

The International Aquatic Warbler Species Action Plan

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Content of an International Species Action Plan:

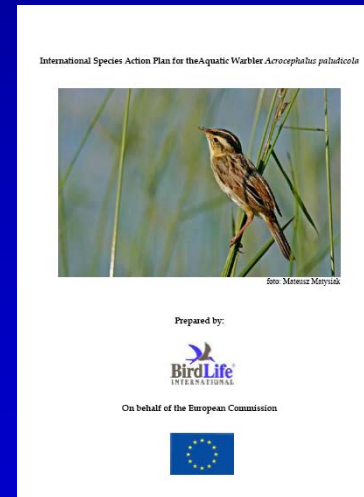
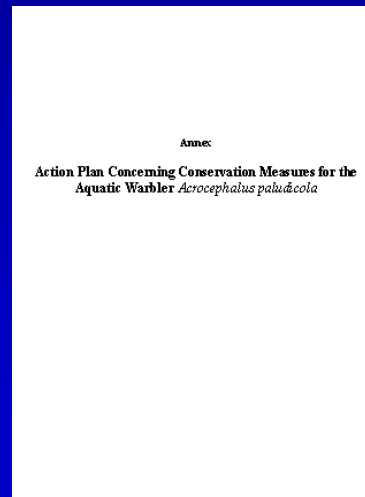
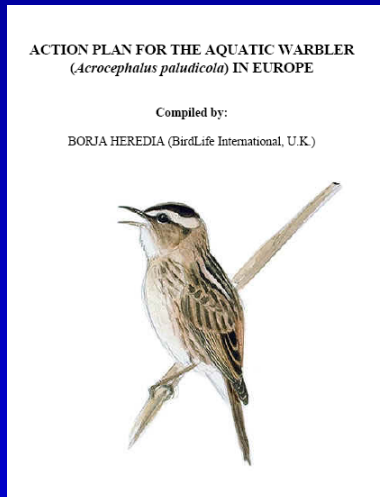
- **Summarises up-to-date conservation relevant information**
- **Identifies and evaluate importance of threats**
- **Sets short- and long-term targets**
- **Recommends and describes actions**

Functions of an International Species Action Plan:

- **Provides agreed framework for action**
- **Helps to target limited resources on priority actions**
- **Allows evaluation of proposed action against agreed priorities**
- **Forms the basis for political agreements**
- **Raises the profile of the species**

History of the International AW Species Action Plan:

- First action plan workshop in Milicz/Poland in 1993
- First EU action plan published 1996
- Updated in 2003 and accepted as attachment to the CMS MoU
→ **2 slightly different action plans existing**
- Update of EU action plan in 2008, accepted 2009
- Same plan (with minor updates in the descriptive part) to be accepted as CMS action plan in 2010



All plans prepared by BirdLife International on behalf of EC or CMS

The 2008 implementation review (1)

- 2nd formal review (after 2004)
- National expert reports received from 16 range states, (covering all known breeding and wintering range)
- Additional own data of AWCT
- Scoring system against each action (0-4)
- Overall implementation score increased from 2.4 to 2.7
- Implementation better in more important range states (different than in 2004), weighted score 2.9
- Highest scores for France (3.3), UK (3.2), Hungary (3.1), Poland (3.0), Belarus (3.0), and Spain (2.9)
- Still action needed to reach full implementation (4.0)

The 2008 implementation review (2)

Targets (for EU and CMS plan)

- short term:
maintain the current population throughout its range.
- medium to long term:
expansion of breeding population to other suitable areas.

Evaluation against target

- dramatic decline of the world population stopped since the late 1990ies
- However, still a possible overall slow decline.
- small marginal populations show clear declines

→ important progress towards achieving the short-term aim
→ medium to long-term aims have not yet been achieved.

The new action plan

- Updated information reflecting new knowledge
- Improved logical structure of recommended actions
- 7 new range states (now 22):
 - Switzerland
 - Slovakia
 - Luxembourg
 - Portugal
 - Morocco
 - Mauritania
 - Mali
- Updated priorities for action:
 - higher importance given to vegetation management, now equal to hydrological management
 - Higher importance to site restoration

The new action plan

This is what we need to achieve:

Goal

remove AW from list of globally threatened species

Objectives

short-term:

current size of all breeding populations maintained.

- **world:** *10,500-14,200 sg males*
- **Central Europe:** *10,000-13,500 sg males*
- **Baltics:** *150-300 sg males*
- **Hungary:** *> 200 sg males*
- **Pomerania:** *80 sg males*

The new action plan

This is what we need to achieve:

medium to long term:

the world population of the species has started to increase and to expand to additional breeding sites.

Target:

- *By 2020, the area of occupancy of the species (=land surface of all currently occupied breeding sites) increased from c. 1,000 km² to > 1,500 km²*

The world population has increased by at least 20% since 2008 (world population 12,600-17,000 singing males).