## Project Update: August 2013

In July 2013 we investigated 11 long-term monitoring sites within floodplain landscapes of different land-use types. We found out 10 site/habitats of rare animals and plants. Special attention was paid to reed marshes as wetland habitats and stocks of natural resources.

Soil samples, landscape features, flora richness and species density per square, phytomass, entomological samples, ornithological and theriological observations have shown a fine conservation level of nature and high biodiversity values, but also the signs of transformation without a right rural land-use. Traditional land-use forms such as grazing and haymaking are decreased or cancelled on many localities.

The project participants were invited to the local authority for participation in "roundtable" and interviewed for the expedition objectives.

Volunteers – students, local scholars and teachers, as well as research staff of the park "Pyryatynsky" participated in most examinations of habitats and populations.

Staff of the park accompanied the expedition all the time and provided strong support.



1) (from left to right): participants of the project - Oksana Abduloieva, Oleksandr Golubtsov and staff of the national nature park "Pyryatynsky" Andriy Prymak making habitat examinations of floodplain meadows. 2) entrance to the recreation zone of the national nature park "Pyryatynsky".

Links on the subject (in Ukrainian):

Links to the news in the park on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.671889202841038.1073741835.5111704655 79580&type=1 and news about expedition in local newspapers in Ukrainian http://np.pl.ua/2013/07/u-pyryatyni-startuvala-9-ta-ekolohichna-ekspedytsiya/; http://www.oblrada.pl.ua/index.php/pirjatinskij-rajon/3408-ekologichna-ekspeditsijarozpochala-robotu others http://ecologyknu.wix.com/ecologyknu#!untitled/c4og