

SUMMARY

Avifauna of central part of the Beskid Wyspowy Mts – proposition of protection

This paper presents breeding, migratory and wintering birds in Beskid Wyspowy Mts (Polish Carpathian Mts). These mountains consist of isolated afforested peaks with agricultural areas between them. In 2000-2005 years ornithological studies were carried out in the center area of Beskid Wyspowy Mts, especially in two test areas: Mogielica and Jasień massif "Mogielica" (about 40 km²) and Tarnawka gorge "Tarnawka" (about 10 km²). Both of them consist of semi-natural beech-fir, spruce and alder forests, high mountain clearings, river valleys, pastures and parts of adjoining villages. Research was focused on description of breeding birds and on environments and places which should be protected and are important for birds. The number of 140 bird species were observed in Beskid Wyspowy Mts, about 117-129 species were breeding or possibly breeding there. Most of species inhabited mountains forests. There is breeding many species of *Falconiformes* (9), *Strigiformes* (8), *Piciformes* (10) and *Galliformes* (6). 14 species which breed here are very rare and threat in Poland (Polish Red Data Book of Animals): *Hieraaetus pennatus*, *Aquila pomarina*, *A. chrysaetos*, *Tetrao urogallus*, *T. tetrix*, *Strix uralensis*, *Aegolius funereus*, *Glaucidium passerinum*, *Bubo bubo*, *Dendrocopos leucotos*, *Picoides tridactylus*, *Anthus spinoletta*, *Carduelis f. cabaret* and possibly *Prunella collaris*. In the border with Foothills breeds only Polish mountain subpopulation of goosanders. During migration and wintering not many species were observed there; e.g. *Circus pygargus* and *Falco peregrinus* migrate there. Although Beskid Wyspowy Mts has not been protected yet, it deserve to be a Landscape Park. Mogielica and Jasień massif should be a part of Gorce National Park and Nature 2000 system. Special protected areas like reserves should be formed in Mogielica Mt., Tarnawka gorge and Pieninki Skrzydlańskie Mts. There is unfortunately project of building ski lift in east slope of Mogielica which may lead to extinction of capercaillie and black grouse populations.