



RAPTORS  
MOU

## 6.2.3 List of important sites for migratory birds of prey

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# Background



- In the TAG workplan set at MOS1 Activity 1: Improvement of Protection, Task 1.1 was ‘To review the species list and sites list of the MoU, with part d) stating ‘following consultations with the Signatories, make recommendations as to the updating of Table 3 of Annex 3 of the Action Plan listing internationally important sites for raptors’
- The existing Table 3 list of sites entitled “Provisional list of Important Bird Areas that are currently known to be important congregatory bird of prey sites in Africa and Eurasia” comprises 135 Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) that qualified according to global and regional criteria for globally threatened species and congregations of species listed on Annex 1 of the MOU
- This list of 135 IBAs dates from 2008 and was intended to be an indicative rather than comprehensive site list and is prefaced by the clarification “This indicative list should be treated as a minimum list of internationally important areas”

# Background



- TAG recognised:
  - that the existing Table 3, which listed only 135 sites in 36 territories, did not cover all sites of international importance for raptors across the geographic area of the Raptors MOU
  - that many Signatories had none of the internationally important sites for raptors in their country represented on the list
- TAG proposed a significantly more comprehensive updated list of internationally important sites for consideration of Signatories in advance of MOS2, which comprised IBAs, SPAs and other sites meeting criteria of international importance across range states of the MOU
- Signatories were consulted on the draft Table 3 ahead of MOS2 and any proposed amendments from Signatories were considered and incorporated where appropriate in advance of MOS2
- At MOS2 itself some non-specific issues were raised by the EU who requested further work on the site list, so the draft Table 3 was not adopted at MOS2, although it was agreed it could be used by Signatories
- Between MOS2 and TAG3 TAG received more specific details about the site list changes required by the EU

## Changes made to draft Table 3 between MOS2 and TAG3

- In the TAG workplan set at MOS2 Activity 1.1 was to “Consider amendments adopted by MoS2 to Annex 1 (species) and amend Table 3 (sites) of the Action Plan, and in particular in relation to sites: b) consider further comments from the Signatories, make recommendations as to the updating of Table 3”
- At TAG3 we explained the changes to Table 3 requested by the Second Meeting of Signatories (MOS2), the procedures used to amend the list of sites were approved, a summary of the resulting list of changes to the site list was presented and these changes were enacted in draft of the site list shared with TAG3
- A reminder that the main categories of change were:
  - Addition of new sites and new qualifying populations at existing sites for the 18 raptor species newly listed in Annex 1 at MOS2
  - Removal of Category D (or non-significant) populations from SPAs on draft Table 3 resulting in removal of some SPAs from draft Table 3

## Changes made to draft Table 3 between TAG3 and TAG4

- At TAG3 it had been anticipated that Switzerland would be proposing amendments to the Swiss site list on Table 3, and that there would be a need for TAG to review. Switzerland have not made these proposals yet, but intend to do so either before or after MOS3
- Since TAG3, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is now North Macedonia and Swaziland is now known as Eswatini and these will be proposed as changes to Annex 2 (the geographic scope of the MOU) for endorsement by MOS3
- Suggest we anticipate these Annex 2 changes and making resultant changes in Table 3, the sites list
- No sites of international importance currently in the list for Swaziland so this does not require action but if TAG agrees, as in Annex C of TAG4/ Doc 6.2c the site list for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia would be moved in the alphabetical order and retitled North Macedonia
- Some corrections have been made to ensure nomenclature used in list is consistent throughout

# Consultation with Signatories on Table 3

- Propose sending out draft Table 3 to Signatories along with the explanatory document which is Annex A to TAG4/6.2c
- Revisions since MOS2 identifiable in the site list, so we propose that draft Table 3 be circulated to Signatories in both PDF and Excel format with the changes indicated since the version presented to MOS2

| Lesotho |       | 21812     | Riede in the no | Luxembourg |                            |                        |                          |          |
|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 6464    | Liqol | AT1110137 | Neusiedler See  | 2932       | Haff Réimech               | Osprey                 | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> | passage  |
| 6465    | Uppe  |           | Leithagebirge   | 2934       | Upper Valley of the Sure   | European Honey-buzzard | <i>Pernis apivorus</i>   | breeding |
|         |       |           |                 |            |                            | Osprey                 | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> | passage  |
| 6466    | Mafil |           |                 | 3582       | Upper Valley of the Our    | European Honey-buzzard | <i>Pernis apivorus</i>   | breeding |
|         |       |           |                 |            |                            | Red Kite               | <i>Milvus milvus</i>     | breeding |
| 6467    | Schor |           |                 | 27258      | Valley of the Trëtterbaach | Boreal Owl             | <i>Aegolius funereus</i> | breeding |
|         |       |           |                 |            |                            | Hen Harrier            | <i>Circus cyaneus</i>    | winter   |
|         |       |           |                 |            |                            | Red Kite               | <i>Milvus milvus</i>     | breeding |
| 6468    | Sehla |           |                 | 27259      | Valley of the Attert       | Black Kite             | <i>Milvus migrans</i>    | breeding |
| 6469    | Uppe  |           |                 |            |                            | Red Kite               | <i>Milvus milvus</i>     | breeding |
|         |       | AT1119622 | Auwiesen-Ziele  | 27260      | Region Kiischpelt          | European Honey-buzzard | <i>Pernis apivorus</i>   | breeding |
|         |       | AT1123323 | Mattersburger   | 27261      | Region of Junglinster      | Black Kite             | <i>Milvus migrans</i>    | breeding |
|         |       |           |                 |            |                            | Hen Northern Harrier   | <i>Circus cyaneus</i>    | winter   |

# TAG4 Actions



- **TAG is requested to endorse:**
  - **changing the name and order of North Macedonia in the sites list to be sent to Signatories for consultation ahead of MOS3**
  - **the sites rationale document to be sent to Signatories (Annex A)**
  - **the sites list (Annex C) to be circulated to Signatories ahead of MOS3 and the approach to identifying in the sites list the changes made since MOS2 using coloured highlights and ‘track changes’**