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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

38th meeting
Strasbourg, 27-30 November 2018

Complaints on stand-by

**Presumed deliberate killing of birds
&
Alleged deliberate killing of birds of prey
in Serbia**

- REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT -

*Document prepared by
the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia*

- August 2018 -

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE COMPLAINT NO. 2014/3 – ASSUMED DELIBERATE KILLING OF BIRDS IN SERBIA

AND

THE COMPLAINT NO. 2016/3 – PRESUMED DELIBERATE KILLING OF BIRDS IN SERBIA IN 2018.

In the course of the proceedings on complaints No. 2014/3 and No. 2016/3, at the request of the Bureau of the Bern Convention, the Ministry of Environmental Protection has continuously implemented measures in cooperation with other relevant authorities and organizations, duly providing relevant information to the public and involving non-governmental organizations in addressing these issues.

A report on the progress achieved in dealing with the above complaints has been prepared based on reports submitted by the relevant institutions.

1. Inspection and expert supervision and control

Joint inspection in the area of nature protection is carried out in accordance with the Law on Nature Protection (“Official Gazette of RS”, No. 36/09, 88/10 and 91/10 – corr. and 14/16) and the Law on Inspection Control (“Official Gazette of RS“, No. 36/2015) in cooperation with relevant sectoral inspections. Cooperation includes mutual notification, information exchange, assistance and common measures and actions relevant for inspection control.

Inspection control in the case of illegal killing of wild bird species is carried out by the environmental inspection at the republic, regional and local levels. At the request of the environmental inspector, field investigation is carried out by the phytosanitary inspection, veterinary inspection, the police, a public prosecutor and a professional nature protection organization.

2. Status of the completed criminal charges

- Before the Magistrates Court in Kikinda on the case under no.2K.257 / 17 in the proceedings of denunciation against Matijevic Petar from Vojvode Stepe, the Institute had a procedural position on damaged, a property claim was filed for an amount of 720,000.00.
- The case was finalized by passing a verdict finding the accused guilty and the Institute requested in writing that the judgment be delivered.
- In the Basic public prosecutor in Sombor a criminal charges was filed in the case of poisoning in the village of Svilojevo, the case under no.KKN.34 / 18, so far there is no information about the course of the investigation or the call by the prosecution.
- The Basic public prosecutor in Ruma it is the progress of procedure for poisoning in the villages of Vitojevci and Grabovci, the case under no. KTN.2 / 18, so far there is no information about the course of the investigation or the call by the prosecution.

3. Expert supervision

In accordance with Article 102 of the Law on Nature Protection, professional nature protection organizations, i.e. the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia and the Provincial Institute for Nature Protection, perform expert supervision over protected natural assets with proposed measures, including protected areas, ecological network, strictly protected and protected species and their derivatives.

The Institute for nature conservation of Serbia has evidences all the cases of killing and taking care of the strictly protected species from the list of Bern Convention, on which concretely was worked during the period of 01.01.-14.08.2018 year. Also the cases evidenced by the other organizations were considered. (Annex: Table1. and 2. of all evidenced cases).

All evidenced data were analyzed and summed as given in the following text.

a. Data on killing of birds.

- In cooperation with the republic inspection, one killed bird was evidenced and identified as *Buteo buteo* suspected to be poisoned on corpse.
- Three birds were found which most probably was killed by vehicles on the highway. In cooperation with the republic inspection of the three corpses of *Buteo buteo* were found along the highway which certainly was killed by vehicles.
- One dead bird identified as *Athene noctua* have lost its life after hitting the glass of window.
- One dead bird identified as *Strix aluco* was found and the cause of death was unknown.
- Birds died during carrying (transport and curing) were: one *Accipiter gentilis* found as seriously injured, one *Accipiter nisus*, one *Buteo buteo*, one *Bubo bubo* (injured leg), one *Strix uralensis* and two *Ciconia ciconia*.

b. Taking care of injured and disabled birds.

