

Conserving Aquatic Warblers

in Poland and Germany



photo: G&T Kłosowscy

Final conference of the EU LIFE Project

11-13 May 2010

Organizers:

The Polish Society for the Protection of Birds (OTOP)
together with the Biebrza National Park

Venue:

Biebrza National Park, Headquarters
Osowiec-Twierdza 8, 19-110 Goniądz, Poland



“Conserving Aquatic Warblers in Poland and Germany”

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The EU LIFE Project “Conserving Aquatic Warblers in Poland and Germany” (LIFE05 NAT/PL/010001), implemented since 2006, is the largest single conservation project targeting the species so far. The final conference of the project aims to present and discuss the results and experiences gained during the project to all staff and stakeholders involved in the project, and to share them with a wider forum of national and international scientists, conservationists and stakeholders. The conference will also cover recent scientific and practical evidence relevant for the conservation of the species that goes beyond the scope of the project.

The Aquatic Warbler

The Aquatic Warbler is Europe’s rarest migratory songbird and the only globally threatened passerine of mainland Europe. Since the late 1990ies the species has been the subject of intensive research and conservation actions throughout its range states, thereby uniting conservationists from many different countries and serving as a flagship species for the conservation of its specific fen mire and wet meadow habitats. In the process, the Aquatic Warbler has become the only small passerine species for which a dedicated International Memorandum of Understanding under the Bonn Convention (CMS) has been signed.



Proceedings of the conference will be published after the workshop together with additional material as the “Aquatic Warbler Conservation Handbook”.

A meeting of the BirdLife International Aquatic Warbler Conservation Team (AWCT) will precede the conference, while there are plans to follow the conference with the 2nd Meeting of Signatory States of the CMS Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Aquatic Warbler, so that the conference can double up as scientific meeting for this event.



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The working languages of the conference will be English and Polish. Translation between English and Polish will be provided throughout the conference.

Accommodation: - Hotel Bartłowizna (19-110 Goniądz, ul. Nadbiebrzańska 32)
- Biebrza National Park Headquarters

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

- 10 May: afternoon: working meeting of the Aquatic Warbler Conservation Team (only for AWCT members)
- 11-12 May: Conference days – Presentations and discussion about the conservation of Aquatic Warblers
- 13 May: Excursion day – visit to key Aquatic Warbler breeding and LIFE Project sites in the Biebrza Valley
- 14 May: to be confirmed: 2nd Meeting of Signatory States of the CMS Aquatic Warbler MoU (only for MoU representatives)

CONFERENCE SESSIONS FORESEEN:

- New findings about the Aquatic Warbler: world population, genetics, biology
- Scientific evidence and practical results from the Aquatic Warbler LIFE Project in Poland and Germany
- Finding and protecting the wintering grounds of the Aquatic Warbler
- The way forward: evidence, plans, strategies and ideas from across the species' range

photo: C&T Kłosowscy

