

Conservation values, current status and nature conservation issues of the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe

Agenda

Date: October 21, 2025, 9:00-17:00 (EEST)

**Venue: Conference Hall of the Centre of Ethnic and Rural Green Tourism and
Family Leisure “Frumushika-Nova”, Borodino Territorial Community
Bolgrad district, Odesa Oblast**

Format: in-person

Conservation values, current status and nature conservation issues of the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe

October 21, 2025, 9:00-17:00 | Ethno Village Frumushika-Nova, Odesa Oblast

Background

This workshop is one of nine capacity-building events organized as part of the World Bank-led activities under EU4Environment Program sub-component 4.1: Support to protect biodiversity and natural ecosystems, aiming to advance the establishment of the Emerald Network and improve the management of the Emerald sites in Ukraine.

This sub-component includes technical assistance to relevant Ukrainian counterparts focused on strengthening the methodological capacities for ensuring the long-term survival of species and habitats listed in Resolutions of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention). The work is focused on developing methodological guidelines for assessing anthropogenic (including military) impacts and methodological guidelines for preparing management plans for Emerald sites in line with the European standards and best international practices.

Objectives

A capacity-building workshop will raise awareness on Ukraine's commitments under the Bern Convention, focusing on:

- conservation values of the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe and their importance for the sustainable development of the local community,
- threats affecting flora and fauna species, natural habitats and Emerald site,
- the setting of conservation goals to ensure the preservation and restoration of species and habitats.

This event is aimed at familiarizing participants with the conservation values of the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe and support a joint determination of the main conservation goals.

Organizers

The workshop is organised by the World Bank jointly with the international consulting company Particip and NGO Rewilding Ukraine, implementing activities under sub-component 4.1.

Participants

Representatives of the Odesa Regional State Administration, local authorities and self-government bodies (village heads), the State Environmental Inspectorate, the Municipal Police, the National Police, media, the agricultural sector - landowners and land users, farmers, land managers, hunters, and teachers.

Practical Information

The workshop will be held in the in-person format in the Conference Hall of the Centre of Ethnic and Rural Green Tourism and Family Leisure "Frumushika-Nova", Borodino Territorial Community, Bolgrad district, Odesa Oblast.

About EU4Environment

Since 2018, the “European Union for Environment” (EU4Environment) Action has helped the Eastern Partnership countries preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being, by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts. The programme was funded by the European Union and principally implemented over the 2019-2024 period by OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank. Over 2025-2026 period, the World Bank will finalise the implementation of programme's Result 4 area.

ПОРЯДОК ДЕННИЙ

Time	Item
9:00-9:15	<p><i>Registration, welcome coffee</i></p> <p>Moderator: Igor Studennikov, Project Expert; Fundraising and Admin Officer, Rewilding Ukraine.</p>
9:15-9:30	<p><i>Opening remarks.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Igor Studennikov, Project Expert; Fundraising and Admin Officer, Rewilding Ukraine. Ivan Küsse, Chairman of Budjak Borough Council.
9:30-9:45	<p><i>A brief overview of the requirements of the Bern Convention and Ukrainian legislation regarding the designation and management of Emerald sites.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viktor Demchenko, Project Management Expert; Deputy Director for Research, Institute of Marine Biology, NAS of Ukraine.
9:45-10:00	<p><i>Tarutynskyi Steppe as an Emerald site and Nature-Reserve Fund site of Ukraine.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viktor Demchenko, Project Management Expert; Deputy Director for Research, Institute of Marine Biology, NAS of Ukraine.
10:00-10:30	<p><i>Conservation values of the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe: natural habitats and flora species of Resolutions No. 4 and 6 of the Bern Convention, their status, spatial distribution and conservation issues.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viktor Shapoval, Project Expert; Director, Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve, NAAS of Ukraine.
10:30-10:45	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>
10:45-11:15	<p><i>Conservation values of the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe: fauna species of Resolution No. 6 of the Bern Convention, their status, spatial distribution and conservation problems.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oleksandr Bronskov, Project Expert; Head of the Research Department, Meotida National Nature Park.
11:15-11:30	<p><i>Key factors affecting the status of flora and fauna species and habitats; assessing their impact and nature conservation issues (interactive session).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oleg Diakov, Project Technical Advisor; Executive Director, Rewilding Officer, Rewilding Ukraine.
11:30-12:15	<p><i>The role of local authorities, owners and users of land plots and natural resources in preserving conservation values of the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe (discussion).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oleg Diakov, Project Technical Advisor; Executive Director, Rewilding Officer, Rewilding Ukraine.

12:15-13:00	<p><i>Defining and discussing the conservation goals for the Emerald site Tarutynskyi Steppe (interactive session).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Viktor Demchenko, Project Management Expert; Deputy Director for Scientific Work, Institute of Marine Biology, NAS of Ukraine.
13:00-14:00	<p><i>Lunch</i></p>
14:00-16:00	<p><i>Field trip to the enclosure for the adaptation and reproduction of steppe animals in the Tarutynskyi Steppe local landscape sanctuary. This field trip is aimed at familiarizing participants with preserved and disturbed steppe, wetland, and forest habitats, an integrated approach to the preservation and restoration of species and habitats, in particular through the reintroduction of key steppe animals, examples of sustainable natural resource use and prevention of wildfires.</i></p>
16:00-17:00	<p><i>Wrap-up and closing remarks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ivan Küsse, Chairman of Budjak Borough Council.• Oleg Diakov, Project Technical Advisor; Executive Director, Rewilding Officer, Rewilding Ukraine.
