

2014 NATIONAL REPORT OF PARTIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

The deadline for submission of the reports is 1 May 2014. The reporting period is 15 June 2011 to 1 May 2014.

Parties are encouraged to respond to all questions. Parties are also requested to provide comprehensive answers, including, where appropriate, a summary of activities, information on factors limiting action and details of any assistance required.

Reporting format agreed by the Standing Committee at its 40th Meeting (Bonn, November 2012) for mandatory use by Parties, for reports submitted to the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP11) 2014.

The questions below combine elements of Resolution 4.1 (Party Reports) adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Nairobi, June 1994) and Resolution 6.4 (Strategic Plan for the Convention on Migratory Species 2000-2005), adopted by the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Cape Town, November 1999), the COP8 Strategic Plan 2006-2011 and Resolution 8.24 adopted by the Conference of the Parties (Nairobi 2005), as well as commitments arising from other operational Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Parties.

COP Resolution 9.4 adopted at Rome called upon the Secretariats and Parties of CMS Agreements to collaborate in the implementation and harmonization of online reporting implementation. The CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS) has been successfully implemented and used by AEWA in their last Meeting of the Parties (MOP 5, 2012) reporting cycle. CMS now offers the Convention's Parties to use the ORS for submitting their national reports for the COP11 (2014) reporting cycle.

Please enter here the name of your country

> Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Which agency has been primarily responsible for the preparation of this report?

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority, (SWA)

Please list any other agencies that have provided input

> Information in this report has been provided by the SWA

I(a). General Information

Please enter the required information in the table below:

Party

Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country

> 1 March 1991

Period covered

> January 2011 to April 2014

Territories to which the Convention applies

> Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, its territories and territorial waters

Designated National Focal Point

Full name of the institution

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA)

Name and title of designated Focal Point

> H.H. Prince Bandar bin Saud bin Mohammad

Al Saud

President

Mailing address

> P.O. Box 61681

Riyadh 11575

Telephone

> (+966) 11 441 8700

Fax

> (+966) 11 441 0797

E-mail

> sg@swa.gov.sa

Appointment to the Scientific Council

Full name of the institution

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA)

Name and title of contact officer

> Mohammad Sulayem

Mailing address

> P.O. Box 61681

Riyadh 11575

SAUDI ARABIA

Telephone

> (+966) 11 441 8413

Fax

> (+966)11 441 8413

E-mail

> msulayem2@yahoo.com

Submission

Name and Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report

Name:

> Mohammad Sulayem

Address:

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA) P.O. Box 61681 Riyadh 11575, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Tel.:

> (+966) 11 44 18 413

Fax:

> (+966) 11 44 18 413

E-mail:

> msulayem2@yahoo.com

Date of submission

> May 2014

Membership of the Standing Committee (if applicable):

Name:

> Not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Implementation

Competent Authority:

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA)

Relevant implemented legislation:

> The Forest and Rangelands Act (1979)

The Hunting Law:

Royal Decree no. M/26 dated 25/5/1398 H equivalent to 2/5/1978 G

Ministerial Decision no. 457 dated 13/3/1399 H equivalent to 10/2/1979 G

The Wild Animals and Birds Hunting Act (1999)

The Law of Fishing & Investment and Protection of Marine life

Royal Decree no. M/9 dated 27/3/1408 H equivalent to 18/11/1987 G

Ministerial Decision no. 21911 dated 27/3/1409 H equivalent to 6/11/1988 G

Marine Scientific Research Regulation:

Ministerial Decision no. 103 dated 10/8/1413 H equivalent to 1/2/1993 G

Royal Decree no. M/12 dated 11/8/1413 H equivalent to 2/2/1993 G

The Wildlife Protected Areas Act (1995)

The Act on Trade in Endangered Wildlife Species and their Products (2000)

Agriculture and Veterinary Quarantine Regulations (1975)

Other relevant Conventions/ Agreements (apart from CMS) to which your country is a Party:

> Convention on Biological Diversity;
World Heritage Convention; United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES);
Convention on the Conservation of Wildlife and their Natural Habitats in the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council ;
The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA);
Protocol Concerning Regional Co-operation in Combating Pollution by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency
Protocol Concerning the Conservation of Biological Diversity and the Establishment of Network of Protected Areas in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME)
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);
The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

National policy instruments (e.g. national biodiversity conservation strategy, etc.):

> National Biodiversity Strategy (approved);
National System Plan for Protected Areas;
National Strategy on Access and Benefit- sharing in Relation to Genetic Resources in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (draft);
National Strategy for Invasive Alien Species for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (draft);

CMS Agreements/MoU

Please indicate whether your country is part of the following Agreements/MoU. If so, please indicate the competent national institution

Wadden Sea Seals (1991)

Wadden Sea Seals (1991)

Non Range State

National Focal Point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Membership of the Trilateral Seal Expert Group

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

EUROBATS (1994)

EUROBATS (1994)

Non-party Range State

Appointed member of the Advisory Committee

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

Administrative Focal Point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

ASCOBANS (1994)

ASCOBANS (1994)

Non Range State

National Coordinator

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Appointed member of the Advisory Committee

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

AEWA (1999)

AEWA (1999)

Non-party Range State

National Focal Point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Appointed member of the Technical Committee

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

ACAP (2001)

ACAP (2001)

Non Range State

Focal Point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Member of Advisory Committee

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Gorilla Agreement (2008)

Gorilla Agreement (2008)

Non Range State

National Focal Point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Member of Technical Committee

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

ACCOBAMS (2001)

ACCOBAMS (2001)

Non Range State

National Focal Point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Appointed member of the Scientific Committee

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Siberian Crane MoU (1993/1999)

Siberian Crane MoU (1993/1999)
 Non Range State

Competent authority

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Contact point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Slender-billed Curlew MoU (1994)

Slender-billed Curlew MoU (1994)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Atlantic Turtles MoU (1999)

Atlantic Turtles MoU (1999)

Non Range State

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Middle-European Great Bustard MoU (2001)

Middle-European Great Bustard MoU (2001)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

IOSEA Marine Turtles MoU (2001)

IOSEA Marine Turtles MoU (2001)

Signatory

Competent authority

Name

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA)

Address

> P.O. Box 61681 Riyadh 11575, Saudi Arabia

Tel

> (+966) 11 441 8700

Fax

> (+966) 11 441 0797

E-mail

> sg@swa.gov.sa

Contact point

Name

> Anas Sambas

Address

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA)
P.O. Box 61681 Riyadh 11575, Saudi Arabia

Tel

> (+966) 11 441 8700

Fax

> (+966) 11 441 0797

E-mail

> newlooksambas@gmail.com

Bukhara Deer MoU (2002)

Bukhara Deer MoU (2002)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Contact point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Aquatic Warbler MoU (2003)

Aquatic Warbler MoU (2003)
 Non Range State

Competent authority

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Contact point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

West African Elephants MoU (2005)

West African Elephants MoU (2005)
 Non Range State

Competent authority

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Contact point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Pacific Islands Cetaceans MoU (2006)

