

## SUMMARY

### **Nesting habits of the black stork *Ciconia nigra* in Cieszyn Silesia**

During past 100 years the number of black storks *Ciconia nigra* in Europe and in Poland has increased. The dramatic decrease of the population took place in the 19<sup>th</sup> and at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In the 1920s the population in Poland was estimated at about 90 pairs, but had risen to approximatively 550 pairs by the 1960s. The population is estimated at 1100-1200 pairs now. Most of them prefer lowland habitats, but about 90-120 pairs inhabit the Carpathian and Sudety mountains (Profus 2001). In this article the author presents preliminary monitoring of black stork nests in the central part of Cieszyn Silesia, which covers the towns of Cieszyn, Ustroń as well as rural administrative districts of Dębowiec, Goleszów and Hażlach. Since 2003 altogether 4 nests have been confirmed and observed in that area. Further nests will probably be discovered in the hilly parts of the region where there are numerous complexes of fish-farms: feeding sites for this species. The data from the Polish part of Cieszyn Silesia will be supplemented by data from the Czech part of Cieszyn Silesia where the black stork was spotted in the 1970s and 1980s.