

Project Update: October 2007

Azerbaijan Ornithological Society (AOS) with support of Rufford Small Grants Foundation began the project "Conservation of White-headed Duck at Lake Hajigabul in Azerbaijan" from February 2007. Lake Hajigabul is main wintering habitat of Globally Threatened White-Headed Duck in Azerbaijan.

During the implementation of project a comprehensive researches for preparation of management plan of Lake Hajigabul will be conducted. Already stakeholder working group has been created and more than 10 meetings have been hold. Employers of local Ecology Department, owner of Lake, chief of local ecological police and experts to this group have been involved. The analysis of experts gave different results which were absolutely unknown for the area. All opinions of experts, results of researches of AOS's specialists introduced to local community and discussed with local working group. As well the media has been informed about the problems of Lake Hajigabul. AOS is working now for the finding the ways of solutions for improvement of the situation of Lake and for preparation of draft recommendations for management plan in future. Last analyses will be done during the autumn and winter which will provide experts with all necessary information to identify the main threats and their impact on the important waterfowl.