Bolivia, Ecuador and Argentina), and continue with research and censuses on the species.

**8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period**

None reported.



**BATS**



## *Tadarida brasiliensis* (Mexican Free-tailed Bat)

### Overview

- Number of countries in the distribution range: 38
- Number of Parties to CMS in the distribution range: 8
- Number of CMS Parties reporting on this species: 2

Having obtained information on population size, trends and distribution from one Party, it is impossible to draw any conclusions on population trends for this species.

### 1. Summary of information on population size, trends and distribution

Chile: This bat occurs between Regions I and X.

### 2. Research activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 3. Monitoring activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 4. Habitat protection activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 5. Habitat restoration activities carried out in the reporting period

None reported.

### 6. Other activities carried out in the reporting period

None

### 7. Activities planned for the future

None

### 8. Reasons for inactivity in the reporting period

- **Uruguay:** Funding for research.



**APPENDIX I SPECIES WITHOUT COMMENTS FROM  
2002 PARTY REPORTS  
(at 31 July 2002)**

**BIRDS**

*Ciconia boyciana* (Oriental White Stork)  
*Dendroica kirtlandii* (Kirtland's Warbler)  
*Diomedea albatrus* (Short-tailed Albatross, Steller's Albatross)  
*Diomedea amsterdamensis* (Amsterdam Albatross)  
*Egretta eulophotes* (Chinese Egret)  
*Grus japonensis* (Manchurian Crane, Japanese Crane)  
*Grus leucogeranus* (Siberian Crane)  
*Grus nigricollis* (Black-necked Crane)  
*Haliaeetus pelagicus* (Steller's Sea Eagle)  
*Larus relictus* (Relict Gull)  
*Larus saundersi* (Saunders's Gull, Chinese Black-headed Gull)  
*Pterodroma cahow* (Cahow, Bermuda Petrel)  
*Pterodroma phaeopygia* (Dark-rumped Petrel, Hawaiian Petrel, Galapagos Petrel)  
*Pterodroma sandwichensis* (Dark-rumped Petrel, Hawaiian Petrel, Uau)  
*Sarothrura ayresi* (Whitewinged Flufftail)  
*Sporophila hypochroma* (Rufous-rumped Seedeater)  
*Synthliboramphus wumizusume* (Japanese Murrelet, Crested Murrelet)

**MARINE MAMMALS**

*Balaena mysticetus* (Bowhead Whale)  
*Trichechus manatus* (Manatee)

**MARINE TURTLES**

*Podocnemis expansa* (Arrau Turtle, South American River Turtle)

**TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS (OTHER THAN BATS)**

*Bos grunniens* (Wild Yak, Yak)  
*Bos sauveli* (Kouprey)  
*Uncia uncia* (Snow Leopard)

**BATS**

None

**OTHER TAXA**

*Gavialis gangeticus* (Gharial, Indian Gavial)  
*Pangasianodon gigas* (Giant Catfish)