

Project Update: September 2016

From May-July 2016 we conducted main part of our project. Field surveys of waders on fen mires of Ukrainian Polissia were carried out. Main attention was paid to searching of breeding locations of common snipe, great snipe, and Eurasian curlew. Also, we conducted parallel surveys of other waders and aquatic birds. During the field works, we found several new locations of great snipe leks in Rivne region of Ukraine and estimated the density of the local population of curlew and common snipe, which occurred to be slightly higher than we expected. Despite quite wet spring, summer in the studied area was dry, and level of water in many wetlands was not optimal. But still, this season was much better for waders than the previous one. Therefore, our expedition was in general successful. During fieldwork, we also distributed printed materials among local forestry workers, hunters, and schools with information about mires and rare birds that breed there. Now we are working on the final stage of the project – data analysis and preparation of relevant recommendations, maps and publications that will be eventually provided to local conservation authorities and shared with the scientific community.



Top to bottom: Black-tailed godwit, Syra Pogonia, Ukraine; Eurasian curlew in its breeding habitat, Syra Pogonia, Ukraine; Counts of rare waders on mires and not easy landscape for research. Crossing mires of Syra Pogonia, Ukraine.