

## Project Update: April 2014

In winter we analysed and put into databases data about soils, land and water vegetation, habitats of rare species. Draft GIS-map of key areas of the examined floodplain was made. At the moment primary data of the map are applied to develop management-plan of the park.

At present we have revealed several aspects of vulnerability of the landscapes such as:

- 1) Natural salinisation of soils in the given floodplain. This feature is extremely important to be considered while managing given landscapes.
- 2) Inefficiency of self-rehabilitation in actual conditions if adhering to the principle of simple non-disturbance of natural processes.
- 3) Weak regional capacity for intentional nature management with the prospect of keeping sustainability in the floodplain.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014 participants of the project reported on the meeting where chairmen of village councils, representatives of the regional council and the mayor of Pyriatyn town were present. Discussion covered themes such as: opportunities of reed harvesting in regional conditions with the prospect of biodiversity conservation of wetlands in the park and environmental technologies; and protection of valuable habitats in floodplain against invasive plants.

In March 2014 we held an event for the release of the pilot plot from invasive plants.



Left: European beaver photographed by Sergyi Pl'aha, head of state nature protection service of the park. Right: Our staff was lucky to photograph some of animal species under protection like European beaver, common crane, traces of European otter.



Left: Meeting of Council of the park, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Oksana Abduloieva reporting. Right: Event for the release of the pilot plot from invasive plants and regeneration of natural habitats. On the photo (from the left to the right) – director of the national nature park “Pyriatynskiy”, staff of the state nature protection service of the park, Oksana Abduloieva, staff of the park.