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України



Природно-
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Restoration of indigenous steppe natural habitats

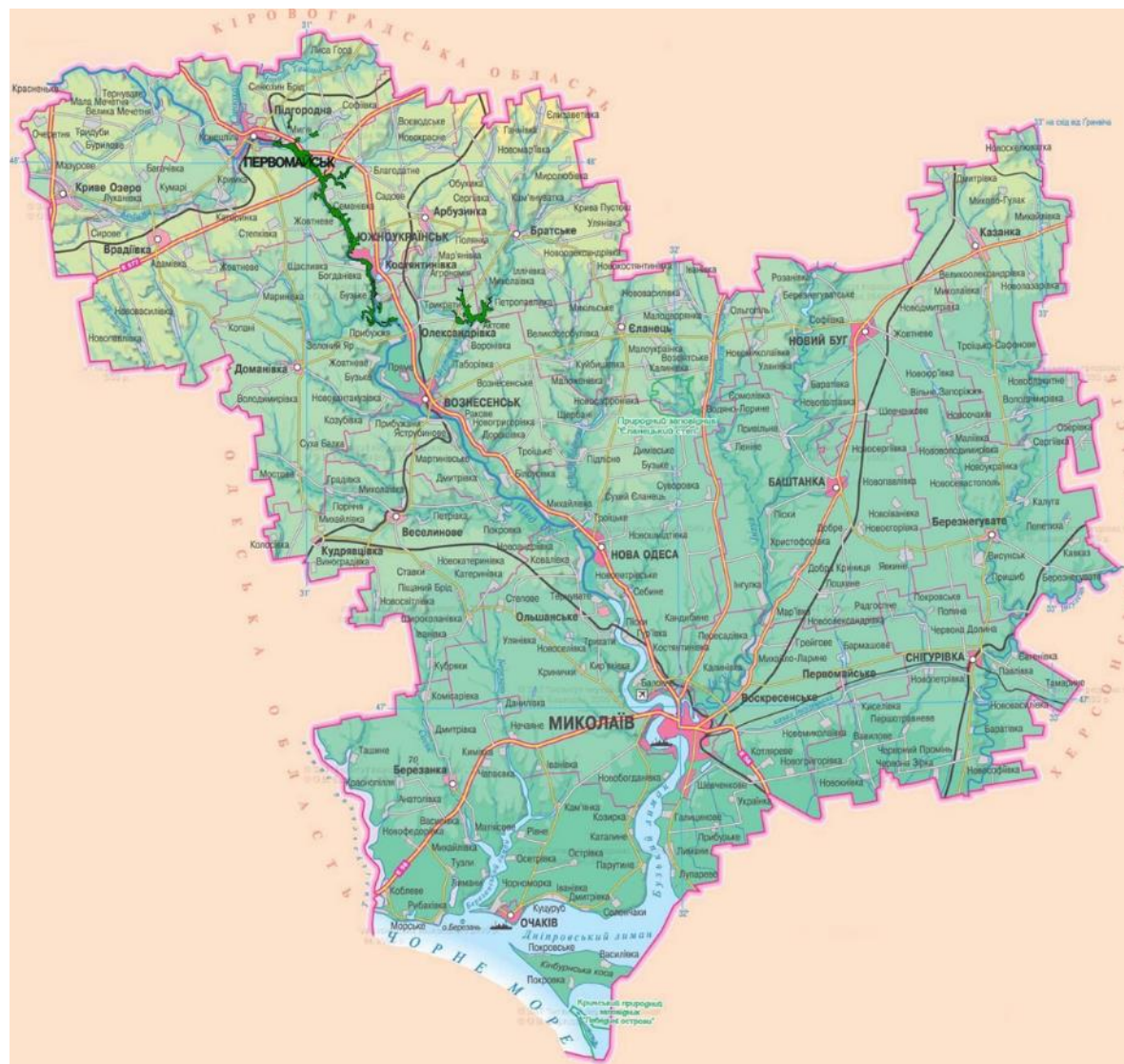
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Cooperation for Nature: Implementation of the Steppe Habitat Restoration Component within the LIFE Project

Within the framework of the project of the European Union's LIFE program "Conservation of Natural Heritage for Life in Ukraine - CoNaturLIFE Ukraine", initiated by the Czech Nature Conservation Agency, a component of restoration of indigenous steppe natural habitats (biotopes) is being implemented jointly with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, in particular on the territory of the "Buzky Gard" National Nature Park.