- 14 injured individuals accommodated in Belgrade Zoo, one *Podiceps cristatus*, one *Ciconia ciconia*, four *Buteo buteo*, two *Asio otus*, two *Athene noctua*, one *Scolopax rusticola*, one *Picus viridis*, two *Corvus cornix*.
- Totally 8 individuals disabled, unable to live independent life are accommodated in Belgrade zoo (5 *Buteo buteo* and 3 *Falco tinnunculus*).
- 10 individuals of young birds are kept in Belgrade zoo (3 *Falco tinnunculus*, 1 *Apus apus*, and 6 *Anas platyrhynchos*).
- 4 injured individuals are accommodated in Palic zoo (2 *Buteo buteo*, 1 *Falco cherrug*, and 1 *Strix aluco*).
- Injured and disabled individuals are accommodated in "Zooplanet" in the city of Nis (1 *Strix aluco*, 1 *Ciconia ciconia*).

c. The data about the releasing of cured and recovered birds.

- From the Belgrade zoo 33 recovered individuals were released into nature – 12 *Falco tinnunculus*, 8 *Buteo buteo*, 6 *Asio otus*, 3 *Athene noctua*, 4 *Strix aluco*.
- From the area of "Zooplanet" - Nis 5 recovered individuals were released into nature – 1 *Falco tinnunculus*, 2 *Asio otus*, 1 *Athene noctua* and 1 *Ixobrychus minutus*.

d. Data on releasing and confiscated birds illegally kept in captivity

- After confiscation due to illegal catching and keeping in captivity in cooperation with republic ecology inspection, 109 individuals were released into nature, as follows: - 12 *Linaria cannabina*, 58 *Carduelis carduelis*, 28 *Spinus spinus*, 2 *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, 6 *Carduelis chloris*, 2 *Emberiza schoeniclus* and 1 *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*.

e. Data which the Institute for nature conservation of Serbia has obtained in the form of different information in connection with death and taking care of birds.

- One *Buteo buteo* was found dead below electric power line in Zlatibor obviously killed by electricity; date obtained by PP "Zlatibor".
- One *Buteo buteo* died, the cause of death is unknown, poisoning is suspected. Information was obtained by Association of hunters "Fazan" Vranje.
- One *Buteo buteo* died during curing treatment, bird most probably was injured by vehicle. Information obtained by the "Clinik Sojic"
- Two *Gyps fulvus* were received for treatment and temporarily accommodated in volier of Special reserve of nature "Uvac" before releasing. Information obtained by "Clinik Sojic" and Special reserve of nature "Uvac".

4. Join the IMPEL network

Joint meeting between the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia and IMPEL Board held in Belgrade, on 04 July 2018.

The meeting was dedicated to exploring the possibility of cooperation through the participation in projects and use of the developed methodology IMPEL, through support and exchange of experiences with the member states, in order to implement the European standards of environmental protection in Serbia.

Several experts of the Republic of Serbia nominated for IMPEL, including Mr Ljubomir Malezanovic as expert for nature protection within the IMPEL. (Annexes: Agenda of the meeting and Table 3. of the IMPEL FP for nature protection)

5. FURADAN35 ST stocks

In accordance with Article 36, paragraph 4 of the Law on Waste Management, it is planned to export for incineration of 150 tons of waste and waste of pesticides in Austria in 2018.

Waste pesticides exported as hazardous waste under the national designation A4 3 A4030 - Wastes from the production, formulation and use of biocides and phytopharmaceutical products, including waste pesticides and herbicides, which have not been made to the specification, or have expired their use, or are not suitable for their original purpose.

Wastes under the national designation A4 3 A4030 are on the List IA of Hazardous Waste whose export and transit are permitted in accordance with the Basel Convention. The Republic of Serbia as an exporting country, if it does not have sufficient technical facilities or capacity or suitable places for disposal, in order to dispose or process the waste in question in the ecologically and in the correct manner, export the specified waste.