Pacific Islands Cetaceans MoU (2006)
 Non Range State

Competent authority

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Contact point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Saiga Antelope MoU (2006)

Saiga Antelope MoU (2006)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Ruddy-headed Goose MoU (2006)

Ruddy-headed Goose MoU (2006)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Monk Seal in the Atlantic MoU (2007)

Monk Seal in the Atlantic MoU (2007)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Southern South American Grassland Birds MoU (2007)

Southern South American Grassland Birds MoU (2007)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Dugong MoU (2007)

Dugong MoU (2007)

Signatory

Competent authority

Name

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA)

Address

> P.O. Box 61681 Riyadh 11575, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Tel

> (+966) 11 441 8700

Fax

> (+966) 11 441 0797

E-mail

> sg@swa.gov.sa

Contact point

Name

> Dr. Ahmed Al Mansi

Address

> P.O. Box 61681 Riyadh 11575, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Tel

> (+966) 11 441 8700

Fax

> (+966) 11 441 0797

E-mail

> mansi911@hotmail.com

Western African Aquatic Mammals MoU (2008)

Western African Aquatic Mammals MoU (2008)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Birds of Prey (Raptors) MoU (2008)

Birds of Prey (Raptors) MoU (2008)

Non-signatory Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

High Andean Flamingos MoU (2008)

High Andean Flamingos MoU (2008)

Non Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Contact point

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax

> not applicable

E-mail

> not applicable

Sharks MoU (2010)

Sharks MoU (2010)

Non-signatory Range State

Competent authority

Name

> not applicable

Address

> not applicable

Tel

> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Contact point

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

South Andean Huemul MoU (2010)

South Andean Huemul MoU (2010)
 Non Range State

Competent authority

Name
> not applicable

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Contact point

Name
> v

Address
> not applicable

Tel
> not applicable

Fax
> not applicable

E-mail
> not applicable

Involvement of other government departments/NGOs/private sector

1. Which other government departments are involved in activities/initiatives for the conservation of migratory species in your country? (Please list.)

> Ministry of Agriculture (MoA); Ministry of water(MoW), University of Al-Taif (consultation on migratory birds) and the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu (RCJY)

2. If more than one government department is involved, describe the interaction/relationship between these government departments:

> PAs managed by SWA; some national parks are managed by MoA; irrigation dams (serve wintering/stop over sites) managed by the MoW. Two coastal PAs important for migratory birds managed by RCJY; close coordination exists between these agencies

3. Has a national liaison system or committee been established in your country?

Yes

> National biodiversity Committee

4. List the main non-governmental organizations actively involved in activities/initiatives for the conservation of migratory species in your country, and describe their involvement:

> Saudi Environment Society; Saudi Biological Society; Saudi Ornithological Society; Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation

4a. Please provide detail on any devolved government/overseas territory authorities involved.

> The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA)

5. Describe any involvement of the private sector in the conservation of migratory species in your country:

> Saudi Aramco (which has an environmental department) conducts marine studies.

6. Note any interactions between these sectors in the conservation of migratory species in your country:

> Frequent interactions between above mentioned sectors.

I(b). Information about involved Authorities

Identify the ministry, agency/department or organization that is responsible for leading actions relating to Appendix I species

1- Birds

> Saudi Wildlife Authority

2- Aquatic Mammals

> Saudi Wildlife Authority

3- Reptiles

> Saudi Wildlife Authority

4- Terrestrial Mammals

> Saudi Wildlife Authority

5- Fish

> Saudi Wildlife Authority and Ministry of Agriculture

II. Appendix I species

1. BIRDS

1.1 General questions on Appendix I bird species

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I bird species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

If other legislation is relevant, please provide details:

> No

1a. If the taking of Appendix I bird species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

If Yes, please provide details (Include the date on which the exception was notified to the CMS Secretariat pursuant to CMS Article III(7):

> not applicable

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I bird species:

Electrocutation

Other (please provide details):

> Illegal hunting.

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Efforts are being made to increase public awareness on these obstacles, including the need to reduce the use of pesticides. Site specific conservation programmes would be started to minimize the threats to migratory species.

Several informational signs were placed in local animal markets, boarder villages and towns. Local markets are monitored by rangers. Brochure, posters, films have been developed.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> Provision of relevant information, training and research assistance.

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I bird species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

Poaching

Other (please specify)

> Some congregatory bird sites faces some conservation threats such as pollution by oil, sewage effluent and rubbish as well as land reclamation for urbanization that threatens sites in the western coasts and may reduce the area of inter-tidal flats available for feeding waterbirds. Human disturbance to birds using the areas is high. Migratory birds, including raptors, are also affected by electrocution. (please see the below references).

Shobrak, M. 2003. Vultures in Saudi Arabia. Vulture News no. 48, March.

Shobrak, M. 2012: The decline of the Griffon Vulture in Saudi Arabia. The phoenix No. 28: 7-8.

Shobrak, M. 2012: Electrocutation and Collision of Birds with Power Line in Saudi Arabia. Journal of Zoology in the Middle East. Vol. 57(3): 45-52.

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger bird species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Sustainable tourism policy was adopted & Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan was developed.

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan was approved for Jizan Province in the Red Sea, which considers the breeding habitats of Seabirds and migratory waterbird species.

3c. Describe any factors that may limit action being taken in this regard:

> Some of the congregatory sites of migratory birds are not yet protected under the the current PA system. Those sites are managed by Government agencies and some are privately owned.

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> Provision of training and information. More collaborative conservation programs should be initiated involving private and other agencies to make common minimum research and conservation programs. Develop awareness programs on conservation of migratory species through sustainable use.

1.2 Questions on specific Appendix I bird species

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I bird species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Pelecanus crispus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. *Pelecanus crispus* in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.
BirdLife International. 2001. Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book. Cambridge.
Lepage, D. 2008. Checklist of Birds of Saudi Arabia, Avibase, the World Bird Database- <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/checklist.jsp?lang=EN®ion=sa&list=clements>
BirdLife International. 2010. Species factsheet: Pelicans *crispus*
Species International Action Plan by the BirdLife International.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

unclear

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

unclear

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring
 Species protection
 Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> No specific project developed for this species.

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> This bird occurs mainly at inland, freshwater wetlands but also at coastal lagoons, it is important to look the birds there.

Species name: *Pelecanus onocrotalus* (only Palearctic populations)

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. *Pelecanus onocrotalus* in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.
Stagg, A. 1987. Birds of the Riyadh Region. NCWCD, Riyadh.
Bundy, G., Connor, R. J. and Harrison, C. J. 1989. Birds of the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd in association with ARAMCO.
Evens, M. 1994. Important Bird Areas in the Middle East. Cambridge: BirdLife International, BirdLife Conservation series No. 2.
BirdLife International 2001. Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book. Cambridge.
Lepage, D. 2008. Checklist of Birds of Saudi Arabia, Avibase, the World Bird Database- <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/checklist.jsp?lang=EN®ion=sa&list=clements>

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

> Rare Migrants in the central and Eastern wetlands (Stagg, 1987; Bundy et al. 1989)

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Monitoring
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Rare Migrants in the central and Eastern wetlands (Stagg, 1987; Bundy et al. 1989)

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Rare Migrants in the central and Eastern wetlands (Stagg, 1987; Bundy et al. 1989)

Species name: *Geronticus eremita*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. *Geronticus eremita* in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.

