



Wader Study Group conference in Odessa - USSR *Migration and international conservation of waders, Odessa, 1992*

First announcement

A SPECIAL WADER STUDY GROUP CONFERENCE IN THE USSR - FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

At the recent WSG conference in Comacchio, Italy, Prof. Anatoli Korzyukov of the University of Odessa invited the Wader Study Group to hold a scientific meeting in Odessa, USSR, in 1992. The object of the meeting is to bring together more wader researchers from the Soviet Union than are usually able to attend international wader meetings to meet with colleagues from other countries.

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

This first announcement explains the preliminary arrangements for the conference, and asks for anyone who plans to go to the conference to complete and return the preliminary booking form immediately. WSG members should note that the Odessa conference is a special additional meeting, and that the WSG annual conference will be held, as usual, in autumn 1992.

The themes of the Odessa conference are:

- **biology of waders in the Soviet Union**
- **comparison of the East Atlantic and East Mediterranean wader flyways**
- **productivity and mortality of waders**
- **population changes in waders**
- **strategies for the conservation of waders**

The conference languages will be English and Russian. A simultaneous translation service will be provided.

The conference will be held over five days during April 1992. The most likely dates are 12-16 April, and the exact dates will be announced as soon as they are finalised. During the conference there will be a one-day excursion to wader sites around Odessa, including a visit to Tiligul Liman and the field station of the University. It is also intended to make a half-day cultural excursion, including an evening in the theatre and a visit to the catacombs of Odessa.

The conference is being jointly organised jointly by the Odessa Branch of the Ukrainian Nature Protection Society, the Odessa State University, the Wader Study Group, and the Working Group on Waders of the Soviet Ornithological Society. The Organising Committee consists of Iosif Chemichko, Petra de Goeij, Jadwiga Gromadzka, Hermann Hotker, Anatoli Korzyukov and Pavel Tomkovich.

COSTS

The costs for the five days of the conference will be approximately £150. This includes the costs of the conference fee, accommodation, meals and the excursions. Arrangements can be made also for those who wish to stay longer in Odessa on a private basis.

We are currently trying to arrange cheap group travel to Odessa. The most promising possibility so far is air travel from Amsterdam to Odessa via Moscow, at a cost of approximately Hfl 900 (c.£300). Travel by bus or by train does not seem to be much cheaper than this, and takes a considerable time longer.

Please note that the arrangements for the conference can be made only if we know the number of participants well in advance. It is therefore essential that, if you plan to attend this exciting conference, you let us know immediately by completing and returning the enclosed form. The formal booking form will be sent out shortly.

Those intending to attend the conference should also note it will be necessary to make the full payment for the conference in advance, at the time of booking, and that it will not be possible to accept late bookings.

We hope that as many WSG members as possible will be able to attend the Odessa conference and take advantage of this unrivalled opportunity to meet with wader researchers from the USSR and many other places.

Please return preliminary booking forms to: Hermann Hotker, c/o WWF Wattenmeerstelle, Norderstrasse 3, 2250 Husum, Germany.