Location diagram “Buzkyi Gard” National Nature Park



The park is located within 2 administrative districts of Mykolaiv region

Its territory is part of 2 urban, 2 settlement, 3 rural territorial communities

The park includes tracts of 2 forestry units

There are 23 settlements with a total population of over 130 thousand people near the park



The total area of the National Nature Park is 6138 hectares

One of the values of the "Buzkyi Gard" NNP is steppe areas and petrophyte complexes - places of concentration of rare species of flora and fauna. This applies to the habitats of EUNIS Annex I of Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention from group E (Grasslands and lands dominated by forbs, mosses or lichens):

E1.11 Euro-Siberian rock debris swards,
E1.22 R4-Arid subcontinental steppic grassland,
E1.23 R4-Meso-xerophile subcontinental meadow-steppes.



At the same time, in the steppe areas, in conditions of a sharp decrease in pasture load over the past decades, there has been an active growth of shrubs. Such an invasion of shrubs into grassy groups in European countries is considered one of the most powerful factors of their degradation and requires the introduction of special measures.

Regulated grazing, mowing, physical or chemical methods of destroying shrubs and trees to preserve or restore meadow and steppe vegetation are used in other European countries, mainly in the territories of the NATURA2000 network.

The project proposes the restoration of steppe, meadow, wetland and other anthropogenically modified natural landscapes, the creation and restoration of hayfields and pastures, and the implementation of measures to restore indigenous natural complexes in protected areas.



