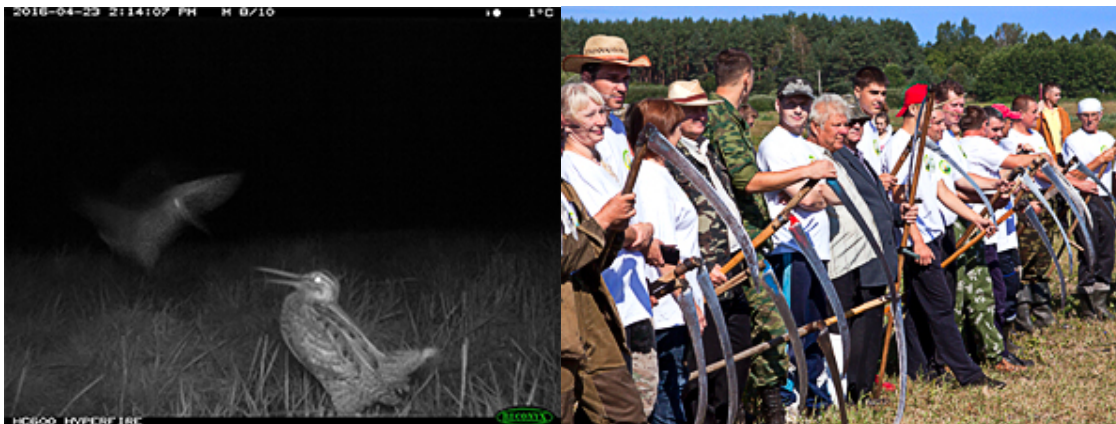


Project Update: August 2016

Great snipe censuses were carried out in the Sporovo Reserve. The staff of the reserve extended the works on restoration of habitats. Nevertheless numbers of males on leks was very low and that was connected probably with high spring floods this season.

We carried out the search of key breeding habitats in floodplains of the Nischa, Svol'na, Berezina, and Drut Rivers in Vitebsk and Mogilev regions. We found seven new leks where total numbers was estimated about 70-100 males. Detailed investigations using the kayak were conducted in the Drut River floodplain for about 100 km of the riverbed. The great snipe counts on some leks were carried out using camera traps that helped to estimate a total numbers of males.

The manual mowing championship was conducted in the Sporovo Reserve to increase public awareness about conservation problems of rare species. 23 teams from different regions took part in the event.



Left: The lekking Great Snipes captured with a camera trap in floodplain of Berezina River. Right: The teams took part in the manual mowing championship in the Sporovo Reserve.



Left: Haymakers competed in the Sporovo fen mire. Right: Search of the Great Snipe leks in the Drut River floodplain using kayak.