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LIFE2002NAT/

PROJECT

Project title (max. 60 characters):

Conservation of wetlands in Ķemeri National Park, Latvia

The project will be implemented in the following country(ies):

Country(ies): **Latvia**

Administrative region(s).....

Expected starting date: **01.09.2002** ending date : **31.12.2006** duration in months: **52**

APPLICANT

Name: **Ķemeri National Park**Public Private Address: **"Meža māja", Ķemeri – Jūrmala, LV-2012, Latvia**Tel. N°: **+371-7730078**Fax N°: **+371-7730207**E-mail address: **gatis.pavils@kemberi.gov.lv**Contact person: **Gatis Pāvils**

PROJECT POLICY AREA

The project aims at the conservation of (choose only one category):

- NA1 proposed **Sites of Community Importance** (for EU only) or **sites of international importance** hosting habitats/species listed in the relevant resolutions of the Bern Convention (for candidate countries only);
- NA2 **Sites designated as Special Protection Areas** (for EU only) or **sites of international importance** hosting bird species listed in the relevant resolutions of the Bern Convention (for candidate countries only);
- NA3 one or more **endangered species of fauna and flora** Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive, Annex I of the Birds Directive (for EU and candidate countries) and Appendix I and II to the Bern Convention (for candidate countries only).

Herewith, the undersigned, declares the following:

- I am in the legal position to sign this statement on behalf of my institution/company;
- I specifically declare, I have carefully read the standard administrative provisions, annexed to the LIFE-Nature application file, to which I agree to conform in the implementation of the project, should it be financed.

Name of legal/statutory representative:

Ērika Kļaviņa

Title: Mrs

Function: Director

Date: 28.11.2005

Seal and Signature:

**SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT (ENGLISH VERSION)****Project title: Conservation of wetlands in Ķemeri National Park, Latvia**

Ķemeri National Park is a newly-established (1997) nature conservation area in Latvia, comprising 380 km² of diverse habitats of EU priority such as mire woods, black alder swamps, raised bogs, rich fens etc. About a half of the territory (19,500 ha) is directly targeted by the project. The territory of the park and the project area host rich populations of species listed in the Bern Convention and EC Birds and Habitats Directives, e.g., *Crex crex*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Porzana porzana*, *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Lynx lynx*, *Canis lupus* etc. The lake Kanjieris is designated as an internationally important wetland under Ramsar Convention and is an important site for migratory and nesting bird species. Ķemeri National Park is an Important Bird Area and CORINE site. The area holds about 30 habitats of Community importance listed in the Bern Convention and EC Habitats Directive. Due to such a high biodiversity, Ķemeri National Park will be proposed for designation as a potential NATURA 2000 site because it meets all its criteria.

In 2000-2001, with the support from the Danish Environmental Protection Agency, the nature protection (management) plan for the park was elaborated and its practical implementation will be necessary. This LIFE project will be the first step toward implementation of the management plan through specific management measures related to the on-site protection of valuable wetland areas within the park.

The **objective** of the project is to ensure long-term conservation of priority habitats and species of European importance included into the Bern Convention and Habitats and Birds Directives by implementing the nature conservation plan developed in close co-operation with all interested parties and to put into operation management schemes for different habitats, as specified below. Also, raising public awareness of nature conservation is another essential component of the project.

The following **tasks** will be fulfilled during the project:

- 1) Restoration of natural hydrological regime of the active raised bogs (4635 ha) influenced by drainage;
- 2) Purchase of private lands (163,2 ha of meadows including feeding / breeding habitats of *Crex crex* and *Aquila pomarina*) in order to ensure conservation of the most vulnerable habitats and/or using the incentive measures to ensure special management of their lands;
- 3) Restoration of 105 ha of the natural flood-plain meadow along the river Slampe;
- 4) Prevention of over-growing by scrubs and reeds of calcareous fens (1 ha) and hay meadows (311 ha), simultaneously maintaining habitats of bird species of EU importance (e.g. *Crex crex*) and regional and Latvian importance, requiring meadow vegetation;
- 5) Active management to conserve bird colonies at the Ramsar site – lake Kanjieris.

As a **result** of the project, which is the first step of the implementation of the management plan, the current high level of biodiversity will be kept. Also, the model for self-sustaining management will be established. In a long run, it will ensure that a big proportion of the total population of several endangered species and/or habitats is well preserved and serves as a pool for their further increase in numbers and range on the European scale.

**RESUME DU PROJET**

Titre du projet : Préservation des terres marécageuses du Parc National de Ķemeri, Lettonie

Le Parc National de Ķemeri est une zone de la préservation de la nature mise en place récemment (1997). Elle comprend 380 km² d'habitats différents reconnus par l'UE comme prioritaires, tels que les forêts bourbeuses, marais envahis par la végétation des aulnes, les marais, les marais enrichis etc. Presque la moitié du territoire est directement concernée par le projet. Le parc et la zone prévue par le projet abritent une abondante population des espèces qui figurent dans la Convention de Berne et dans les Directives concernant les oiseaux et les habitats : *Crex crex*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Porzana porzana*, *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Lynx lunx*, *Canis lupus* etc. Le lac Kaņieris est classé terre marécageuse d'importance internationale selon la Convention de Ramsar et un site important des oiseaux migrateurs et de nidification. Le Parc National de Ķemeri est une zone importante des oiseaux et un site CORINE. La zone comprend à peu près 30 habitats d'importance communautaire qui sont classées dans la Convention de Berne et dans les Directives de l'UE concernant les habitats. Grâce à sa diversité biologique importante, le Parc National de Ķemeri sera proposé pour être sélectionné en tant que site éventuel de NATURA 2000, car il répond à tous les critères avancés. En 2000 et 2000, avec le soutien de l'Agence de la protection de l'environnement du Danemark, le plan de la protection (gestion) de l'environnement du parc a été élaboré. La mise en place pratique du plan sera nécessaire. Le projet LIFE sera le premier pas vers la mise en application du plan de la gestion en utilisant les mesures spécifiques de la gestion liées à la protection sur le site des terres marécageuses du parc.

L'objectif du projet : assurer la préservation à long terme des habitats prioritaires des espèces d'importance européenne qui sont inclus dans la Convention de Berne et dans les Directives sur les habitats et sur les oiseaux, par la mise en application du plan de la préservation de la nature en coopération étroite de toutes les parties intéressées, ainsi que par la mise en application des schémas de la gestion concernant les habitats différents, comme précisé ci – dessous. La sensibilisation du large public à la nécessité de la préservation de la nature est aussi un élément important du projet.