BirdLife International. 2004. Threatened birds of the world. Barcelona and Cambridge, UK: Lynx Edition and BirdLife International .

Serra, G. and L. Peske. 2006. Coordinating protection efforts of breeding N. Bald Ibises *Geronticus eremite* in Palmyra (Syria) and trapping / Satellite tagging 3 individuals – Internal report, BirdLife International & Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Sand. Cambridge. Serra, G., L. Peske, and M. Wondafrash. 2007. Preliminary survey of Middle Eastern N. Bald Ibises at their recently discovered wintering grounds in Ethiopian highlands. Internal report, BirdLife International & Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Sandy. Cambridge.

Jennings, M. C. 2010. The Atlas of breeding birds of Saudi Arabia. Fauna and Flora of Arabia.

Islam, M. Z. Serra, G. and Boug, A. 2010. Northern Bald Ibis in Saudi Arabia: Last step for its survival. *Wildlife Middle East* (5): 7.

Bowden C. G. R., Hamoud A., Jbour S., Fritz J., Peske L., Riedler B., Lindsell J. A, Al Shaiesh M, Abdallah A., Boehm C., Hatipoglu T., Tavares J. P., Al Salamah M., Shobrak M. & Serra G. 2012: Attempted supplementation of the relict wild Eastern population of Northern Bald Ibis in Syria with Turkish semi-wild juveniles. IUCN Reintroduction Specialists Group Case Studies Part III. p130-134.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> 12 records of NBI reported between 1990-2010 talling 35 near NWRC & in 2010 two NBI recorded 40km from NWRC and several records near Jizan, Abha, Madinah and Tabuk (all Sat transmitted). The species is protected under the Law in Saudi Arabia.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

unclear

> The tagged birds were stopped near Taif, Abha, Jizan in 2009-10. There might be more birds migrating through Saudi Arabia but no information is available. Passage Migrants

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> Collaboration between SWA and Syrian agency on Northern Bald Ibis is agreed.

Identification and establishment of protected areas

> Extend the National Wildlife Research Center

Monitoring

> Several surveys were carried from 2007-2010 for satellite tacked birds in collaboration with BirdLife International' Middle East office.

Education/awareness rising

> In 2010 articles in *Wildlife Middle East* published in English and Arabic by Islam et a. Early 1993 & 1994 (A film was produced)

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Other

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority and Jazan University hosted the first meeting of the Aewa international working group of Northern Bald Ibis in Najran. The meeting which was held during the period from 19-22 November 2012 was organized by the RSPB, Birdlife Middle East office and secretariat of AEWA..

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such

action being taken?

> the above meeting is considered as one of the most important activities for the conservation of the critically endangered NBI. please see the attached meeting files.

The Saudi Wildlife Authority, in collaboration with AEWA Secretariat, will conduct a study for developing a re-introduction project for the species.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

Meeting_1st-meeting-of-the-aewa-northern-bald-ibis-interna_Documents.zip

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring during migration in collaboration with BirdLife International, Middle East Office. Need to conduct research into feeding biology, and habitat requirements in Saudi Arabia in collaboration with BirdLife International.

Species name: Aythya nyroca

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. *Aythya nyroca* in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.

Green, 1984. The avifauna of the Al Jawf region, northwest Saudi Arabia, Sandgrouse 6, 48-58.

Stagg, A. 1987: Birds of the Riyadh Region. NCWCD, Riyadh.

Bundy, G., Connor, R. J. and Harrison, C. J. 1989. Birds of the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd in association with ARAMCO.

Rahmani, A. Shobrak, M, and Newton, S. 1994: Birds of the Tihamah coastal plane of Saudi Arabia. OSME Bull. 32: 1-19.

Evans, M. I. 1994. Important Bird Areas in the Middle East. Cambridge, U.K.: BirdLife International (BirdLife Conservation Series no. 2).

Jennings, M. 1995. An Interim Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Arabia. Riyadh: NCWCD, 1995.

BirdLife International. 2001. Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book. Cambridge.

Lepage, D. 2008. Checklist of Birds of Saudi Arabia, Avibase, the World Bird Database- <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/checklist.jsp?lang=EN®ion=sa&list=clements>

BirdLife International (2010) Species factsheet: *Aythya nyroca*. International Action Plan.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

> Passage Migrant in the central, Eastern and Coastal plain of the Western wetlands of Saudi Arabia (Stagg 1987, Bundy et al. 1989; Rahmani et al. 1989). Opportunistic breeder in the Eastern Province wetlands (Bundy et al. 1989; Jennings 1995)

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> No specific project is developed for this species.

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Identify more IBAs and Monitoring should be continued.

Species name: Oxyura leucocephala

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. *Oxyura leucocephala* in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.

Green, 1984. The avifauna of the Al Jawf region, northwest Saudi Arabia, Sandgrouse 6, 48-58.

Evans, M. 1994. Important Bird Areas in the Middle East. Cambridge: BirdLife International, BirdLife Conservation series No. 2.

Porter, R. F., Christensen, S., & Schiermacker-Hansen, P. 1996. Birds of the Middle East. London, BirdLife International. 2001. Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book. Cambridge. Wikipedia. 2007. List of Birds of Saudi Arabia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/list_of_birds_of_Saudi_Arabia Lepage, D. 2008. Checklist of Birds of Saudi Arabia, Avibase, the World Bird Database- <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/checklist.jsp?lang=EN®ion=sa&list=clements> BirdLife International. 2010. Species factsheet: *Oxyura leucocephala* Shobrak, M. 2011: Bird flyways and stopover conservation sites in the Arabian Peninsula. Biodiversity Conservation in the Arabian Peninsula Zoology in the Middle East, Supplementum 3: 27-30.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

> Only one record from a wetland located in the North Central of Saudi Arabia in 1983 (Green 1984)

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> No specific project is developed for this species.

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Need to collaborate with the White-headed Duck specialist group and Monitoring IBAs.

Species name: *Neophron percnopterus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z., Basheer, M., & Shobrak, M. (2007). Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) in the Mahazat as-Sayd Protected Area in west-central Saudi Arabia. *Vulture News* 57, 76.

Jennings, M. C. 2010: Atlas of the Breeding Birds in the Arabia Peninsula. *Fauna of Arabia*. No. 25.

Porter, R. & Aspinall, S. (2010) *Birds of the Middle East*, 2nd Edition. Princeton University Press, USA, 384 pp.