Coordinated and prepared by:

Ms Snežana Prokić, MSc, Head of the Section for Ecological Network and Appropriate Assessment and the Bern Convention Focal Point

Data source:

- Internal reports of the Ministry of Environmental Protection
- Report of the Institute for Nature Protection of Serbia
- Report of the Institute for Nature Protection of Vojvodina Province;

Table 1. Species of birds which are the subjects of request for numbering and information on further procedure in the first half of 2018./Institute for Nature Protection of Serbia

Number	Scientific name	Number of ind.	Procedure	Date
1.	<i>Aso otus</i>	6	Releasing of recovered individuals from Belgrade zoo to the nature	20.07. 2018.
2.	<i>Athene noctua</i>	3	Releasing of recovered individuals from Belgrade zoo to the nature	20.07. 2018.
3.	<i>Strix aluco</i>	4	Releasing of recovered individuals from Belgrade zoo to the nature	20.07. 2018.
4.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	12	Releasing of recovered individuals from Belgrade zoo to the nature	17.07. 2018.
5.	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	11.07. 2018.
6.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	7	Releasing of individuals from Belgrade zoo to the nature	21.06. 2018.
7.	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	29.06. 2018.
8.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	Taking care of young individual in Belgrade zoo	19.06. 2018.
9.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	Taking care of young individual in Belgrade zoo	20.06. 2018.
10.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care in Belgrade zoo	20.06. 2018.
11.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	Taking care of individual in Belgrade zoo, bird was confiscated as was raising illegally for hunting	15.06. 2018.
12.	<i>Apus apus</i>	1	Taking care of young individual in Belgrade zoo	15.06. 2018.
13.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	Taking care of young individual in Belgrade zoo	10.05. 2018.
14.	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	10.05. 2018.
15.	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	6	Taking care of young individual in Belgrade zoo	10.05. 2018.
16.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Releasing of individuals from Belgrade zoo to the nature	18.03. 2018.
17.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	Taking care of young individual in Belgrade zoo	16.03. 2018.
18.	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	08.03. 2018.
19.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	06.03. 2018.
20.	<i>Asio otus</i>	1	Taking care of young individual in Belgrade zoo	26.02. 2018.
21.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care of individual in Belgrade zoo	20.02. 2018.
22.	<i>Athene noctua</i>	1	Taking care of individual in Belgrade zoo	22.02. 2018.
23.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care of individual originate from Vucje, Leskovac	14.02. 2018.
24.	<i>Asio otus</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	13.02. 2018.
25.	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	26.01. 2018.
26.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo, found on military airport, Batajnica	12.01. 2018.
27.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	In cooperation with the inspection, it was suspected to be poisoned on corpse	20.02. 2018.
28.	<i>Strix aluco</i>	1	Found the corpse with unknown death	21.02. 2018.
29.	<i>Tyto alba</i>	1	Found the corpse, probably after hitting the glass of window	07.03. 2018.

30.	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	1	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated in Kragujevac and released to the nature	10.04. 2018.
31.	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	3	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated in Kragujevac and released to the nature	10.04. 2018.
32.	<i>Emberiza shoeniclus</i>	2	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated in Kragujevac and released to the nature	10.04. 2018.
33.	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	12	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated in Kragujevac and released to the nature	10.04. 2018.
34.	<i>Carduelis carduelis,</i>	41	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated in Kragujevac and released to the nature	10.04. 2018.
35.	<i>Spinus spinus</i>	21	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated in Kragujevac and released to the nature	10.04. 2018.
36.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	In cooperation with the inspection, taken care individuals in Belgrade zoo from Sabac	11.05. 2018.
37.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	In cooperation with the inspection, taken care individual in Belgrade zoo from Sabac	11.05. 2018.
38.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	19.06. 2018.
39.	<i>Picus viridis</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo	19.06. 2018.
40.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated and taken care in Belgrade zoo	16.07. 2018.
41.	<i>Strix uralensis</i>	1	Taking over in critical stage in Berčinac and died during curing treatment	18.01. 2018.
42.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	2	On report of BRSSS and in the presence of ecology inspection, found dead bird, probably was killed by vehicle on the highway, near Novi Lanista	18.01. 2018.
43.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Found dead in decay phase, probably was killed by vehicle on the highway, near Razanj	18.01. 2018.
44.	<i>Strix aluco</i>	1	Taking over with injured wing, taking care in Palic zoo from Velika Grabovica	24.01. 2018.
45.	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	1	Taking over in critical stage and died during transport from Velika Grabovica	24.01. 2018.
46.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	2	Taking care of individual in Palic zoo	25.01. 2018.
47.	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	1	The Institute was informed of 'Clinik Sojic' that was found injured individual near Cacak and was taking care to Special reserve of nature "Uvac".	25.01. 2018.
48.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking over from Gornje Vrezine, moved to Planet zoo but died	01.02. 2018.
49.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual in Belgrade zoo from Kragujevac	06.03. 2018.
50.	<i>Carduelis carduelis,</i>	1	In cooperation with the inspection, bird was confiscated in Pirot and released to the nature	09.03. 2018.
51.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Information of 'Clinika Sojic' that was found injured individual, in Kragujevac, later died, was injured by vehicle	21.03. 2018.
52.	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	2	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Zajecar and released to the nature	27.03. 2018.