Au cours de la mise en application du projet, les tâches suivantes seront accomplies :

- 1) restauration du régime naturel hydrologique des marais actifs (4635 hectares), déséquilibré à la suite du drainage ;
- 2) Achat des terrains privés (163,2 hectares de prairies, y compris les habitats de nidification / alimentation des *Crex crex* et *Aquila pomarina*) en vue d'assurer la préservation des habitats le plus menacés et/ou mettre en application des mesures stimulantes pour assurer une meilleure gestion de leurs terres ;
- 3) Restauration de 105 hectares des prairies planes inondées le long des côtes de la rivière Slampe ;
- 4) Prévention de l'envahissement par la végétation des roseaux et la jonchaie des marais calcaires (1 hectare) et des prairies (311 hectares), en même temps préservant les habitats des espèces des oiseaux d'importance européenne, régionale et nationale (p.ex. *Crex crex*) qui ont besoin de la végétation des prairies ;
- 5) gestion active en vue de préserver les colonies d'oiseaux sur le site Ramsar – le lac Kaņieris.

Le résultat du projet qui est le premier pas vers la mise en application du plan de la gestion est ce que la large diversité biologique actuelle sera maintenue. Ainsi que le modèle de gestion autosuffisant sera établi. Ce plan assurera la préservation de l'importante proportion de population totale des espèces en danger et/ou les habitats pour une longue période qui pourra ainsi servir de réserve pour leur augmentation future en nombre et en rang à l'échelle européenne.



MODIFIED: PROJECT FUNDING AND BUDGET BREAKDOWN

PROPOSED PROJECT FUNDING

Sources of direct financing + Applicant and partners' share of costs	Amount EURO	% of total project cost
1. Community contribution requested	990 908	75
2. Applicant's share of project costs	311 552	24
3. Partners' share of project costs	18 750	1
4. Co-financiers' contribution (other than EC)	-	-
TOTAL PROJECT COST	1 321 210	100

PROVISIONAL BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Budget item	Total costs EURO
1. Personnel	382 812
2. Travel	24 000
3. External assistance	461 807
4. Durable goods	183 612
5. Land purchase/lease	113 421
6. Consumable material	70 439
7. Other costs	21 660
8. Overheads	63 459
TOTAL	1 321 210



DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

<p>PROJECT OBJECTIVE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conservation and restoration of wetlands, flood-plain and hay meadows, and forests in Kemer National Park in order to ensure long-term conservation of priority habitats and species of European importance included into the Bern Convention and Habitats and Birds Directives. 2. Implementation of the park's management plan. 3. Raising environmental awareness of local inhabitants and general public.

Threat n°/name (ref. Form 11 or 13)	Actions (A1, B1,...)	Expected results
1 / desiccation of raised bog and black alder swamp	C1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restored hydrological regime in the bog • 5752 ha of bog with improved hydrological conditions and typical bog vegetation • hydrological monitoring in one of the biggest raised bogs in Europe
2 / deterioration of the natural system "river – floodplain meadow"	C3, C6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 105 ha of flood-plain meadows restored • high level of biodiversity
3 / over-growing of fens and meadows	C6, D1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 311 ha meadows with typical tall grass vegetation maintained • 1 ha with typical fen vegetation maintained • bird community typical for grasslands preserved
4 / over-growing of islands on the lake Kaçieris	C4-5, D3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stable or increasing population of waterfowl • increased breeding success of waterfowl
5 / lack of appropriate management	B1, C6, D1-D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appropriate management of 311 ha meadows
6 / lack of awareness in nature conservation	B1, E1, E3-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increased awareness of general public and local people in nature conservation issues • reduced interest conflicts with owners and creation of the positive attitude toward the park



DETAILS OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

Management plan for the park elaborated by the end of 2001 will be directly referred to during the LIFE project implementation.

Habitat and species inventories within the park have been carried out during the elaboration of the management plan. Necessary management actions are planned for each type of the habitat and species. Bird inventory was done in 1999 within the project on elaboration of the Latvian Bird Atlas. Therefore, the inventories have provided sufficient information for the purposes of this project. All the relevant species action plans will be referred to during the project implementation phase (e.g., that one for *Crex crex*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Botaurus stellaris*, *Cypripedium calceolus* etc.).

ACTION A.1:

Name of action: hydrological and engineering investigations

Description: Prior to tendering and implementing of engineering works related to restoration of hydrological regime, restoration of natural habitats and establishment of infrastructure (for Actions C1-5, E6) design, technical feasibility studies and impact studies will be carried out during the initial phase of the project. This action will provide us with the necessary information for realisation of actions C1-6.

Design and technical feasibility studies will be conducted to a degree allowing calculation of scope and cost of works planned as well as identifying any possible technical obstacle related to natural or technical conditions. The studies will serve as basis for tendering of the works to local subcontractors, and following be a part of the basis for supervising the works of the subcontractors. A detailed impact assessment will be conducted for all the activities planned under Actions C1-6. The assessment will focus on impacts on the target habitats and neighbouring areas stemming from changes in level of surface or ground water, changed run-off pattern, effects of building activities and socio-economic effects. Adverse effects foreseen will be assessed in relation to the increase in biodiversity gained, and proposals for amendment of negative impacts will be elaborated. In unlikely case if an action proves to have an undesirable impact on the local inhabitants or habitats, it will not be done and the budget will be re-distributed among the other actions.

Reasons why it is necessary: it is necessary for assessing environmental impact of non-recurring management actions as well as for the cost-efficient use of project funding

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: **X** Yes No Partially

Expected results: effective project functioning

Estimated cost of the action: 76 178 EURO



ACTION A.2:

Name of action: announcing Call for Tender for construction works

Description: Tender conditions will be elaborated based on the design studies under Action A1. Technical documentation will be prepared, advertisements will be placed into the local and national mass media for construction works within the project. Costs for construction works will not be so big to announce an international tender. Tenders will be evaluated by a commission established by the park.

Reasons why it is necessary: it is necessary for the cost-efficient use of project funding

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: effective project functioning

Estimated cost of the action: 6 000 EURO

PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF PART "A"

Action	1. Personnel	2. Travel	3. External assistance	4. Durable goods	5. Land purchase/ lease	6. Consumable material	7. Other costs	8. Overheads	TOTAL
A1	23 000	-	45 000	-	-	1 570	-	6 608	76 178
A2	4 000	-	-	-	-	1 000	1 000	-	6 000
Total costs, EURO	27 000	-	45 000	-	-	2 570	1 000	6 608	82 178



B. Purchase/lease of land and/or rights

ACTION B.1:

Name of action: land purchase

Description: meadows will be bought in Slampe River area with the total area 163,2 ha. Land purchase would be done after the independent evaluation in accordance with the following table:

Parcel No according to Appendix 14	Parcel in map (according to previous project proposal)	Area	Name	Price EUR per ha	Total price, EUR	Biological value of parcel
1	IV-1	95,8	Dunduri	700	67 060	Crex crex (Annex 1)
5	IV-6	41,8	Dunduri	700	29 260	Crex crex (Annex 1)
2	IV-2	21,7	Parupes	700	15 190	Crex crex (Annex 1)
3	IV-3	3,9	Parslas	547	2 133	Crex crex (Annex 1)

Differences in prices of land plots depend on their geographical position and availability;

The priority list of the lands to be purchased includes 163,2 ha of the feeding habitat of *Crex crex* and *Aquila pomarina* at Slampe meadows. Purchase of those lands and the appropriate management in the future by the Kemeru NP will ensure conservation of that territory and restoration of the natural habitat. State ownership in such lands allows to implement innovative approach in grazing – grazing with wild cattle (action C.6.).