McGrady, M., Rayalehb, H. A., Darab, A. M. and Abdillahib, E. (2014): Migration of raptors across the Bab el Mandeb Strait, Djibouti. *Bull ABC Vol 21 No 1 (2014)* - 71

Rahmani, A. Shobrak, M, and Newton, S. 1994: Birds of the Tihamah coastal plane of Saudi Arabia. *OSME Bull.* 32: 1-19.

Shobrak, M and Pallait, P. 1998: Studies on the Migration of Birds of Prey in Saudi Arabia. *Proc. Of the first Symposium on Raptors of South East Asia. Japan.*, 346-353.

Shobrak, M. 2003. Vultures in Saudi Arabia. *Journal of Vulture News* no. 48, March: 20-23.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> Shobrak (2003) reported that the Egyptian vulture is declining in Saudi Arabia as several nests were discarded. According to Jennings (2010) there are possibly 2,000 breeding pairs in the Arabian Peninsula, with the majority of breeding pairs located in Saudi Arabia. Moreover, there are more birds were recorded during autumn migration (Shobrak 2003; Jennings 2010). The number of birds recorded crossing Bab Al Mandib showed that Saudi Arabia is part of migration route of the species (Jennings 2010; McGrady et al. 2014):

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

> In Saudi Arabia the majority of the breeding population occur in South west, central Saudi Arabia and small population found in Farasan Islands (Jennings 2010).

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Identification and establishment of protected areas

> Farasan Islands Protected Area

Monitoring

> monitoring in Farasan Islands Protected Area

Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> -

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> monitoring of the species will be continued.

Species name: Aquila clanga

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. Aquila clanga in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.

Jennings, M. C. 1982: The birds of Saudi Arabia, Check-list, Jennings. Cambridge.

Stagg, A. 1987: Birds of Riyadh Region. NCWCD. Riyadh.

Bundy, G., Connor, R. J. and Harrison, C. J. 1989: Birds of the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd in association with ARAMCO.

Rahmani, A. Shobrak, M, and Newton, S. 1994. Birds of the Tihamah coastal plane of Saudi Arabia. OSME Bull. 32: 1-19.

Porter, R. F., Christensen, S., & Schiermacker-Hansen, P. 1996. Birds of the Middle East. London,

Meyburg, B-U, Meyburg, C. and Mizera, T. 2000. Migration strategies of greater spotted eagles Aquila clanga tracked by satellite. Raptor at Risk. Ed. Chancellor, R. D. & B. -U. Meyburg eds. WWGBO/Hancock house.

Shobrak, M. 2000. The role of avian scavengers in locating and exploiting carcasses in central Saudi Arabia. Raptor at Risk. Ed. Chancellor, R. D. & B. -U. Meyburg eds. WWGBO/Hancock house. 213-224.

BirdLife International. 2001. Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book. Cambridge.

Islam, M. Z. 2007. Globally threatened species in the Middle East: Is it really necessary to prevent their extinction? Pp. 225-270. NWRC Annual report, Taif.

BirdLife International. 2010. Species factsheet: Aquila clanga.

Islam, M. Z. 2010. Birds of Mahazat as-Sayd Protected Area and NWRC. NWRC, Taif, KSA.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

> Passage or wintering birds occur in small numbers over a vast area in the Arabian Peninsula. Numbers appear to have declined of its range. However, long-term trends are difficult to assess as no proper monitoring has been taken place.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

> Since no specific monitoring programme is in place, it is difficult to provide population trend but the distribution in its range has been decling as result of key threats like disturbance, habitat destruction and also suitable habitat mosaics have been lost as a result of wetland drainage.

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

> Researchers from NWRC have been monitoring this bird in Mahzat as-Sayd Protected Area and at NWRC enclosures.

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Lack of monitoring programmes and funding

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> There is no future plan as such for this species but Species Action Plan could be developed for the GCC at least. Project could be developed to carryout surveys to check range and population, long-term monitoring schemes could be developed to improve understanding of population trends. Globally threatened Species Working Group could be established. However, a comprehensive study of the migration and wintering behaviour using satellite telemetry could be used that might yield many surprising results.

Species name: Aquila heliaca

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. *Aquila heliaca* in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.

Jennings, M. C. 1982. The birds of Saudi Arabia, Check-list, Jennings. Cambridge.

Bundy, G., Connor, R. J. and Harrison, C. J. 1989. Birds of the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd in association with ARAMCO.

Rahmani, A. Shobrak, M, and Newton, S. 1994. Birds of the Tihamah coastal plane of Saudi Arabia. OSME Bull. 32: 1-19.

Porter, R. F., Christensen, S., & Schiermacker-Hansen, P. 1996. Birds of the Middle East. London, International Action Plan for the Imperial Eagle. 1996. BirdLife International and European Commission.

Meyburg, B-U, Patrick, P. and Meyburg, C. 2000. Migration strategies of 15 steppe eagle *Aquila nipalensis* tracked by satellite.

BirdLife International. 2001. Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book. Cambridge.

Paillat, P. 2003. Raptors migration in Saudi Arabia. Annual Report. Pp.167-168. (Satellite telemetry was attached on male Imperial Eagle to study migration with Raptor Research Group).

Islam, M. Z. 2007. Globally threatened species in the Middle East: Is it really necessary to prevent their extinction? Pp. 225-270. NWRC Annual report, Taif.

Islam, M. Z. 2010. Birds of Mahazat as-Sayd Protected Area and NWRC. NWRC, Taif, KSA.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

> Wintering bird occurs in small numbers over a vast area in the country. Number appears to have declined of its range. However, long-term trends and population sizes are difficult to assess as no proper monitoring system is in place.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> In 2003 a male Imperial Eagle was captured in western-central Saudi Arabia in winter and fitted with the Satellite transmitter to study the migration and habitat use.

Monitoring

> Monitoring of birds at Mahazat as-Sayd Protected and at NWRC in western-central Saudi Arabia is in place since last two years, but no specific project on Imperial Eagle has been done after 2003 but the species is recorded in Mahazat in 2009 by M. Z. Islam

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Actions taken

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Seek national and international support to assess the status of the Imperial Eagle and to start a monitoring programme. Evaluate the status and condition of IBAs where Imperial Eagle and other raptors are regularly seen. Raise awareness amongst decision makers in the region on the importance of Imperial Eagles and other birds of prey. Promote strengthening of existing legislation for the protection of rare birds. Need to develop regional cooperation on Raptors.

Species name: Falco naumanni

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Jennings, M. C. 1982. The birds of Saudi Arabia, Check-list, Jennings. Cambridge.

Bundy, G., Connor, R. J. and Harrison, C. J. 1989. Birds of the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd in association with ARAMCO.

Porter, R. F., Christensen, S., & Schiermacker-Hansen, P. 1996. Birds of the Middle East. London,

Rahmani, A. Shobrak, M, and Newton, S. 1994: Birds of the Tihamah coastal plane of Saudi Arabia. OSME Bull. 32: 1-19.

BirdLife International. 2001. Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book. Cambridge.

Islam, M. Z. 2007. Globally threatened species in the Middle East: Is it really necessary to prevent their extinction? Pp. 225-270. NWRC Annual report, Taif.