53.	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	2	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Berilovci and released to the nature	02.04. 2018.
54.	<i>Carduelis carduelis,</i>	3	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Berilovci and released to the nature	02.04. 2018.
55.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Found dead bird, below electric power line in Zlatibor	10.04. 2018.
56.	<i>Asio otus</i>	1	Information of 'Clinik Sojic' that was found injured individual, died during curing	17.04. 2018.
57.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Information was obtained that was found dead bird, the cause of death is unknown, poisoning is suspected by Association of hunters "Fazan" Vranje	19.04. 2018.
58.	<i>Ixobrychus minutes</i>	1	Taking care of young individual from Vladicin Han and released to the nature	11-19.07. 2018.
59.	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	1	Taking care of young individual from Nis banja but soon died	11.07. 2018.
60.	<i>Athene noctua</i>	1	Taking care of young individual from Prokuplje, and released to the nature	14-19.07. 2018.
61.	<i>Strix aluco</i>	1	Taking care of young individual from Kragujevac, and released to the nature	12.07. 2018.
62.	<i>Falco cherrug</i>	1	The republic inspection took over young injured individual from Lebane, to Palic zoo	17.07. 2018.
63.	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1	Young individual with deformations, was found in Pukovac, but soon died during curing treatment	27.07. 2018.
64.	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	1	Young injured individual with injured leg from Gadjin Han was taking care, soon was died during curing treatment	30.07. 2018.
65.	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1	"Zooplanet" informed that they took one injured bird for curing treatment with rip off leg, from Tesice	30.07. 2018.
66.	<i>Carduelis carduelis,</i>	13	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Zajecar and released to the nature	02.08. 2018.
67.	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	3	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Zajecar and released to the nature	02.08. 2018.
68.	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	3	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Zajecar and released to the nature	02.08. 2018.
69.	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	3	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Zajecar and released to the nature	02.08. 2018.
70.	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	1	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Zajecar and released to the nature	02.08. 2018.
71.	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	1	In cooperation with the inspection, birds was confiscated in Zajecar and released to the nature	02.08. 2018.
72.	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	Taking care of injured individual from Pirot, but soon died	08.08. 2018.
73.	<i>Asio otus</i>	2	Found young individuals and was released around area of Nis.	08.08. 2018
74.	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	Found young individuals and was released around area of Nis	08.08. 2018

75.	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1	Taken over the dead bird, found around Velika Plana and handed over to Institute for nature conservation of Serbia	10.08. 2018.
76.	<i>Athene noctua</i>	1	Found injured individual in between Pekovac and Jagodina and moved to Belgrade zoo	10.08. 2018.
77.	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	1	The Institute was informed by 'Clinik Sojic' that found injured individual and was handed over to Special reserve of nature "Uvac".	10.08. 2018.