In this area there is planned to implement action C.3. – Restoring natural riverbed of the river Slampe. Necessary prerequisite for this action is state owned land as such longterm changes of groundwater and surface water regime in privately owned land are not aloud by national legislation.

There is planned that grazing together with the renaturalisation of Slampe River will ensure favourable conditions for *Crex crex* and *Aquila pomarina*.

Lands will be purchased from private owners only. Lands bought will be registered on the name of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development, thus being state-owned. Kemeru National Park is a public body totally responsible for site protection, therefore, land purchase can be regarded as eligible. Land will not be purchased above the market value and the price of the deal would be confirmed by independent, certified land price estimates.

Reasons why it is necessary: wrong management or lack of it on the privately owned lands (Nr.5)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No **X** Partially

Expected results: effective conservation and necessary management of 163,2 ha meadows; reduced interest conflicts with owners and creation of the positive attitude toward the park.

Estimated cost of the action: 118 200 EURO



PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF PART "B"

Action	1. Personnel	2. Travel	3. External assistance	4. Durable goods	5. Land purchase/ lease	6. Consumable material	7. Other costs	8. Overheads	TOTAL
B1	-	-	2 279	-	113 421	500	2 000	-	118 200
Total costs, EURO	-	-	2 279	-	113 421	500	2 000	-	118 200



C. Non-recurring management

ACTION C.1:

Name of action: restore the hydrological monitoring system

Description: in 1947-1993, the meteorological/hydrological station worked at the northern edge of the Lielais Kemeru Bog, being a unique monitoring station in the raised bog. It has left numerous unattended, open boreholes around Great Kemeru bog – sources of dangerous pollution to the groundwater in bog area. Action C2 will change the groundwater level in Great Kemeru bog and there is needed to monitor these changes.

There is needed the assessment of past boreholes around the Lielais Kemeru bog, and mounting the caps on the open boreholes. Old boreholes should be tested in order to find out whether they are usable for continued groundwater monitoring. There is needed also development of new monitoring system for this unique hydrological system. The system will monitor the project's success (Action C2) and therefore it is a crucial part of the overall project operation. These activities will ensure constant monitoring and popularisation of the Kemeru Lielais Bog (5 500 ha) and the adjoining territories (EU habitats 7110*, 91DO* and 91E0*).

Action proposes to develop also visitor information boards near the entrance of popular visitors trail in Great Kemeru bog. It will educate the public about the bog ecosystem, their significance and bog restoration within the LIFE project as well as about the monitoring results (about the Actions C1, C2).

Reasons why it is necessary: desiccation (Nr.1)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: **X** Yes No Partially

Expected results: long-term hydrological monitoring in one of the biggest raised bogs in Europe to follow the results on restoration of natural hydrological regime.

Estimated cost of the action: 26 540 EURO

ACTION C.2:

Name of action: block drainage ditches and ensure access to the bog surroundings after raising water level

Description: Following detailed investigations under action A1 22 ditches around the Lielais Kemeru Bog will be blocked by building dams in order to decrease discharge of water from the swamp and the periphery of the bog, which will result in improved natural hydrological conditions of the area. Partly it is already happening because of the beaver activity in the area, which also dam the drainage ditches and create different habitats. This will be supplemented by artificial damming of those watercourses not dammed by beavers. Raising the level of forest roads (4,5 km) and repair of culverts will be necessary after blocking drainage ditches because the level of ground water will rise as a consequence of Action. The action is necessary in order to ensure accessibility to the area in the course and after the project implementation. Roads are used by the park's staff for supervision of the area – fire control, biological monitoring, visitor control etc. Therefore, accessibility of the area is an important part of the park's day-to-day operation.

Restoration of the natural hydrological regime of the bog is foreseen by the park's management plan and is essential for the project success. The action will be carried out provided that private lands in the outskirts of the project site are not negatively affected by the raised water



level. The changes in groundwater level around the bog would be monitored under the Action C1.

The potential impact on other adjoining private lands mentioned in the Action C2 is very unlikely to happen, because:

- 1) Kemer Bog and the adjoining territories are exclusively state-owned,
- 2) These lands are surrounded by a network of drainage ditches.

Reasons why it is necessary: raising water level (to prevent desiccation, Nr.1) will flood the roads if they stay at the present level

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: 5752 ha of raised bog (including 1022 ha of transition mires and 95 ha of degraded bog capable of restoration) with restored hydrological regime and as a consequence with typical bog flora and fauna. Hydrologically intact bog, simultaneously maintaining the necessary road infrastructure

Estimated cost of the action: 192 110 EURO

ACTION C.3:

Name of action: restore natural riverbed of the river Slampe

Description: meandering of the present riverbed at the western edge of the park will be done in the 2,1 km of the river's valley by digging and damming the present channelled riverbed and making artificial meanders to increase the length of the river in this part to 4,6 km. In the previous decades, the natural valley of the river was changed (straightened) by melioration in order to increase water discharge from the wet natural flood-plain meadows. Renaturalisation of the riverbed will improve hydrological regime of the area and adjacent lowland hay meadows bringing back the flood-plain ecosystem, which will be facilitated by natural grazing (C6). Restoration of the flood-plain meadows are directly aiming at restoration of the habitats suitable for nesting of the Corncrake *Crex crex*. At the moment, these areas are meliorated and transformed into agricultural lands. Restoration of the natural flood's impact in the Slampe meadows is likely to restore the lek of the Great Snipe *Gallinago media*. In the natural flood-plain meadows, also other species of the EC Bird Directive usually occur, e.g., the Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana*. Meadows are an important feeding habitat for 8-15 pairs of the Lesser-spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina* nesting in the Kemer NP.

Reasons why it is necessary: deterioration of the natural system "river-floodplain meadows" (Nr.2)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: high level of biodiversity in the restored floodplain meadows

Estimated cost of the action: 32 725 EURO



ACTION C.4:

Name of action: renewal of fish migration between the lake Kanieris and sea

Description: The current system of sluice gates, which is located on the 1 km long channel connecting the lake with the sea, is old (built in 1964) and needs improvements. Originally, it was built in order to regulate water level in the lake. Consecutive opening of sluice gates ensured the migration of fish between the lake and sea in late 1960ies – early 1970ies, until the system was broken.