Islam, M. Z. 2010. Birds of Mahazat as-Sayd Protected Area and NWRC. NWRC, Taif, KSA.

BirdLife International. 2010. Species factsheet: Falco naumanni.

Jennings, M. C. 2010. Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Arabia. Fauna of Arabian Peninsula No. 25. Pp10.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

> Passage Migrants almost in all part of Saudi Arabia (Bundy et al. 1989; Rahmani et al. 1994; Stagg 1987), It is also recorded in Mahazat as-Sayd PA and at NWRC (Islam et al. 2010).

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> Monitoring of birds in Mahazat as-Sayd Protected and at NWRC in western-central Saudi Arabia is in place since last two years, but no specific project on Lesser Kestrel.

Species protection

> The species is protected under the Law.

Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Lack of intensive monitoring programmes and funding for this species.

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Surveys of wintering areas should be undertaken to get a better picture of population status and to identify important sites or IBAs, where this bird has been recorded. In Saudi Arabia the only possible method is to carry out surveys in pilot areas and then extrapolate to the remainder of the suitable habitat. A standard methodology for Lesser Kestrel surveys should be developed and published.

Species name: Falco cherrug (except Mongolian populations)

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> AlRashidi, M. 2006. An ecological study on hunting falcon species and their protection in Saudi Arabia. Falco 27: 9–11. <http://www.falcons.co.uk/images/falco27.pdf>

Al Rashidi, M. (2004) An ecological study on hunting falcon species and their protection in Saudi Arabia.

Master Thesis (in Arabic), Biology Department, Faculty of Science, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

BirdLife International (2011) Saker Falcon Conservation Status and research requirements. A Final report to the Saudi Wildlife Authority. Available at:

http://www.cms.int/bodies/ScC/17th_scientific_council/inf_06_saker_falcon_bli_report_e_onl y.pdf

Kenward, R., AlRashidi, M., Shobrak, M., Prommer, M., Sielicki, J. & N. Casey (2013) Elaboration of a modelling framework to integrate population dynamics and sustainable use of the Saker Falcon Falco cherrug. In: Williams, N.P., Galbraith, C. and Kovács, A. (eds.) Compilation Report on WorkPlan Objectives 4 – 8, including a modelling framework for sustainable use of the Saker Falcon Falco cherrug. UNEP/CMS Raptors MoU Coordinating Unit, Saker Falcon Task Force, Abu Dhabi.

Porter, R. & Aspinall, S. (2010) Birds of the Middle East, 2nd Edition. Princeton University Press, USA, 384 pp.

Shobrak, M and Pallait, P. 1998: Studies on the Migration of Birds of Prey in Saudi Arabia. Proc. of the first Symposium on Raptors of South East Asia. Japan., 346-353.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> According to the number of Saker falcons trapped during migration, there are fluctuating in the number of the trapped falcons, with positive correlation on number of birds trapped during the last 16 years. The time series analysis using these data showed that there is possibility of significant decline in the number of trapped Saker falcons during the next ten-year period. In addition, the population viability analysis referred to a relatively high extinction rate for the Saker falcon population migrating through KSA during the coming 21 years (Shobrak in Press). These results suggests that with the existing threats affecting the Saker falcon at all range states in the flyway, the number of Saker falcon probably will be decreasing in the coming years.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

stable

> The species is passage migrant; with possible individual spend the winter in Saudi Arabia (Shobrak and Pallait 1998). According to the captured tagged Saker Falcons and falconers website; the area along Red Sea coast; the open area (Al Hamad) in the northern Saudi Arabia probably an important route for the species

(Shobrak in press). However, more study are needed to determine the route and the stopover areas for the species.

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Control hunting / poaching
- Other

> Funding the Saker Falcon Task Force to develop the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP).

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> -

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Develop National plan

Species name: Chlamydotis undulata (Northwest African populations)

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> not applicable

Species name: Vanellus gregarius

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Belik, V. P. 2005. The Sociable Lapwing in Eurasia: what does the future hold? *British Birds* 98: 476-485
BirdLife International (2014a) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 16/04/2014.
BirdLife International (2014b): The amazing journey. Following the migration of the sociable lapwing. <http://www.birdlife.org/sociable-lapwing/category/sightings/>
Biricik, M. 2009. Unexpectedly large number of Sociable Lapwings *Vanellus gregarius* on autumn migration in Turkey and some remarks on the stopover site. *Sandgrouse* 31(1): 15-17.
<http://www.birdsofsaudiarabia.com/2013/12/sociable-lapwings-near-sabya-bird.html>
Kamp, J. 2007. Habitat selection of the Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius* in Central Kazakhstan - a modelling approach. Diploma, Carl von Ossietzky Universität.
Porter, R. & Aspinall, S. (2010) *Birds of the Middle East*, 2nd Edition. Princeton University Press, USA, 384 pp.
Rahmani, A. Shobrak, M, and Newton, S. 1994: *Birds of the Tihamah costal plane of Saudi Arabia*. OSME Bull. 32: 1-19.
Roberts, P (2013): *Sociable Lapwings near Sabya*
Sheldon, R. D.; Grishina, K. V.; Kamp, J.; Khrokov, V. V.; Knight, A.; Kushkin, M. A. 2006. Revising the breeding population estimate and distribution of the Critically Endangered Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius*.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

unclear

> The population size is not clear, and the majority of observation was made accidental. However, the maximum number were recorded was 40 birds in Jizan (Roberts 2012). In addition, 90+ birds were observed in Oman (BirdLife International 2014b). However, due to lack of personal; monitoring the migration was not implanted in a regular way in Saudi Arabia to determine the population number.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

unclear

> The species is a passage migrant and winter visitor in the northern Saudi Arabia, with scattered individuals were observed in Jizan (Rahmani et al. 1994; Roberts 2012). Satellite tracking of the species showed that the agriculture areas north west of Saudi Arabia were used as stopover and winter areas for the species. Moreover, recoding birds in the agriculture areas in Kuwait and Oman suggest that there are some birds used the route eastern of Saudi Arabia for their migration (BirdLife International 2014b). Therefore, the population size migrating through the Kingdom is not possible to determine.

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Monitoring
- Education/awareness rising
- Control hunting / poaching
- Other

> -

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> -

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring the passage Migrants.

Species name: Numenius tenuirostris

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> not applicable, not range state. species occurs as vagrant

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

> vagrant

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

Species protection

Other

> The SWA and RSPB conducted a survey for the species in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> No specific project is developed for this species.

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring IBAs and a surveys might be carried out in 2011-12 in the western part of Saudi Arabia.

Species name: Larus leucophthalmus

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Islam, M. Z. 2013. Larus leucophthalmus in Threatened birds of Saudi Arabia: ways to conserve them. Saudi Wildlife Authority, Saudi Arabia.

Jennings, M. C. 1982. The birds of Saudi Arabia, Check-list, Jennings. Cambridge.

