

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF POPULATIONS OF EUROPEAN BATS

Report on the implementation of the Agreement in the Slovak Republic

A. General information

Name of Party:	Slovak Republic
Date of report:	August 2005
Period covered:	September 2003 – April 2005
Competent authority:	The Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic, Department of Nature and Landscape Protection, Nám. Ľ. Štúra 1, SK-811 02 Bratislava 1, Slovakia The State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Lazovná 10, SK-974 01 Banská Bystrica, Slovakia
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B. Status of bats within the territory of the party

1. Summary details of resident species

In the last national report the ecosozological status of bat species was evaluated in accordance with ŠTOLLMANN et al. (1997) with using criteria IUCN 1995. There is the new National Mammal Red List (ŽIAK & URBAN 2001), which was elaborated according to the new IUCN categories and criteria for classifying the conservation of species – version 3.1 (see table). There are no changes in legislation.

Table: Conservation status of bat species of Slovakia

SPECIES	Red List (ŽIAK & URBAN 2001)
<i>Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</i> (Schreber, 1774)	EN
<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> (Bechstein, 1800)	LR:cd
<i>Rhinolophus euryale</i> Blasius, 1853	VU
<i>Myotis emarginatus</i> (E. Geoffroy, 1806)	VU
<i>Myotis bechsteinii</i> (Kuhl, 1817)	LR:lc
<i>Myotis nattereri</i> (Kuhl, 1817)	LR:nt
<i>Myotis dasycneme</i> (Boie, 1825)	VU
<i>Myotis daubentoni</i> (Kuhl, 1817)	LR:lc
<i>Myotis alcathoe</i>	-
<i>Myotis brandtii</i> (Eversmann, 1845)	VU
<i>Myotis myotis</i> (Borkhausen, 1797)	LR:cd
<i>Myotis oxygnathus</i>	LR:cd
<i>Nyctalus noctula</i> (Schreber, 1774)	LR:lc
<i>Nyctalus lasiopterus</i> (Schreber, 1780)	DD
<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i> (Kuhl, 1817)	DD

<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i> (Schreber, 1774)	DD
<i>Eptesicus nilsonii</i> (Keyserling et Blasius, 1839)	LR:lc
<i>Vespertilio murinus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	DD
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (Schreber, 1774)	LR:lc
<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	DD
<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i> (Keyserling et Blasius, 1839)	DD
<i>Plecotus austriacus</i> (Fischer, 1829)	LR:nt
<i>Plecotus auritus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	LR:nt
<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i> (Schreber, 1774)	LR:cd
<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i> (Kuhl, 1817)	CR

2. Status and trends

No considerable changes.

3. Habitats and roost sites

No changes.

4. Threats

No changes.

5. Data collection

Great responsibility for data collection and interpretation is on the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and members of non-governmental organisations (e.g. the Slovak Bat Conservation Group, group *Miniopterus*, local groups of the Slovak Speleological Society etc.). Results of bat ringing in the Czech Republic and Slovakia were published in the *Vespertilio Journal* (GAISLER ET AL., 2003, *Vespertilio* 7: 3-61).

C. Measures taken to implement Article III of the Agreement

6. Legal measures taken to protect bats, including enforcement action

No changes.

7. Sites identified and protected which are important to the conservation of bats

In July 2004 the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic (MoE SR) issued the Regulation of MoE SR No. 3/2004 on National List of proposed Sites of Community Importance.

8. Consideration given to habitats which are important to bats

No changes.

9. Activities to promote the awareness of the importance of the conservation of bats

- The Slovak Bat Conservation Group and the Czech Bat Conservation Trust published “*Vespertilio*” (No. 7 and 8) – international journal of chiropterology.
- There is a special web site www.netopiere.sk.
- Information of bats were presented on some conferences (e.g. 13th International Bat Research Conference, Research and protection of mammals in Slovakia).
- Some propagation materials were published and distributed (e.g. information brochure “Conservation of Bats in Slovakia”, post cards, labels, calendars).

- There is the list of articles, which are applied to bats research and conservation at the end of this report.

10. Responsible bodies, in accordance with Article III.5 of the Agreement, nominated for the provision of advice on bat conservation and management

No changes.

11. Additional action undertaken to safeguard populations of bats

There are not enough information on this issue.

12. Recent and ongoing programmes (including research and policy initiatives) relating to the conservation and management of bats. In the case of research, summaries of completed projects should be provided, giving references where possible and acknowledging the sources of funding.

- ◆ definition of the criterion of the favourable conservation status of bats in co-operation with the State Nature Conservancy of Slovak Republic and the Slovak Bat Conservation Group (POLÁK, P., SAXA, A. (eds.), 2005: *Priaznivý stav biotopov a druhov európskeho významu. ŠOP SR, Banská Bystrica, p. 516-541.* in Slovak

For each bat species, which occurs in Slovakia, was prepared a special list in the following structure:

Slovak and scientific name of species

1. Basic characteristics of species (categorization within zoological system, species distribution, habitat type, ecosozological status, protection within international agreements).