Sluice mechanism will be reconstructed and improved – there would be changed the watergates, installed hydraulic lifting system and electronic steering system. Sluice gate would have programmeable regime of work which will allow to sustain the same level in Lake Kanieris during the bird breeding season as well as to provide migration of fish and other water fauna species through the gate system in migration periods. Fence will be built around the sluice gate and the pedestrian bridge will be arranged.

The new sluice will not only improve natural fish migration but also will maintain stable water level in the lake in order to ensure favourable nesting conditions for water birds which is a priority aim for this Ramsar site. Stable water level is crucial for a high nesting success of waterfow and a high survival rate of chicks. Fluctuations of the water level negatively affect also *Cladium mariscus* habitat in calcareous fens (EU habitat 7210*).

Day to day management of sluice gate would be performed by the tenants of Lake Kanieris boathouse. Since year 2000 the management of the only Lake Kanieris boathouse and boats is tendered through open bids. Kemerri National park elaborates rules for the operation of the boathouse services and the winner of the bid is managing public visits to the lake according to these requirements.

At the completion of the works of sluice gate reconstruction the agreement with tenant would be extended, to include the maintenance of the sluice gate as well. There would be no running expenses for park from maintenance of the sluice gate.

Kanieris is a shallow lagoon-type lake (average depth is 0.6 m, max – 1.8 m). > 50% of the lake is covered by the floating vegetation and reedbeds (EU habitat 3140-Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp.). The bottom of the lake is composed of both sand and mud, and dolomite.

Bird species of Annex 1 of the Birds Directive, breeding in Kanieris lake:

Slavonian grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	0-3 pairs
Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	15 pairs
Little bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	0-3 pairs
Marsh harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	10-15 pairs
Spotted crake	<i>Porzana porzana</i>	3-5 pairs
Little crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>	25-30 pairs
Common tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	50-75 pairs
Black tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	20-30 pairs

Action	1. Personnel	2. Travel	3. External assistance	4. Durable goods	5.	6. Consumable material	7. Other costs	8. Overheads	TOTAL
C4	6 000	-	124 420	58 062	-	7 000	660	-	196 142

Reasons why it is necessary: inappropriate water level changes facilitate over-growing and (Nr.4); cross-reference to actions A1 and D4



Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: lessened over-growing of islands and increased breeding success of waterfowl

Estimated cost of the action: 196 142 EURO

ACTION C.5:

Name of action: lower the level of dry land of 4 artificial islands on the lake Kaņieris

Description: the level of outer zone of the islands will be reduced in order to create vegetation typical for flood-plain meadows and to decrease denning possibilities for *Mustela vison*, which causes predation on waterfowl. The level of the islands will be shovelled off using a bulldozer. Islands can be approached by pontoons or simply through water when its level is low. As a result of the action the islands' level will be just about the water level in the lake Kaņieris, creating the most favourable conditions for nesting waterfowl if the constant water level is maintained by means of the sluice. External construction company will be contracted for the work.

Fish migratory way would be important for following fish species:

Pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>
Perch	<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>
Roach	<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>
Bream	<i>Abranis brama</i>
Ide	<i>Leuciscus idus</i>

Possibly also:

Pike-perch	<i>Stizostedion lucioperca</i>
Eel	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>

Reasons why it is necessary: over-growing (Nr.4)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: less over-growing of islands and a stable population of waterfowl

Estimated cost of the action: 15 770 EURO

ACTION C.6:

Name of action: natural grazing of the floodplain meadows by the river Slampe

Description: introduction of wild horses (*koniks*) and bovids will be done in one site of the park (see Map) in order to facilitate natural grazing of floodplain meadows. Ca. 6000 m of fence will be built around the meadows to prevent grazers from dispersal into agricultural lands. The area to be grazed by herbivores totals 105 ha. It is planned to start with 10 koniks (costs for koniks not included in project costs) and 15 wild-ranging cattle. The stock will be managed by the park in co-operation with project partner – WWF-Latvia.

Free-ranging grazers, present in the area all year round, will prevent over-growing of the meadows much more cost-effectively than having milk cattle or other livestock, which is



economically unprofitable at the moment. Also, they will facilitate renaturalisation of the floodplain meadows previously used for agriculture. Besides, presence of wild horses and cattle will attract visitors to the area and thus will promote development of tourism in the park, facilitating economic development of the region. Similar project is being carried out by WWF-Latvia in south-west of the country and it proved to be a successful method for meadow management in areas where interest of landowners in managing the meadows is low. In this case, meadows are too wet for agriculture. Free-ranging herbivores provide the best solution under such circumstances.

Grazing by means of wild-ranging konik horses and cattle is foreseen as a more subtle way of maintaining the natural state of a flood-plain meadow ensuring favourable conditions to the above-mentioned priority bird species. Mowing meadows for hay is inappropriate in most cases, as the grass typical for this habitat (mainly *Carex spp.*) reaches the best quality in the end of May – June, when mowing cannot be allowed due to the breeding season of ground-nesting birds. Owners or tenants are not interested to mow the hay later, as its quality decreases and, additionally, mowing conditions are bad (high soil humidity). However, in limited areas, hay mowing and scrub removal is left as the only possible way of managing the habitats in concern.

Reasons why it is necessary: deterioration of the natural system “river – floodplain meadows” (Nr.2)

Responsible for implementing it: Partner

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: 105 ha of grazed floodplain meadows; increased biodiversity

Estimated cost of the action: 55 707 EURO (Other costs (3 000 EUR) consist of veterinary service, and overheads – partners’ office and communication costs)

ACTION C.7:

Name of action: aerial photography of the territory

Description: aerophotographic data (scale 1 : 10 000) will be taken at the end of the project in order to monitor the success of the project implementation. Data will be presented both in the full-colour printouts and digital format. Consumables (215 EURO) include CDs for data storing and transportation for control measuring in the field.