Rahmani, A. Shobrak, M, and Newton, S. 1994. Birds of the Tihamah coastal plane of Saudi Arabia. OSME Bull. 32: 1-19.

Jennings, M. C. 1995. An Interim Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Arabia. Riyadh: NCWCD.

Porter, R. F., Christensen, S., & Schiermacker-Hansen, P. 1996. Birds of the Middle East. London,

Shobrak, M., Al Suhaibani, A. and Newton, S. 2002. Breeding Seabirds in the Saudi Arabia' Red Sea. PERSGA.

PERSGA 2003. Status of the breeding Seabirds in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden

Islam, M. Z. 2007. Globally threatened species in the Middle East: Is it really necessary to prevent their extinction? Pp. 225-270. NWRC Annual report, Taif.

Shobrak, M.Y., Aloufi, A.A. Status of breeding seabirds on the Northern Islands of the Red Sea, Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Journal of Biological Sciences (2013), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.sjbs.2013.11.002>.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

stable

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Training course was organized at Farasan in 2009 for seabird monitoring.

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:
> Research on ecology and biology of this bird might be a good project to initiate.

Miscellaneous information or comments on Appendix I birds in general:
> -

2. AQUATIC MAMMALS

2.1 General questions on Appendix I aquatic mammals

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I aquatic mammals species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I aquatic mammals species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

If Yes, please provide details (Include the date on which the exception was notified to the CMS Secretariat pursuant to CMS Article III(7):

> not applicable

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I aquatic mammals:

Collision with fishing traffic

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Public awareness programmes initiated.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> Assistance in research is required to train new field researchers.

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger aquatic mammals species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> The hunting law is enforced; in addition, the number of marine protected areas will be increased, .

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> During 2014 or early 2015 a new marine protected area will be declared

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> There is a shortage of marine experts; however, SWA is addressing this issue.

2.2 Questions on specific Appendix I aquatic mammals

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I aquatic mammals species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Balaenoptera physalus*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Species protection

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Developing a project to estimate its population size and to study population distribution would be interesting.

Species name: *Balaenoptera musculus*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Species protection

Species name: *Megaptera novaeangliae*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Identification and establishment of protected areas

Species protection

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Developing a project to estimate its population size and to study population distribution would be interesting.

Miscellaneous information or comments on Appendix I marine mammals in general:

> Further detailed research studies on marine mammals might be conducted. Environmental awareness and educational programmes, for all groups, might also be developed.

3. REPTILES

3.1 General questions on Appendix I reptiles

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I reptiles species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I reptiles species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Public awareness particularly fishermen as well as patrolling staff regarding the use of specific nets that allow escape of by-caught turtles. Regional Cooperation through PERSGA is enhanced, including habitat survey. Nationally, turtles are tagged

2b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Green Turtle tagged with Satellite transmitter to find out migration route.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> Information support is needed.

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I reptiles species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

Collection of eggs

Predation of eggs

Destruction of nesting beaches

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger reptiles species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Taking of turtles eggs is banned by the Law. The nesting areas are protected during nesting season.

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Migration routes are now known. In the Red Sea, the green turtle migrate from the Gulf of Suez to Eriteria. In the Arabia Gulf, most of the green turtle migrate to the east of the Gulf, while most of the hawksbill turtle migrate to the south of the Gulf.

3c. Describe any factors that may limit action being taken in this regard:

> Lack of adequate experts

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> Training is required.

3.2 Questions on specific Appendix I reptiles

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I reptiles species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Chelonia mydas*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Al-Mansi, A.M.A., Khushaim, O.A. and Al-Merghani, M. M. H., 1999. On the effect of substrate on nesting success of green turtles *Chelonia mydas* in Arabian Gulf. *Zoology in the Middle East*. V 19, Issue 1, 5-11.
Al-Merghani, M., Miller, J.D., Pilcher, N.J., Al-Mansi, A. 2000 The green and hawksbill turtles in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Synopsis of nesting studies 1986-1997 *Fauna of Arabia*, 18 (2000), pp. 369-384

Al-Mansi, A.M.A., 1991. Sediment Characteristics of green turtle nesting beaches on the eastern Red Sea Coast, *Bull. Fac. Alex. Univ.* 31(b), 384-401.

Al-Merghani, M., J.D. Miller, N.J. Pilcher, A. Al-Mansi, 2000. The green and hawksbill turtles in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Synopsis of nesting studies 1986-1997. *Fauna of Arabia* 18: 369-384.

Pilcher, N.J. & M. Al-Merghani, 2000. Reproductive biology of the green turtle *Chelonia mydas* at Ras Baridi, Saudi Arabia. *Herpetological Review*: 32(3): 142-147.

Pilcher N. J., 2000. The Green turtle *Chelonia mydas* in the Arabian Gulf. *Chelonian Conservation and Biology* 3(4): 730-735.

Pilcher N.J., 1999. Cement dust as a cause of sea turtle hatchling mortality at Ras Baridi, Saudi Arabia. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 38(11): 966-969.

Al-Merghani, M., J. Miller, A. Al-Mansi, O. Khusheim & N.J. Pilcher, 1996. The marine turtles of the Arabian Gulf. *NCWCD Studies 1991-1994*. In *A marine sanctuary for the Arabian Gulf: Environmental research and conservation following the 1991 Gulf War oil spill*. (F. Krupp, A. Abuzinada & I. Nader Eds.) 351-359.

Pilcher, N.J. & M. Al-Merghani, 1994. The marine turtle nesting season, Arabian Gulf, 1992. In *Establishment of a marine habitat and wildlife sanctuary for the Gulf region. Final Report Phase 2, CEC/NCWCD, Frankfurt & Jubail*; 514-536.

Pilcher, N.J., 1992. Marine turtles at Ras Baridi: An overview. *Journal of the Saudi Arabian Natural History Society* 3(3): 8-14.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> Green Turtle was tagged in 2008 in north of Yanbu in the northwest of KSA and finally reached to Iriteria via Sudan January 2009. We need more PTT studies to find out migration routes of other species. please see 3b above

Monitoring

> more intensive monitoring programmes are needed through the PTTs.

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Al Wajh and Farasan during 2006, 2008 have been surveyed on collaboration with the Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation.

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Some nesting areas in the Red Sea (inside Farasan Marine Protected Area) were recommended as biological reserves.

Species name: Caretta caretta

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Pilcher N.J., 1999. Cement dust as a cause of sea turtle hatchling mortality at Ras Baridi, Saudi Arabia. Marine Pollution Bulletin 38(11): 966-969.

Al-Merghani, M., J. Miller, A. Al-Mansi, O. Khusheim & N.J. Pilcher, 1996. The marine turtles of the Arabian Gulf. NCWCD Studies 1991-1994. In A marine sanctuary for the Arabian Gulf: Environmental research and conservation following the 1991 Gulf War oil spill. (F. Krupp, A. Abuzinada & I. Nader Eds.) 351-359.

