

Project Update: April 2002

Field work was started from the beginning of April. Four persons participated in the field surveys of selected three largest bog-forest tracts in eastern and central Lithuania. Until 1 of August were surveyed: 90% of forested area in Alionys tract (Sirvintos, Vilnius districts), 70% in Pravirsulis tract (Radviliskis district) and 20% in Kertusas tract (Ukmerge, Sirvintos districts). The following number of nests of raptor bird species and black stork were inventoried: Alionys - 32; Pravirsulis - 15; Kertusas - 8. Active nests of 4 bird species included in the Red Data Book of Lithuania were recorded in the project areas. These include Black Stork (2 active nests), Osprey (1 active nest), Lesser Spotted Eagle (5 active nests), Goshawk (1 active nest). Besides that 4 localities of Red listed lichen species - *Lobaria pulmonaria* were found in Alionys and Kertusas tracts.

Coordinates of all inventoried nests were taken by GPS receivers. Characteristics of all nest sites are stored in the database.

Development of digital maps will be started in September. They will include localities of nests and buffer zones around them, where no clear cuts are allowed according to the rules of final cuttings approved by the Ministry of Environment in 1999.