Reasons why it is necessary: monitoring of project implementation

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: updated aerophotographic map of the territory, showing the effects of the management actions fulfilled

Estimated cost of the action: 31 215 EURO



PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF PART "C"

Action	1. Personnel	2. Travel	3. External assistance	4. Durable goods	5. Land purchase/ lease	6. Consumable material	7. Other costs	8. Overheads	TOTAL
C1	-	-	4 400	18 200	-	2 400	-	1 540	26 540
C2	38 000	-	114 000	24 900	-	14 350	-	860	192 110
C3	-	-	32 725	-	-	-	-	-	32 725
C4	6 000	-	124 420	58 062	-	7 000	660	-	196 142
C5	2 500	-	13 270	-	-	-	-	-	15 770
C6	14 476	-	8 280	18 750	-	8 700	3 000	2 501	55 707
C7	-	-	30 500	-	-	215	-	500	31 215
Total costs, EURO	60 976	-	327 595	119 912	-	32 665	3 660	5 401	550 209

**D. Recurring management****ACTION D.1:**

Name of action: remove reed and scrubs in the area of 66 ha of meadows and calcareous fens

Description: 66 ha of meadows and fens (not grazed or mowed currently) will be cleared from reed and scrubs in order to prevent over-growing of this habitat type. It will be done both manually (in vulnerable places) and by special mowing equipment by local workers sub-contracted in the end of summer, thus avoiding harmful effects on breeding birds. These meadows are an important habitat for two priority bird species - breeding habitat for *Crex crex* and feeding habitat for *Aquila pomarina*.

Action would be discontinued in a case if agri-environment support through Ministry of Agriculture for such activities would be provided.

Reasons why it is necessary: over-growing (Nr.3)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No **X** Partially

Expected results: 66 ha of typical meadow and fen vegetation

Estimated cost of the action: 18 620 EURO

ACTION D.2:

Name of action: mowing the hay in the area of 140 ha of meadow

Description: 140 ha of meadows will be mowed in the outer part of the park where the main agricultural areas are concentrated (see D2 in the Map). Privately owned lands will be targeted. Farmers (landowners) will be sub-contracted for performing these activities which will be done in the end of summer to avoid harmful effects on land-nesting birds (e.g., *Crex crex*). Meadows are also the main feeding habitat for *Aquila pomarina*, and preventing over-growing will facilitate conservation of this species. Besides, farmers will be informed about the available EU financing for similar activities and assisted in applying for EU financing for carrying out necessary management activities in the future.

Action would be discontinued in a case if agri-environment support through Ministry of Agriculture for such activities would be provided.

Reasons why it is necessary: over-growing (Nr. 3)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: **X** Yes No Partially

Expected results: 140 ha of typical meadow vegetation and typical bird community

Estimated cost of the action: 4 000 EURO



ACTION D.3:

Name of action: remove reed and scrubs from the islands on the lake Kaçieris

Description: reeds and scrubs will be removed from 12.2 ha on 7 islands on the lake Kaçieris. These islands are important nesting sites for waterfowl and gull colonies, and their over-growing decreases bird diversity and numbers on the lake. Therefore, clearing of the islands is important for waterfowl conservation. It will be done manually, using the shrub-cutter, once a year, in the autumn when the birds' breeding season is over. Organic material removed will be burnt on the spot.

Reasons why it is necessary: over-growing (Nr. 4)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: stable population of waterfowl as a result of improved habitat conditions

Estimated cost of the action: 17 960 EURO

Actions of category D will be carried out on state-owned lands. Most of them target at habitat (meadow or lake) management, and therefore, are directly linked with conservation of such EU priority bird species as *Crex crex*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Botaurus stellaris* etc. It is explained in more details in forms 13 and 14.

All actions of recurring management will be continued also after termination of LIFE project by the staff of Kaçmeri National Park using the park's own budget. For management of privately owned meadows if applicable, the park will assist the farmers in applying for subsidies.

ACTION D.4:

excluded



PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF PART "D"

Action	1. Personnel	2. Travel	3. External assistance	4. Durable goods	5. Land purchase/ lease	6. Consumable material	7. Other costs	8. Overheads	TOTAL
D1	11 000	-	-	4 000	-	3 620	-	-	18 620
D2	-	-	4 000	-	-	-	-	-	4 000
D3	14 200	-	-	2 200	-	1 560	-	-	17 960
Total costs, EURO	25 200	-	4 000	6 200	-	5 180	-	-	40 580



E. Public awareness and dissemination of results

One of the main functions of the administration of Kemer National Park is public education in nature conservation issues. Since the very establishment of the park, production of educational materials started. Full colour leaflets with the general info and a map of the park were produced. Later on, development of nature trails as well as black-and-white leaflets with their description was carried out. Within the project on elaboration of the management plan, several public hearings were held.

During the LIFE project it is planned to elaborate public awareness part, informing the public on the project-related issues as well as producing general info like the video meant to the broad audience of the park's visitor centre. All public awareness activities will show acknowledgement to LIFE support.

ACTION E.1:

Name of action: create a home page of the park and the project

Description: the current home page of the Kemer National Park (www.kemer.gov.lv) will be revised, updated and maintained. There will be a separate section devoted to the LIFE-Nature project, including project outline, maps, photos and reports on the ongoing activities.

Reasons why it is necessary: lack of awareness in nature conservation (Nr.6)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No **X** Partially

Expected results: increased awareness of general public in nature conservation issues and activities of the park

Estimated cost of the action: 8 560 EURO

ACTION E.2:

Name of action: prepare the layman's report

Description: the layman's report (200 copies) targeted at broader audience will be prepared after the end of all the project activities. It is a shorter and more popular version of the final report, which includes the brief overview of the whole project scope (activities, results etc.) and will be distributed between EC institutions, national and foreign nature conservation organisations.

Reasons why it is necessary: reporting procedure

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary



Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: final project report and laymen's report

Estimated cost of the action: 10 000 EURO (consumables include 5000 EUR for publishing costs)

ACTION E.3:

Name of action: produce a video for visitors of the information centre about nature conservation and rare and endangered species in the park

Description: two video films and short advertisement clip in BETACAM SX format will be produced, using the existing material (available from the park's library) and filming new material in order to increase environmental awareness in the public and to show the rare species which are otherwise hardly to be observed in the wild. Filming new material and finalising the film will be done by the Latvian crew of the Environmental Film Studio. Two different versions will be produced – 10-15 min. presentation film (200 VHS copies), showing the main values of the area, and 60 min. film (150 VHS copies), aiming at protected species and habitats. Copies of the films will be distributed for the use in the visitors' centre, on national TV and other protected areas. Videos will be BETACAM quality and acknowledgement to LIFE-Nature / promotion of NATURA 2000 will be included on the film.

Reasons why it is necessary: lack of awareness in nature conservation (Nr.6)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: increased awareness of general public and local people in nature conservation issues

Estimated cost of the action: 41 890 EURO

ACTION E.4:

Name of action: produce DVD with info on the park and the project

Description: DVD containing information on the park and the LIFE project will be produced (200 copies). It will include materials prepared during action E3 and will be targeted at the broad audience including other protected areas, students, general public, relevant EU institutions etc.