Table2: Species of birds which are the subjects of request for numbering and information on further procedure in the first half of 2018/Institute for Nature Protection of Vojvodina Province

2018	Number o species and in both languages (Serbian and Latin)	The surroundings of settlements
January	- крсташ (<i>A. heliaca</i>) proven poisoning with carbofuran - белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>) (2 specimen) proven poisoning with carbofuran by one specimen - мишар (<i>B.buteo</i>) (7 specimen) proven poisoning with carbofuran by one specimen <i>V.vulpes</i> x... <i>C. aureus</i> ...x	Svilojevo
	- мишар (<i>B.buteo</i>)3 cause analysis is in progress	Zitiste
	- белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>)	Bosut
	- мишар (<i>B.buteo</i>)2	Sonta
February	- белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>) 2	Sonta
	- белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>)	Visnjjevo
March	- белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>)	Sonta
	- белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>)	Farkazdin
	- белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>)	Morovic
	- мишар (<i>B.buteo</i>)6	Vrsac
	- еја мочварица (<i>C.aeruginosus</i>) 2	Kumane
	- белорепан (<i>H. albicilla</i>) - еја мочварица (<i>C.aeruginosus</i>) 3 cause analysis is in progress	Svilojevo
April	- еја мочварица (<i>C.aeruginosus</i>) 5 - мишар (<i>B.buteo</i>) cause analysis is in progress	Kisac
	- еја мочварица (<i>C.aeruginosus</i>) 9 - мишар (<i>B.buteo</i>)3 cause analysis is in progress	Kula



Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

No. 337-00-00069/2017-04

Data: 6th February 2018.

Belgrade

Iva Obretenova, Secretary
Council of Europe
Biological Diversity Unit
Secretariat of the Bern convention
F-67075Strasbourg Cedex
France

Subject: Progress report on the Complaint No 2014/3-Presumed deliberate killing of birds in Serbia and Report on the New Complaint No 2016/3- Alleged deliberate killing of birds of prey in Serbia

Dear Ms Obretenova,

In reference to the request of the Secretariat of the Bern Convention from 14th November 2017, the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia would like to sent to you enclosed the Progress report on Complaints as following:

1. Report on the Complaint No 2014/3-Presumed deliberate killing of birds in Serbia and
2. Report on the New Complaint No 2016/3- Alleged deliberate killing of birds of prey in Serbia

Updated report shows the progress on legislative activities regarding the control of trade pesticides and contribution to reducing cases of bird mortality through a variety of measures and inter-institutional cooperation

Hoping that we have provided you with sufficient and adequate information on progress steps, we would like to thank you in advance for taking these reports into highest consideration at the upcoming meeting of the Bureau of the Bern Convention.

Sincerely yours,

MINISTER
Goran Trivan

Appendix: Report

REPORT ON THE COMPLAINT NO. 2014/3 – ASSUMED DELIBERATE KILLING OF BIRDS IN SERBIA

AND

REPORT ON A NEW COMPLAINT NO. 2016/3 – PRESUMED DELIBERATE KILLING OF BIRDS IN SERBIA IN 2017.

In the course of the proceedings on complaints No. 2014/3 and No. 2016/3, at the request of the Bureau of the Bern Convention, the Ministry of Environmental Protection has continuously implemented measures in cooperation with other relevant authorities and organisations, duly providing relevant information to the public and involving non-governmental organisations in addressing these issues.

A report on the progress achieved in dealing with the above complaints has been prepared based on a joint meeting of the relevant authorities and organisations and civil society as well as reports submitted by the Provincial Institute for Nature Protection.

1. Meeting with relevant authorities and organisations

A meeting was held on 11th January 2018 in Belgrade with the aim to prepare a national progress report on complaints No. 2014/3 and No. 2016/3 – Presumed deliberate killing of birds and complaint No. 2016/6 – Presumed risk of national extinction of great bustards (*Otis tarda*) in Serbia as well as to continue activities on addressing the issue of bird poisoning in the Republic of Serbia and eliminating the risk of national extinction of great bustards in the Republic of Serbia.

