

**Project Update: May 2010**

I got the funds in the mid-summer 2009. Since that time I completed some of the activities I proposed. I can provide some preliminary results on relationship of bird diversity and steppes of my study region. But because the money arrived later than we needed for the fieldwork, we could not complete all the fieldwork and the analyses. So this year starting from this weekend we will continue to the fieldwork. Our aim is to finalize all the fieldwork in July 2010. But the identification of some key species, then analyses and the conservation recommendations will take some time. So we may not be able to finish the study in August 2010 as proposed before.