Reasons why it is necessary: lack of awareness in nature conservation (Nr.6)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: increased awareness of general public in nature conservation issues and



activities of the park

Estimated cost of the action: 12 500 EURO

ACTION E.5:

excluded

ACTION E.6:

Name of action: establish a field station near river Slampe

Description: a small management centre aimed at meadow management (mainly supervision of free-ranging grazers) will be built in the flood-plain meadows near river Slampe. It will be a small structure of beams demonstrating environmentally friendly techniques. A small watching tower also will be built in order to facilitate supervision of grazing animals and renaturalised river Slampe. Besides entirely management goals it will also be used as a reference point for ecological education serving as a local information centre. That includes facilities appropriate for visitors with an exhibition about the project and territory's management supported by LIFE-Nature, information boards and watching tower.

Reasons why it is necessary: lack of appropriate management of different habitat types (Nr.5) and lack of awareness (Nr.6)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: effective management of the floodplain meadows, improved visitor infrastructure, improved informing about the Slampe river renaturalisation project and as a consequence increased awareness of the public

Estimated cost of the action: 31 030 EURO

ACTION E.7:

Name of action: media work

Description: in the course of project implementation there will be a need for public information work, communicating project activities to broader audience and presenting information centres established as a part of the project. Also, gala presentation of the videos produced within the project will be carried out under this action.

Reasons why it is necessary: lack of awareness in nature conservation (Nr.6)

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially



Expected results: increased awareness of general public in nature conservation issues and project activities

Estimated cost of the action: 29 630 EURO

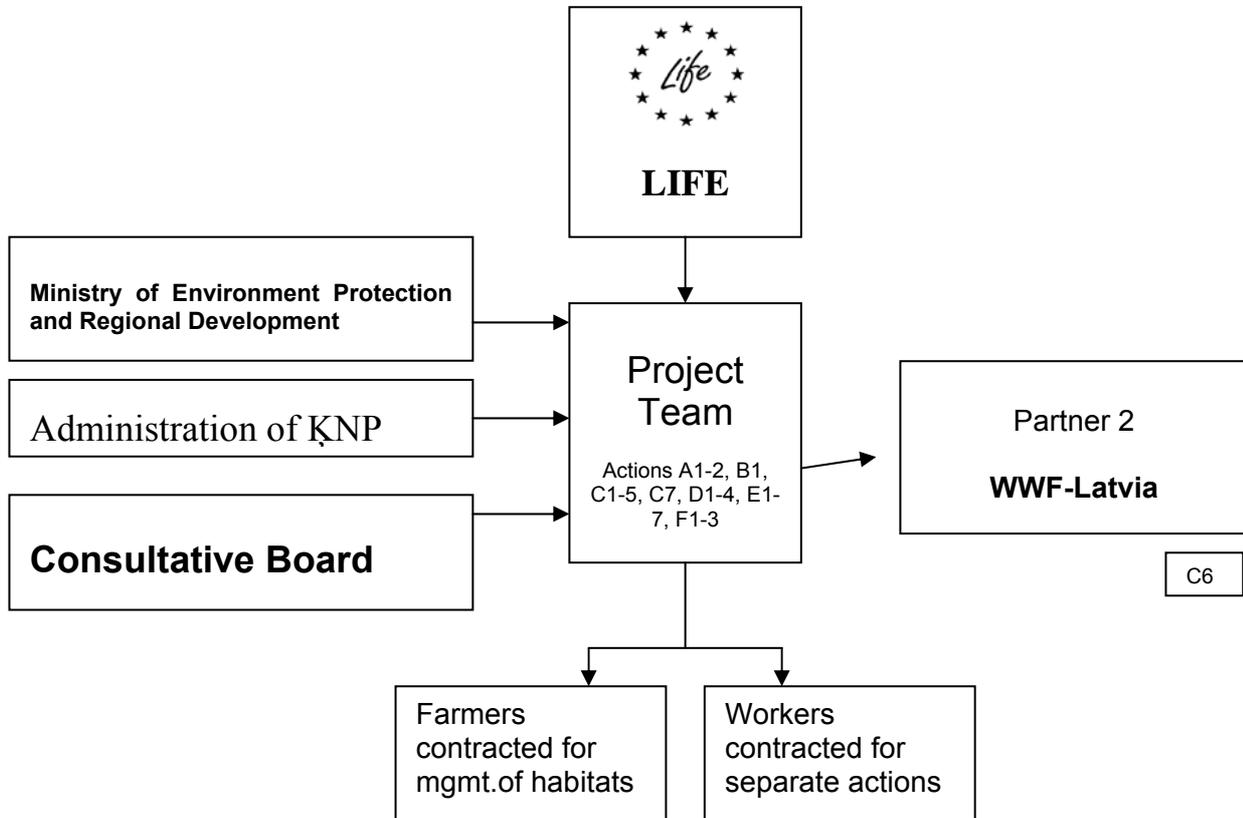
PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF PART "E"

Action	1. Personnel	2. Travel	3. External assistance	4. Durable goods	5. Land purchase/ lease	6. Consumable material	7. Other costs	8. Overheads	TOTAL
E1	7 000	-	1 560	-	-	-	-	-	8 560
E2	4 000	-	1 000	-	-	5 000	-	-	10 000
E3	-	-	34 500	2 500	-	2 560	-	2 330	41 890
E4	-	-	11 500	-	-	1 000	-	-	12 500
E6	-	-	8 000	21 600	-	1 430	-	-	31 030
E7	12 000	-	1 500	14 400	-	1 130	-	600	29 630
Total costs, EURO	23 000	-	58 060	38 500	-	11 120	-	2 930	133 610



F. Overall project operation and monitoring

Project structure will be the following:



ACTION F.1:

Name of action: Establishment of project office and administration

Description: Project office will be situated in the main office building of the administration of Kemer National Park, thereby facilitating close co-ordination between the project and the overall park administration. Establishment of the project office will include some minor renovations, purchase of office equipment. The recruitment and contracting of the project's core staff will be done during this initial stage of the project. The procurement of vehicles and other durable goods necessary for project implementation will also be undertaken early in the project period. A project procedures manual, setting out the project organisation and the day-to-day management procedures (both technical and financial), will be prepared during the first two months of the project.

Reasons why it is necessary: it is necessary for effective overall project administration and operation

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: effective project structure

Estimated cost of the action: 8 034 EURO



ACTION F.2:

Name of action: project administration

Description: The day-to-day co-ordination and management of the project will be the responsibility of the Project Manager, who will work in close co-operation with the park's Director. As shown in the project structure (Form 21), the Project Manager will be assisted by the Project Secretary and Project Co-ordinator, supervising all the other project staff, overseeing the quality of the work and ensuring efficient project implementation according to the planned work schedule.

The periodic review of the overall technical and financial progress of the project will be provided by a Project Steering Committee. The membership of this PSC is expected to be the same as that for the wider KNP Project funded by DANCEE. This will ensure that all key stakeholders are involved at a high level in the project and it will also help ensure closer co-ordination between the two projects.