All the requirements of the Bureau of the Bern Convention, including the implementation of activities and possible cooperation identified at the meeting of the Expert Group held in Malta in June 2017, were discussed during the meeting. On this occasion, key recommendations of this meeting related to the illegal killing of birds in Serbia were also presented, in particular:

1. Developing several methods for applying international and national laws and regulations that can be used in fighting this phenomenon of illegal killing of birds (IKB) at national level;
2. Joining the THEMIS network (Managing Natural Resources and Combating Environmental Crime) and the IMPEL network (EU Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law);
3. Improving cooperation with neighboring countries and joining the Life project aimed at protection of the eastern imperial eagle; and
4. Intensify the implementation of preventive measures, in particular against the use of pesticides and illegal baits, for example with using trained dogs, following the successful Italian and Spanish experience;

The following was agreed at the meeting:

1. Prepare information with a proposal to hold an emergency joint meeting between the Minister of Environmental Protection and the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management and the Minister of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications in order to consider the aforementioned Council of Europe appeal procedures with the Republic of Serbia.
2. Continue cooperation and initiative in the process of amending the Law on Plant Protection;
3. Join the IMPEL and THEMIS networks and nominate a contact person for nature protection;
4. Provide sufficient annual budget for analyzing dead bird carcasses;
5. Improve cooperation with neighboring countries;
6. Establish preventive measures using trained dogs;
7. Publicise cases of poisoning the strictly protected wild animal species and promote a call to action against this phenomenon on the webpage of the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

2. Information for the Minister

After this meeting, an information for the Minister of Environmental Protection was prepared with the aim of undertaking joint measures to prevent and combat this phenomenon, sanctioning illegal activities of killing, capturing and trading of wild animal species and preserving wild flora and fauna and natural habitats on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

The recommendations for urgent consideration of open issues with relevant authorities are:

1. Ministry of Interior – report on the processing of filed appeals, control of transboundary trade, more efficient field investigation and investigative procedure including the application of appropriate preventive measures and the use of trained dogs in detecting the use/trade in prohibited chemical Carbofuran/Furadan;
2. **Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Serbia** – report on the processed criminal cases and more efficient prosecution of offenders;
3. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management – more efficient phytosanitary inspection, implementation of the initiative to amend the Law on Plant Protection Products, (Case file ref. No: 011-00-00356/1/2017-01 dated 11 November 2017) and definition of responsibilities of the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications to clarify the division of competences between inspection authorities;
4. Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications - establishment of effective system to control illegal and internet sales of plant protection products.

The need to take proactive measures to prevent illegal activities, for example through mass media and official internet announcements by all relevant institutions and organizations to inform the public about the illegal use and trade in Carbofuran/Furadan and about organizing withdrawal of Carbofuran stocks, was also highlighted.

3. Inspection and expert supervision and control

Joint inspection in the area of nature protection is carried out in accordance with the Law on Nature Protection (“Official Gazette of RS”, No. 36/09, 88/10 and 91/10 – corr. and 14/16) and the Law on Inspection Control (“Official Gazette of RS”, No. 36/2015) in cooperation with relevant sectoral inspections. Cooperation includes mutual notification, information exchange, assistance and common measures and actions relevant for inspection control.

Inspection control in the case of illegal killing of wild bird species is carried out by the environmental inspection at the republic, regional and local levels. At the request of the environmental inspector, field investigation is carried out by the phytosanitary inspection, veterinary inspection, the police, a public prosecutor and a professional nature protection organization.

4. Expert supervision

In accordance with Article 102 of the Law on Nature Protection, professional nature protection organizations, i.e. the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia and the Provincial Institute for Nature Protection, perform expert supervision over protected natural assets with proposed measures, including protected areas, ecological network, strictly protected and protected species and their derivatives.

In case of illegal killing and capturing of wild bird species, the professional nature protection organizations perform supervision in cooperation with the environmental inspection.