Pilcher, N.J. & M. Al-Merghani, 1994. The marine turtle nesting season, Arabian Gulf, 1992. In Establishment of a marine habitat and wildlife sanctuary for the Gulf region. Final Report Phase 2, CEC/NCWCD, Frankfurt & Jubail; 514-536.

Pilcher, N.J., 1992. Marine turtles at Ras Baridi: An overview. Journal of the Saudi Arabian Natural History Society 3(3): 8-14.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> NA

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Long-term monitoring is planned using satellite transmitters!

Species name: Eretmochelys imbricata

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Al-Merghani, M., Miller, J.D., Pilcher, N.J., Al-Mansi, A.. 2000 The green and hawksbill turtles in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Synopsis of nesting studies 1986-1997 Fauna of Arabia, 18 (2000), pp. 369-384

Al-Merghani, M., J.D. Miller, N.J. Pilcher, A. Al-Mansi, 2000. The green and hawksbill turtles in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Synopsis of nesting studies 1986-1997. Fauna of Arabia 18: 369-384.

Pilcher N.J., 1999. The Hawksbill turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata* in the Arabian Gulf. Chelonian Conservation

and Biology 3(2): 312-317.

Pilcher N.J., 1999. Cement dust as a cause of sea turtle hatchling mortality at Ras Baridi, Saudi Arabia. Marine Pollution Bulletin 38(11): 966-969.

Al-Merghani, M., J. Miller, A. Al-Mansi, O. Khusheim & N.J. Pilcher, 1996. The marine turtles of the Arabian Gulf. NCWCD Studies 1991-1994. In A marine sanctuary for the Arabian Gulf: Environmental research and conservation following the 1991 Gulf War oil spill. (F. Krupp, A. Abuzinada & I. Nader Eds.) 351-359.

Pilcher, N.J. & M. Al-Merghani, 1994. The marine turtle nesting season, Arabian Gulf, 1992. In Establishment of a marine habitat and wildlife sanctuary for the Gulf region. Final Report Phase 2, CEC/NCWCD, Frankfurt & Jubail; 514-536.

Pilcher, N.J., 1992. Marine turtles at Ras Baridi: An overview. Journal of the Saudi Arabian Natural History Society3(3): 8-14.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> NA

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Some nesting areas in the Red Sea (inside Farasan Marine Protected Area) were recommended as biological reserves.

Species name: *Lepidochelys olivacea*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Pilcher N.J., 1999. Cement dust as a cause of sea turtle hatchling mortality at Ras Baridi, Saudi Arabia. Marine Pollution Bulletin 38(11): 966-969.

Al-Merghani, M., J. Miller, A. Al-Mansi, O. Khusheim & N.J. Pilcher, 1996. The marine turtles of the Arabian Gulf. NCWCD Studies 1991-1994. In A marine sanctuary for the Arabian Gulf: Environmental research and conservation following the 1991 Gulf War oil spill. (F. Krupp, A. Abuzinada & I. Nader Eds.) 351-359.

Pilcher, N.J. & M. Al-Merghani, 1994. The marine turtle nesting season, Arabian Gulf, 1992. In Establishment of a marine habitat and wildlife sanctuary for the Gulf region. Final Report Phase 2, CEC/NCWCD, Frankfurt & Jubail; 514-536.

Pilcher, N.J., 1992. Marine turtles at Ras Baridi: An overview. Journal of the Saudi Arabian Natural History Society3(3): 8-14.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> NA

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> More turtle sites will be included in PA network after the assessment.

Species name: Dermochelys coriacea

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Pilcher N.J., 1999. Cement dust as a cause of sea turtle hatchling mortality at Ras Baridi, Saudi Arabia. Marine Pollution Bulletin 38(11): 966-969.

Al-Merghani, M., J. Miller, A. Al-Mansi, O. Khusheim & N.J. Pilcher, 1996. The marine turtles of the Arabian Gulf. NCWCD Studies 1991-1994. In A marine sanctuary for the Arabian Gulf: Environmental research and conservation following the 1991 Gulf War oil spill. (F. Krupp, A. Abuzinada & I. Nader Eds.) 351-359.

Pilcher, N.J. & M. Al-Merghani, 1994. The marine turtle nesting season, Arabian Gulf, 1992. In Establishment of a marine habitat and wildlife sanctuary for the Gulf region. Final Report Phase 2, CEC/NCWCD, Frankfurt & Jubail; 514-536.

Pilcher, N.J., 1992. Marine turtles at Ras Baridi: An overview. Journal of the Saudi Arabian Natural History Society 3(3): 8-14.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> NA

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> More turtle sites will be included in PA network after the assessments.

Miscellaneous information or comments on Appendix I marine turtles in general:

> Biological studies on marine turtles were used. Satellites were used to study the migration patterns of marine turtles.

5. FISH

5.1 General questions on Appendix I fish species

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I fish species prohibited by the national legislation listed as being implementing legislation in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I fish species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I fish species:

Other threats to migration (please provide details)

> No significant obstacle is observed but information on the migrating behaviour is insufficient.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> technical assistance on migratory species, particularly joint studies with range states is needed

3. What are the major threats to Appendix I fish species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

Other (please specify)

> Poaching, habitat loss and habitat alteration.

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger fish species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Ban on taking is enforced

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> some progress is observed

III. Appendix II Species

2. QUESTIONS ON CMS AGREEMENTS

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Bird Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Bird Species ?
 No
2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Bird Species ?
 No
4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Bird Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?
 No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Marine Mammal Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Marine Mammal Species ?
 No
2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Marine Mammal Species ?
 No
4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Marine Mammal Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?
 No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Marine Turtle Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Marine Turtle Species ?
 No
2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Marine Turtle Species ?
 No
4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Marine Turtle Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?
 No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species ?
 No
2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species ?
 No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Bat Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Bat Species ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Bat Species ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Bat Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Fish

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Fish ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Fish ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Fish, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

3. LISTING OF MIGRATORY SPECIES IN APPENDIX II

1. Is your country a Range State for any migratory species that has an unfavourable conservation status, but is not currently listed in Appendix II and could benefit from the conclusion of an Agreement for its conservation?

N.B.: States in which a species occurs as a vagrant (i.e. not "on its normal migration route") should not be treated as Range States. Please refer to Article 1 of the Convention for clarification.

No

1a. Is your country taking any steps to propose the listing of this/these species in Appendix II?

No

IV. National and Regional Priorities

1. What priority does your country assign to the conservation and, where applicable, sustainable use of migratory species in comparison to other biodiversity-related issues

Medium

2. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan?

Yes

2.1. If Yes, please indicate and briefly describe the extent to which it addresses the following issues:

Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of the habitats of migratory species, including protected areas

Transboundary co-operation

3. Does the conservation of migratory species currently feature in any other national or regional policies/plans (apart from CMS Agreements)

Yes

3.1. If Yes, please provide details:

> National System Plan for Protected Areas; Convention on the Conservation of Wildlife and Their Natural Habitats in the countries of the GCC; Regional Agreement for Conservation of the red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA); .

3a. Do these policies/plans cover the following areas?