Experiences and lessons on wetland conservation will also be obtained during consultations and information exchange with other protected areas in Latvia, having similar habitats and facing the same problems, e.g., Engure Nature Park and Teici Nature Reserve or Pape area (WWF-Latvia's project on natural grazing).

Internal monitoring of project activities will be undertaken in a systematic manner, by the project administration, covering technical and financial components. This will specifically include the monitoring of progress of sub-contractors, based upon clear and concise contractual agreements which specify the responsibilities of the parties involved, the scope of work, inputs, outputs, timing and budgets. Independent auditing of the project will also go under this action (15'000 EURO).

Action F.2 includes personnel costs of actions B1, C1-5, C7, D1, D3-4, E1, E3-6 and F1-2.

The final project report will be prepared by the end of all project activities according to the requirements of Administrative Provisions.

Reasons why it is necessary: it is necessary for overall project operation

Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

Expected results: effective project operation

Estimated cost of the action: 357 602 EURO

ACTION F.3:

Name of action: project monitoring

Description:

In order to identify the project's specific impacts and outcomes, the project administration will establish, implement and report on the monitoring of both the hydrological and habitat changes during the project period. The collection of available hydrological data and the early restoration of the meteorological station will be important for establishment of baseline information and the monitoring of hydrological changes. Habitat changes will also be monitored using on-site photographs taken in order to compare the state of habitats before and after management. Simultaneously, biological monitoring of species and habitats will be carried out and linked to the related management measures.

Reasons why it is necessary: it is necessary for overall project completion



Responsible for implementing it: Beneficiary

Action will be sub-contracted: Yes No Partially

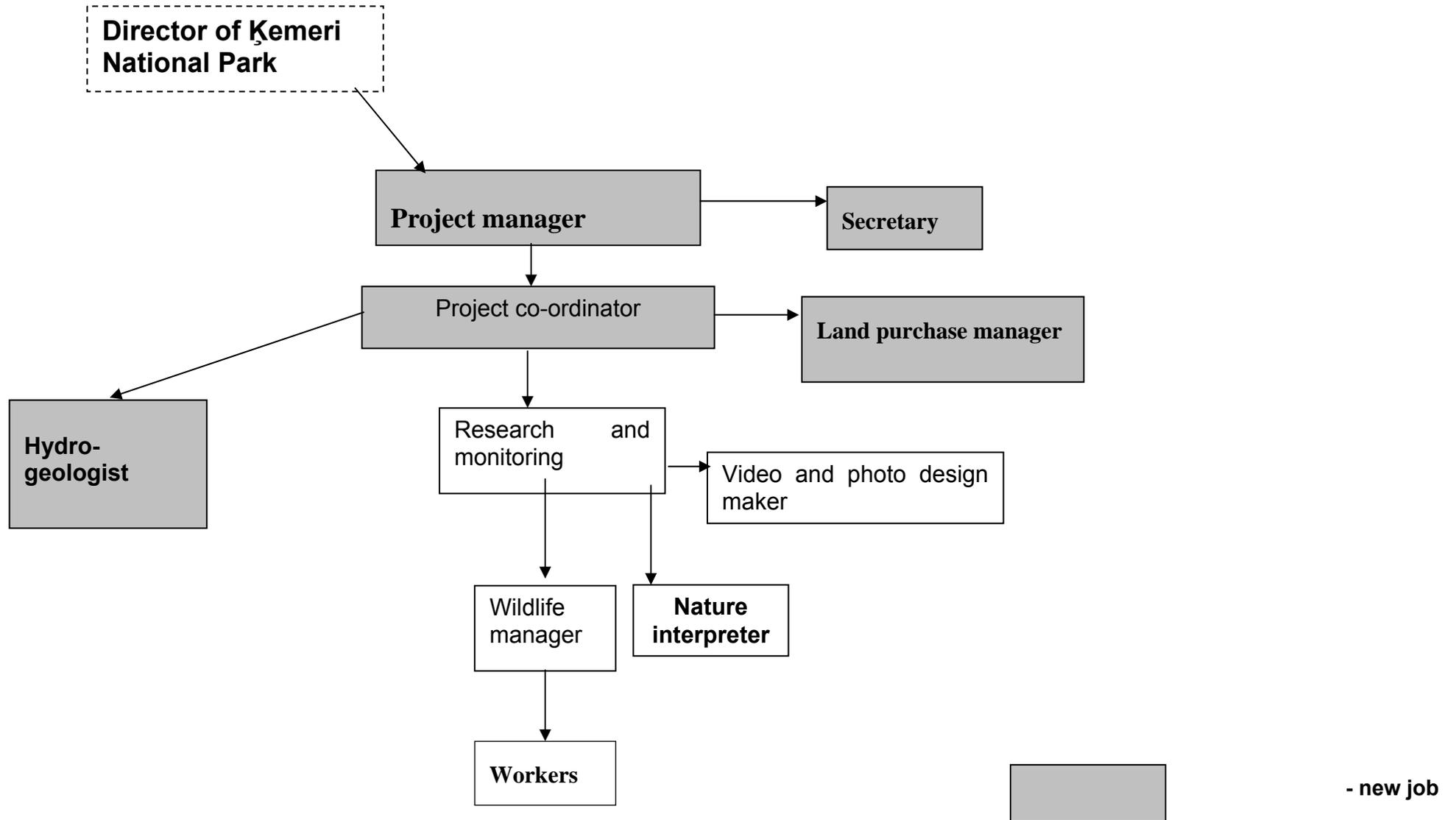
Expected results: successive project implementation

Estimated cost of the action: 30 797 EURO

PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF PART "F"

Action	1. Personnel	2. Travel	3. External assistance	4. Durable goods	5. Land purchase/ lease	6. Consumable material	7. Other costs	8. Overheads	TOTAL
F1	1 014	-	-	-	-	500	-	6 520	8 034
F2	225 622	24 000	16 780	19 000	-	15 200	15 000	42 000	357 602
F3	20 000	-	8 093	-	-	2 704	-	-	30 797
Total costs, EURO	246 636	24 000	24 873	19 000	-	18 404	15 000	48 520	396 433

Project team structure



REVISED: SUMMARY OF DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS

Product	Name or n° of reference action	Deadline
KNP home page with highlights on the project established	E1	August 2005
Layman's report	E2	December 2006
Video about nature conservation in the KNP	E3	September 2006
DVD produced	E4	December 2006
Final report	F2	December 2006

ACTIVITY REPORTS FORESEEN

1 st progress report	30.09.2003
2 nd progress report	30.11.2004
Interim report	15.02.2006
Final report	31.03.2007