5. Improvement of cooperation with neighboring countries and joining Life project for conservation of the eastern imperial eagle (*Aquila heliaca*);

Project (LIFE15NAT/HU/000902) “Conservation of the eastern imperial eagle by reducing human caused mortality“ is implemented in the period 1 October 2016-30 March 2021, its coordinating beneficiaries being the Hungarian Society for Bird and Nature Protection in cooperation with other beneficiaries from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria and Serbia. The aim of the project is to increase the population size of the strictly protected species of the eastern imperial

eagle (*Aquila heliaca*) in the Pannonian Plain through significant reduction of human caused mortality. The beneficiary from Serbia is the Provincial Institute for Nature Protection.

The Provincial Institute for Nature Protection is an official partner from the Republic of Serbia in the aforementioned project, as well as the Bird Protection and Study Society of Serbia. The ministry in charge of environmental protection was informed about the aforementioned project by letter No. 03-2853, dated 30 November 2016.

6. Implementation of preventive measures, in particular against the use of pesticides and illegal baits, for example with using trained dogs, following the successful Italian and Spanish experience;

Trained dogs are used as part of the activities of the above project. Dogs are property of the leading partner on the project, the Hungarian Society for Bird and Nature Protection. So far, dogs have been used in at least three cases. The most recent case, which is particularly important to mention, was reported in Svilojevo on 11 January 2018, when six buzzards (*Buteo buteo*), a large number of toxic baits and dead jackals were found owing to trained dogs.

7. More frequent provision of information through non-governmental organizations and professional organizations dealing with nature protection as well as through public appeals broadcasted via mass media to make the citizens aware of the risks posed by these pesticides to the living world and human health.

8. Initiation of amendments to the Law on Plant Protection Products.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection repeated the initiative to amend the Law on Plant Protection Products. It was proposed that regulations governing waste should apply to:

- 1) plant protection products, adjuvants, active substances, synergists, safeners and co-formulants produced or placed on the market contrary to provisions of this law or regulations based thereon;
- 2) plant protection products and adjuvants the registration of which has been revoked or not renewed after expiry of the deadline foreseen for their disposal, storage, placing on the market and use;
- 3) plant protection products, adjuvants, active substances, synergists, safeners and co-formulants that have expired and can no longer be used and placed on the market.

It was also proposed that the regulations governing packaging and packaging waste should apply to:

- 1) packaging for plant protection products, adjuvants, active substances, synergists, safeners and co-formulants;
- 2) emptied packaging of plant protection products, adjuvants, active substances, synergists, safeners and co-formulants;

Legal and natural persons possessing plant protection products would be obliged to submit regular annual reports to the Environmental Protection Agency on waste plant protection products, within the deadline and in the manner prescribed by the law governing waste management.

It was proposed that the law should prohibit the online sale and offering the sale of plant protection products and adjuvants.

The inspection control over the implementation of provisions of this law referring to selling and offering to sell plant protection products and adjuvants is precisely defined. The inspection control is foreseen to be carried out by the ministry in charge of trade through market inspectors while in case of the ministry in charge of telecommunications and information society through inspectors for postal services and inspectors for telecommunications and informatics, in accordance with the law governing electronic trade.

It was particularly proposed to grant the inspectors the authority to:

- 1) check whether conditions for placing on the market of plant protection products in terms of packaging, labelling and instructions for use of plant protection products have been met;

2) check if there is an online sale or offering the sale of plant protection products and adjuvants.

Punitive measures were also foreseen for persons performing online sale or offering the sale of plant protection products and adjuvants.

9. FURADAN35 ST stocks

In accordance with Article 36, paragraph 4 of the Law on Waste Management, there were no exports in the past period.

I have only one application submitted by Kemis Ltd. Valjevo in 2017 for the export of 100 tons of waste pesticides which they intend to export to the D10 incineration plant in Austria, but regarding which the applicant did not state their final position considering the fact that at the end of 2017 they asked for the deadline to be extended. The notification procedure has not been initiated for this application, since the applicant has not submitted the supplementary documentation to date.