2. Table with definition of the criterion of favourable conservation status.

3. Management activities, which are necessary for bats conservation.

- ◆ annual winter census of bats
- ◆ survey of nursery colonies in buildings
- ◆ faunistic research within Slovakia

13. Consideration being given to the potential effects of pesticides on bats and their food sources, and efforts to replace timber treatment chemicals which are highly toxic to bats

There are not enough information about this problems in Slovakia.

D. Functioning of the Agreement

14. Cooperation with other Range States

There is very successful co-operation with specialists from Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Germany. There is also very good communication with specialists and volunteers from other European countries.

15. Measures taken to implement Resolutions adopted by Meetings of Parties

Resolution No. 4.3 – Guidelines for the Protection and Management of important Underground Habitats for Bats

The list of important underground sites for bats was identified and submitted to the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic. Majority of these habitats were included into proposed NATURA 2000 sites. There is an annual monitoring of bats population of these habitats.

Resolution No. 4.4 – Bat Conservation and sustainable Forest Management

The research of ecology of tree-dwelling and forest bats, run by the Institute of Forest Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (coordinator: P. Kaňuch) is ongoing.

Resolution No. 4.6 – Guidelines for the Issue of Permits for the Capture and Study of captured wild Bats

Draft of the rules for capture and ringing of wild bats was prepared.

Resolution No. 4.7 – Wind Turbines and Bat Populations

Assessment of potential negative effects of wind turbines on bats is including into the Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with national legislation.

Resolution No. 4.9 – Implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan (2003-2006)

There are next activities:

- winter and summer monitoring of bats
- monitoring of bats on selected localities within the Central Monitoring System of Biota
- definition of the criterion of the favourable conservation status of bats and their habitats (see above)
- edition and distribution of propagation materials

Literature:

References cited in the report

- ŠTOLLMAN, A., URBAN, P., KADLEČÍK, J. & UHRIN, M., 1997: Návrh (červeného) zoznamu cicavcov (Mammalia) fauny Slovenskej republiky. *Ochrana prírody*, **15**: 201-.
- ŽIAK, D. & URBAN, P., 2001: Red (Ecosozological) List of Mammals (Mammalia) of Slovakia. – In: Baláž, D., Marhold, K. & Urban, P. eds., Red (Ecosozological) List of Plants and Animals of Slovakia, *Ochrana prírody* **20** (Suppl.): 154-156.

List of papers on Slovakian bats published in the covered period:

- ADAMEC, M., 2004: Mammals and new legislation in Nature and Landscape Protection: 15-20. In: Adamec, M. & Urban, P. (eds.), 2004: Výskum a ochrana cicavcov na Slovensku VI. Zborník referátov z konferencie (Zvolen 10.-11.10.2003). Štátna ochrana prírody SR, Centrum ochrany prírody a krajiny, Banská Bystrica, 189 pp.
- CEEUCH, M. & KAŇUCH, P., 2004: On the importance of forest as foraging habitat of bats – activity in the canopy. *Vespertilio*, **8**: 55-62.
- DANKO, Š., PJENČÁK, P. & MATIS, Š., 2003: Bats of the Beskydské predhorie Foothills, Laborecká and Ondavská vrchovina Highlands (eastern Slovakia). *Vespertilio*, **7**: 97-120.
- GAISLER, J., HANÁK, V., HANZAL, V. & JARSKÝ, V., 2003: Results of bat banding in the Czech and Slovak Republics, 1948-2000. *Vespertilio*, **7**: 3-62.
- KAŇUCH, P., CEEUCH, M., SÁROSSY, M., DIETRICH, N. & VEĽKÝ, M., 2003: A tree-dwelling bat community (Vespertilionidae) in parkland: a preliminary report. *Vespertilio*, **7**: 121-126.
- KAŇUCH, P., TUČEK, P., TUČEK, P. & CEEUCH, M., 2004: Sawdust concrete bat boxes: home made production and first experience with their occupancy. *Vespertilio*, **8**: 63-68.
- MATIS, Š., BOLDOGH, S. & PJENČÁK, P., 2003: Records of *Nyctalus lasiopterus* in the Gömör-Torna Karst (Slovakia, Hungary). *Vespertilio*, **7**: 135-138.
- RAJTAR, R., 2004: Mammals in the Proposed Sites of Community Importance: 21-24. In: Adamec, M. & Urban, P. (eds.), 2004: Výskum a ochrana cicavcov na Slovensku VI. Zborník referátov z konferencie (Zvolen 10.-11.10.2003). Štátna ochrana prírody SR, Centrum ochrany prírody a krajiny, Banská Bystrica, 189 pp.
- VACHOLD, J., 2003: Occurrence and distribution of bats in Slovakia with ecological notes. *Vespertilio*, **7**: 185.
- ZLACKÁ, S., 2004: Bats (Chiroptera) in roof attics in the Štiavnické vrchy Mts. Protected Landscape Area (C Slovakia). *Vespertilio*, **8**: 127-136.