Land-use planning

Yes

Pollution control

Yes

Designation and development of protected areas

Yes

Planning of fences

Yes

V. Protected Areas

1. Are migratory species taken into account in the selection, establishment and management of protected areas in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details:

>

The ecological criteria for selection, establishment, and management of protected areas include the representation of the Kingdom's bioregions, conservation of biodiversity "hotspots," and conservation of key taxa. Key taxa include endangered and threatened taxa, endemic taxa, and "genera, species, or subspecies of which the conservation of populations within Saudi Arabia is essential to the conservation of the taxon (e.g. near-endemics and migrants for which Saudi Arabia represents a critical range)," as well as relict, keystone, economic, and flagship / umbrella species.

1a. Please identify the most important national sites for migratory species and their protection status:

> Farasan Islands, Protected Area, managed by SWA

Al-Jubail Marine Wildlife Sanctuary, Protected Area, managed by SWA (not proclaimed)

Mahazat as-Sayd, Protected Area, managed by SWA

Harrat al-Harrah, Protected Area, managed by SWA

'Uruq Bani Ma'arid, Protected Area, managed by SWA

Al-Ha'ir Wetland, Managed by Arriyadh Development Authority

Sabkhat al-Fasl, Managed by Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu

1b. Do these protected areas cover the following areas?

Terrestrial

Yes

If Yes, please provide details and include the amount of protected areas coverage and the number of protected areas

> Farasan Islands (5,408.0 sq km)

Al-Jubail Marine Wildlife Sanctuary (2410.69 sq km)

Mahazat as-Sayd (2,553 sq km)

Harrat al-Harrah (13,775 sq km)

'Uruq Bani Ma'arid (12,787 sq km)

Aquatic

No

Marine

Yes

If Yes, please provide details and include the amount of protected areas coverage and the number of protected areas

> Farasan Islands (5,408.0 sq km)

Al-Jubail Marine Wildlife Sanctuary (2410.69 sq km)

1c. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA)

2. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> The most important wintering grounds of Asian houbara *Chlamydotis macqueenii* have been proclaimed as protected areas for the conservation of the species. Other avian species which are fairly well protected by the protected area system in its current state include pink-backed pelican *Pelecanus rufescens*, Egyptian vulture *Neophron percnopterus*, lappet-faced vulture *Torgos tracheliotus*, crab plover *Dromas ardeola*, black-winged stilt *Himantopus himantopus*, white-eyed gull *Larus leucophthalmus*, swift tern *Sterna bergii*, lesser crested tern *Sterna bengalensis*, white-cheeked tern *Sterna repressa*, bridled tern *Sterna anaethetus*, and Saunders's tern *Sterna saundersi*. The most important nesting sites of the green turtle *Chelonia mydas* and hawksbill turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata* in the Arabian Gulf are protected, and the idmi (Arabian) gazelle *Gazella gazella* and reem (sand) gazelle *Gazella subgutturosa* are conserved or reintroduced in their former ranges.

VI. Policies on Satellite Telemetry

1. In the current reporting period, has your country undertaken conservation/research projects that use satellite telemetry?

Yes

If yes what is the state of those projects

on-going

2. Are any future conservation/research projects planned that will use satellite telemetry?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (including the expected timeframe for these projects):

> Six houbara bustard fitted with PTTs to investigate migratory routes of wild birds from Saudi Arabia to Kazakhstan. MoU is written between Saudi Arabia and Kazkhstan for Houbara and Saker falcon.

3. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> The tagged houbara bustard completed three cycles from Saudi Arabia to Kazkhstan from 2011 to 2013 and three more houbara tagged with PTTs in Saudi Arabia in April 2014.

VII. Membership

1. Have actions been taken by your country to encourage non- Parties to join CMS and its related Agreements?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details. (In particular, describe actions taken to recruit the non-Parties that have been identified by the Standing Committee as high priorities for recruitment.)

> Saudi Arabia urged the the non parties Arab States to join CMS.

1a. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority(SWA).

2. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> the relevant Arab league's team adopted recommendations, suggested by SWA, that urge non party Arab countries to join CMS.

VIII. Global and National Importance of CMS

1. Have actions been taken by your country to increase national, regional and/or global awareness of the relevance of CMS and its global importance in the context of biodiversity conservation?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details:

> Reference to CMS importance is stressed in media release by SWA. SWA is also stressed the role and importance of CMS in Arab team on MEAs.

2. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority(SWA).

IX. Mobilization of Resources

1. Has your country made financial resources available for conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> Migratory birds and turtles. the Saudi Wildlife Authority has financially supported the Saker Falcon Task Force's second meeting and the stakeholders workshop to develop the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan.

2. Has your country made voluntary contributions to the CMS Trust Fund to support requests from developing countries and countries with economies in transition?

No

3. Has your country made other voluntary financial contributions to support conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in other countries (particularly developing countries)?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> HRH Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Foundation for Conservation and Development of Wildlife (IFCDW) was established in Agadir, Morocco. for captive breeding and release of Houbara Bustard.

4. Has your country provided technical and/or scientific assistance to developing countries to facilitate initiatives for the benefit of migratory species?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> Houbara Bustard

5. Has your country received financial assistance/support from the CMS Trust Fund, via the CMS Secretariat, for national conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in your country?

No

6. Has your country received financial assistance/support from sources other than the CMS Secretariat for conservation activities having direct benefit for migratory species in your country?

No

X. Implementation of COP Resolutions and Recommendations

Please provide information about measures undertaken by your country relating to recent Resolutions and Recommendations since the last Report. For your convenience please refer to the list of COP Resolutions and Recommendations listed below:

Resolutions

Bycatch (incl. Recommendation) (6.2 / 7.2 / 8.14 / 9.18 / 10.14)

> coordination with Ministry of Agriculture to address Bycatch.

Electrocution of Migratory Birds (7.4 / 10.11)

> The Saudi Wildlife Authority is considering a suggestion to collaborate with the Ministry of Electricity and Water to adopt measures to reduce electrocution of migratory birds by electric lines.

Saker Falcon (9.20 / 10.28)

> Saudi Arabia participated in all meetings and activities of the Saker falcon task Force developed by UNEP/CMS/Resolution 10.28 on Saker Falcon.

Annex: Updating Data on Appendix II Species

1. The drop-down lists below contain the list of all species listed in Appendix II. New Parties which have acceded since COP10 in 2011 and Parties which did not submit a National Report in time in 2011 are requested to complete the entire form. Parties that did submit a timely report in 2011 are requested to review and update the data (e.g. new published distribution references and details concerning species added to Appendix II at COP9 and COP10).

Cetacea

Orcinus orca

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State

Berardius bairdii

Please choose the one that applies.

Not a Range State

Balaenoptera edeni

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State

Sirenia

Dugong dugon

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State

Artiodactyla

Gazella subgutturosa

Please choose the one that applies.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Gazella conservation activities.docx](#)

Testudinata

Cheloniidae spp

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State

Dermochelyidae spp

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State

Orectolobiformes

Rhincodon typus

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State