REVISED: SUMMARY OF PROJECT MILESTONES

Milestone	Name or n° of reference action	Deadline
Project office arranged	F1	September 2002
Project staff contracted	F1	December 2002
Meadows fenced	C6	December 2004
Technical investigations finished	A1	May 2006
River Slampe meandered	C3	May 2005
Call for Tender announced	A2	May 2006
Free-ranging horses and cows released	C6	September 2005
Purchase of land completed	B1	September 2005
Sluice reconstructed	C4	September 2006
Greater Kemer Bog monitoring system established	C1	October 2006
Level of 4 artificial islands on the lake Kaņieris is decreased	C5	February 2006
Field station by river Slampe built	E6	June 2006
Aerial photos of the territory taken	C7	June 2006
Drainage ditches blocked; culverts roads repaired	C2	September 2006
Meadows and fens cleaned from reeds and scrubs	D1	Continuous, 22 ha/year
Reeds and scrubs removed from islands of Kaņieris	D3	Continuous, 12 ha/year
Media work	E7	Continuous
Administration of the project	F2	Continuous
Project monitoring	F3	Continuous

REVISED: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

OTHER SOURCE OF FUNDING SUMMARY (other than EC)

Beneficiary	Amount of co-funding in EURO
Ķemeri National Park	311 552
Partner	Amount of Co-funding in EURO
WWF-Latvia	18 750
Co-financier	Amount of Co-funding in EURO

DETAILED PROVISIONAL BUDGET

Category →	A (Form 16)	B (Form 17)	C (Form 18)	D (Form 19)	E (Form 20)	F (Form 21)	Total costs, EURO
Budget item ↓							
1. Personnel	27 000	-	60 976	25 200	23 000	246 636	382 812
2. Travel	-	-	-	-	-	24 000	24 000
3. External assistance	45 000	2 279	327 595	4 000	58 060	24 873	461 807
4. Durable goods	-	-	119 912	6 200	38 500	19 000	183 612
5. Land purchase / lease	-	113 421	-	-	-	-	113 421
6. Consumable material	2 570	500	32 665	5 180	11 120	18 404	70 439
7. Other costs	1 000	2 000	3 660	-	-	15 000	21 660
8. Overheads	6 608	-	5 401	-	2 930	48 520	63 459
TOTAL	82 178	118 200	550 209	40 580	133 610	396 433	1 321 210

REVISED: PROJECT EXECUTIVE BODIES

APPLICANT:

Name	Ķemeri National Park
Responsible for the following actions:	A1-2, B1, C1-5, C7, D1-3, E1-7, F1-3
Provisional cost of these actions (EURO)	1 265 503
Percentage of total project cost (%)	96

PARTNER:

Name	WWF-Latvia	
Address:	Elizabetes iela, 8-4, Rīga, LV-1010, Latvia	
Tel:	+371-7505644	Fax: +371-7505651 E-mail: imednis@wwf.org.lv
Responsible for the following actions:	C6	
Provisional cost of these actions (EURO)	55 707	
Percentage of total project cost (%)	4	

**INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANT
AND THE PARTNERS****Applicant: Kõmeri National Park**

Kõmeri National Park is a governmental institution established by the special law in 1997 and working under the supervision of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development. The administration of the National Park is responsible for nature conservation and management of the park's territory especially referring to nature areas. Its functions include:

- co-ordination of territorial planning with nature conservation requirements;
 - inspection in all the territory of the park;
 - promotion of sustainable and biodiversity-friendly forestry;
 - facilitation of scientific research;
 - public education, organisation of workshops and nature trails;
 - promotion of ecotourism development;
 - environmental monitoring.
- The staff of the national park (19 people in total) has sufficient expertise in nature conservation, forestry, tourism, public relations and other issues related to the management of protected areas. Thus, the administration of the park is the most competent authority for the project's implementation.

Excluded: Partner1: Stichting Ark

Partner 2: WWF-Latvia

WWF is one of the world's largest and most experienced independent conservation organisations with almost five million supporters and a global network active in more than 90 countries

WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. by:

- conserving the world's biological diversity;
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable;
- promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

PROVISIONAL INFORMATION ON PERSONNEL

Professional Category	Number of persons	Category A-F	Type of contract (permanent staff, long term contract, scholarship, etc)	Hourly rate (a)	Number of working hours assigned to the project (b)	Amount (c) (c = a x b)	New jobs created (in terms of full-time equival.)
Project manager	1	F2	Long term contract	6,20	8.700	53.882	1
Administrative staff	1	F2	Long term contract	5,70	8.789	50.042	1
	1	F2	Long term contract	4,50	1000	4.490	0,4
	1	F2	Long term contract	4,20	2.100	8.790	0,9
Graduate technical	7	A1-2, C4, E1-2, E7, F2-3	Permanent staff	4,20	30.715	129.003	-
Researchers	5	F2	Short term contract	4,50	1 333	6 000	0,2
	3	A1	Short term contract	7,00	1 000	7.000	0,1
Non-graduate	1	F2	Long term contract	3,20	2.016	6.451	0,7
Workmen	8	C2, C6, D1, F1	Short term contract	3,00	12.651	37.953	1,6
	5	C2; C5; D1	Permanent staff	2,85	12.105	34.500	-
Other (specify)	1	C6	Long term contract	3,20	2.418	7.737	0,9
Secretariat Book-keeper	1	F2	Long term contract	4,20	4 350	18.222	0,5
	1	F2			4.470	18.742	0,5
TOTAL						382 812	7,8

PROVISIONAL INFORMATION ON DURABLE GOODS TO BE PURCHASED

Category	Action n° (C.1, D.2...)	Description of item	Estimated Cost (EURO)
Infrastructure and buildings			
Mechanical equipment, sluice gate	C4	1	58 062
Field station "River Slampe"	E6	1	21 600
Information boards, Great Kemer bog	C1	3	3 000
Equipment			
4x4 vehicle	C1	1	15 200
PCs and programs	F2	4 (compl.)	7 900
Colour laser printer	F2	1	2 500
Software extensions ArcView	F2	2 programs	6 100
Digital camera with accessories	F2	1	1 200
4x4 vehicle with a loader	C2	1	16 900
Chain saws	D1	4	4 000
All terrain vehicle (ATV) with accessories	C2	1	8 000
Additional tires for the cars	F2	3 (compl)	1 300
Boats	D3	5	2 200
Server and software	E7	1	3 400
Video projector	E7	1	9 500
Screen	E7	1	1 500
Radio microphone	E3	1	2 500
15 free-ranging cattle	C6	25	18 750
TOTAL			183 612

4x4 vehicles are the true necessity for the area because many forest roads are hardly accessible by other vehicles. The majority of project activities are planned in the core zone of the park and to ensure successful project implementation, such vehicles are crucial.