In the report on waste testing performed by an authorized waste testing laboratory on the waste sample taken from the storage location of this company located in Bačka Palanka, that owns a permit for transport, collection and storage of hazardous waste, the waste in question is classified as hazardous – waste pesticides classified under index number 06 13 01* (inorganic pesticides, wood preservers and other biocides), that could additionally be classified under 07 04 01*/07 04 04*/07 04 08*/07 04 13*/16 03 03*/16 03 05*/20 01 19*. Basel waste code A4030, Y4, X6.1/X12/X13. The sample was described as “liquid, solid and powdery pesticides in the original packaging with clear danger symbols included (chemicals are biocides-herbicides, fungicides, insecticides)”.

10. Analyses of the cause of death of specimens of strictly protected species

Found specimens of strictly protected and protected wild animal species are handled in accordance with Article 93 of the Law on Nature Protection (“Official Gazette of RS”, Nos. 36/09, 88/10, 91/10 and 14/16) which prescribes that a person who finds a specimen of a strictly protected or protected wild animal species is obliged to immediately notify the Ministry and the Institute of:

- (1) dead specimens found,
- (2) live specimens that are sick, injured or unable to survive in the wild by themselves.

Killed specimens, or specimens that died otherwise, of strictly protected wild species found within the territory of the Republic of Serbia are handed over to the closest veterinary organisation, or other institution determined by the Ministry, for identifying the cause of death. Expenses for sample analysis and diagnostics for determining the cause of death of the specimens is borne by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection.

Each calendar year, the Ministry of Environmental Protection provides estimates of the necessary funds of RSD 500,000 foreseen in the budget of the Republic of Serbia including 2018.

We should also bear in mind that the method of conducting analyses this year has increased the efficiency and shortened periods required for delivering the results of analyses.

During 2017, due to the increased number of reported dead animals of strictly protected wild animal species, all planned financial assets were used. Analysis of all the dead birds showed that in 2017 the cause of death was not the use of Carbofuran / Furadan (Annex: Table on the status of analysis and results)

Prepared by:

- Ms Snežana Prokić, MSc, Head of the Section for Ecological Network and Appropriate Assessment and the Bern Convention Focal Point
- Ms Gordana Petković, MSc, Head of the Division for EU Integration and International Cooperation

Data source:

- Internal reports of the Ministry of Environmental Protection
- Report of the Institute for Nature Protection of Vojvodina Province;
- Minutes of the meeting held on 11. 01. 2018.



Ord No.	Receipt number	Report number	Found specimen of animal species and number	Amount in dinars	Identure number	Report
1.	315-Necropsy 27.Feb.2017. Autopsy showed that they did not died from carbofuran poisoning		Six died individuals of Common Buzzard	12.000,0 0	Identure no. 353-01-434/2017- 17 from 14.Mar.2017.	Necropsy protocol Official note of Lj 18 from 20. Feb. 2017
2.			Died individual of Griffon Vulture			15. Apr. 2017. De found by the Uvac Protected area ran proceedings subm stored in warehou (coldstorage curre manager Novak P Gerzić and Institut
3.			Died individual of Common Buzzard (<i>Buteo Buteo</i>)			31. May. 2017. D found on the territ holder Novi Sad, I Ristovača
4.			Died individual of White-tailed Eagle			On the territory of Sombor, Forest ad protected area ran tailed Eagle. It wa was ringed.
5.	Receipt no.1317 Necropsy 6.Sep.1016. No.17/17 and 18/17 Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Necropsy showed that they did not died from carbofuran poisoning		Four died storks and one Peregrine Falcon			

6.	Palić Ludaš Subject no. 353-01-640/2017-03 From 21.Oct.2017. Report no. 652/2016 from 2.Nov.2016.		Dead Common Oter Diagnostic examination is not possible	10,000,00	<u>Identure no.</u> 353-01-228/2017-17 from 14.Sep.2017.	
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Note:

Evidency of dead individuals in 2017. wich are payed by the Budget.

5 dead individuals of birds on the territory of Vojvodina is situated on the analysis. After receiving the results of the analysis report will be submitted later