

Project Update: September 2013

Censuses of the great snipe on the leks were conducted in floodplains of Pripyat, Neman, Shchara, Berezina and Gayna Rivers. Very high floods held until mid-June 2012 therefore many leks moved in other places. We recorded the disappearance of two leks in the valley of the River Shchara caused by the cessation of grazing and overgrowing of floodplain meadows. The study of breeding habitats in the Sporovsky Reserve also showed a significant reduction in the number of birds due to overgrowing habitats and the deterioration of conditions for nesting. Only five displaying males were recorded in the Reserve.

We determined areas in the Sporovsky Reserve where pilot restoration of the breeding habitats will be carried out. Works on restoration of the great snipe habitats using special combine will be carried out in the end of September after holding of special workshop with the participation of the Sporovsky reserve staff and APB-Birdlife employees.

Preliminary approval on inclusion of the Great Snipe in the new edition of Red Data Book and its category was performed with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection in August 2013.



The flood inundated the breeding habitats of the Great Snipe in valley of the Pripyat River.

Search for leks on fen mires in the Sporovsky Reserve.



Coordinate determination of the lek in the Neman River valley.