

PROJECT ON ORGANIZING OF NURSERY FOR BREEDING AND SELECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES OF FALCON BIRDS

Kyrgyzstan is bordering with China in the East, with Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan in the West and the North, and with Tajikistan in the South, it is situated on the territory about 200,000 square kilometers (77,000 square miles). Kyrgyzstan mainly is a mountain republic lying along Tian-Shan range which lengths through northern-eastern part of the Central Asia with an average altitude about 2,750 m above sea level.

Natural peculiarities of Kyrgyzstan create favorable conditions for existence of wide row of rare birds, such as Desert Falcon (*Falco pelegrinoides babylonicus* Sclater), Golden Eagle, Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*), Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis* Hodgs.), Baloban (*Falco cherrug* Gray), Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), Black Shakheen (*Falco peregrinator*), SERPOKLUV (*Ibidorhyncha struthersil* Vigors), ORLAN-BELOKHVOST (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) and others. **All birds mentioned above are rare endangered species and registered in the Red Book.**

Till the last decades, the number of these kinds has been sizeable on the territory of Kyrgyzstan, and was not believed to lead to disappearance. Due to intensive integration of foothills, new political

and economic conditions causing general worsening of economical situation, impoverishment of population, people started to catch birds and destroy their nests in order to get a profit. All this resulted in an abrupt decrease of their number.

Absence of financial resources in the government environment agencies led to the fact that a support to protect these birds' nesting at a proper level is impossible. There are no institutions for purposeful cultivation and selection of rare birds in the country at the present time. All this led to a situation when the number of these birds is sharply decreasing and presently, there is a real threat of disappearance for some kinds of the above-mentioned birds.

There is a necessity to organize a nursery for breeding endangered species of falcon birds. There are no such institutions in Kyrgyzstan. Besides, it is necessary to involve local as well as foreign specialists in ornithology for more detailed study of falcon birds numbers, for development of comprehensive methods of protection for those species.

The nursery is supposed to be located in the Chuy valley where climatic conditions are favorable for breeding falcon species.

The list of supposed measures, of course, is a small part of necessary protective activities that should be directed to maintain disappearing birds' number and increase it.

First of all, it is necessary to make a detailed research of natural habitat of these birds, their ways of migration and nesting. For the time being, this activity is possible only with involvement of foreign ornithologists and with availability of corresponding equipment. Also it is necessary to perform overall ecological survey of the natural habitat: chemical research of soils, biological research of animals which are natural prey for falcon birds. All these measures demand considerable investment and state-of-the-art equipment.

The duration of the proposed project is one year. Below we present approximate budget of the project expenses.

***BUDGET OF EXPENSES FOR ORGANIZING OF NURSERY
FOR BREEDING AND SELECTION OF FALCON BIRDS***

	Description of works	US dollars
1	Trapping of birds: 1 purchase of transport 2 transport expenses 3 survey of nesting 4 payment to trappers	10000
2	Equipment for the nursery, civil works: 2 construction materials 3 equipment for birds breeding 4 payment for civil works	26300
3	Expenses for the nursery operations: - salary for the nursery personnel - food for birds - payment to veterinary specialist	6400
	Total	42700