Condition of Steppe Areas as of March 10, 2025



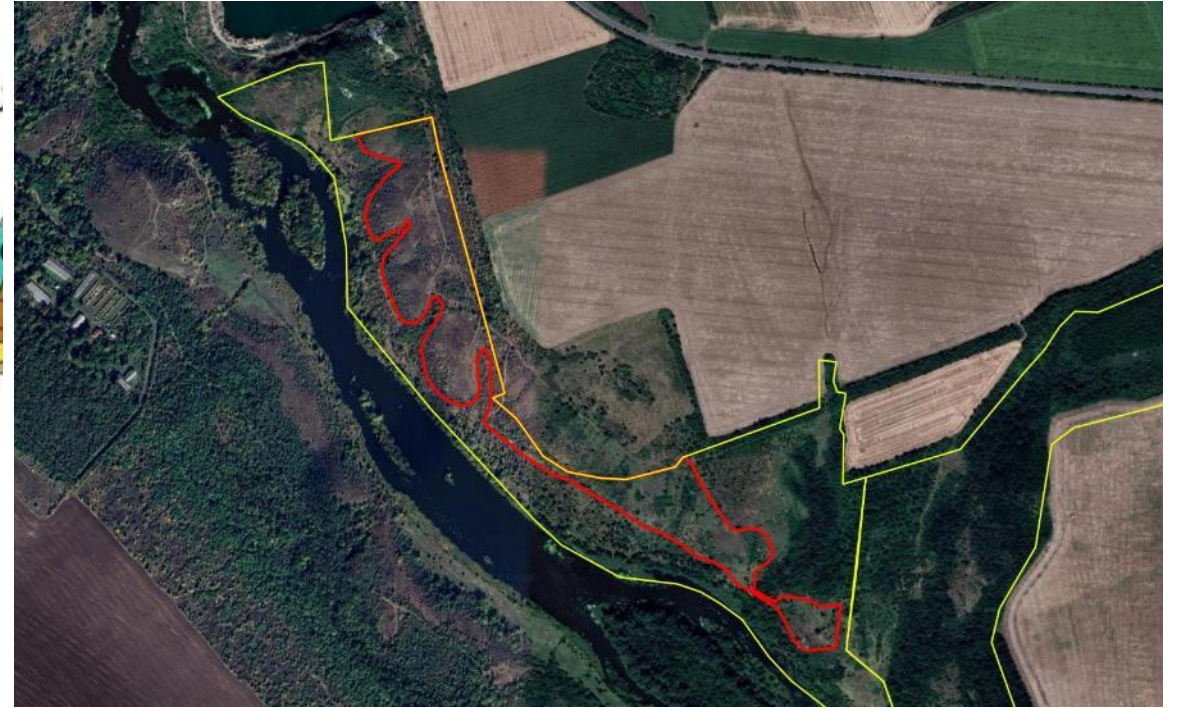
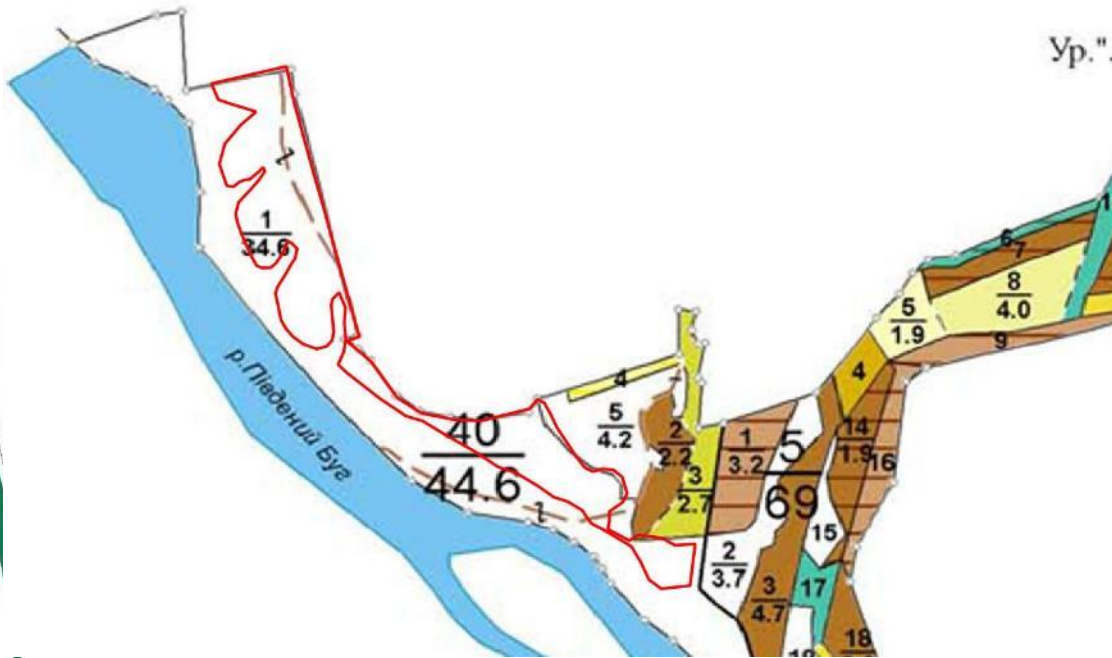
In accordance with European practices, to preserve rare habitats EUNIS Annex I of Resolution 4, populations of species of the genus *Stipa L.* and other species listed in the Red Book of Ukraine, it is planned to:

1. Regulate the ratio of landscape types, in particular, mechanical removal of steppe shrubs *Caragana frutex*, *Spiraea crenata*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Pyrus communis*, *Rosa canina* and other shrubs.
2. Determine the boundary of continuous thickets of *Prunus spinosa* and monitor its spread to steppe areas for two years. Also, establish a model plot to study the processes of root growth formation after removal of continuous thickets of the ground under the root.
3. Monitor the regrowth of shrub vegetation during subsequent periods and, if necessary, remove it again.



Areas proposed for project implementation

The essence of the project is the restoration of valuable steppe areas by eliminating excessive overgrowth of steppe areas with shrubs and restoring pastures and grazing livestock

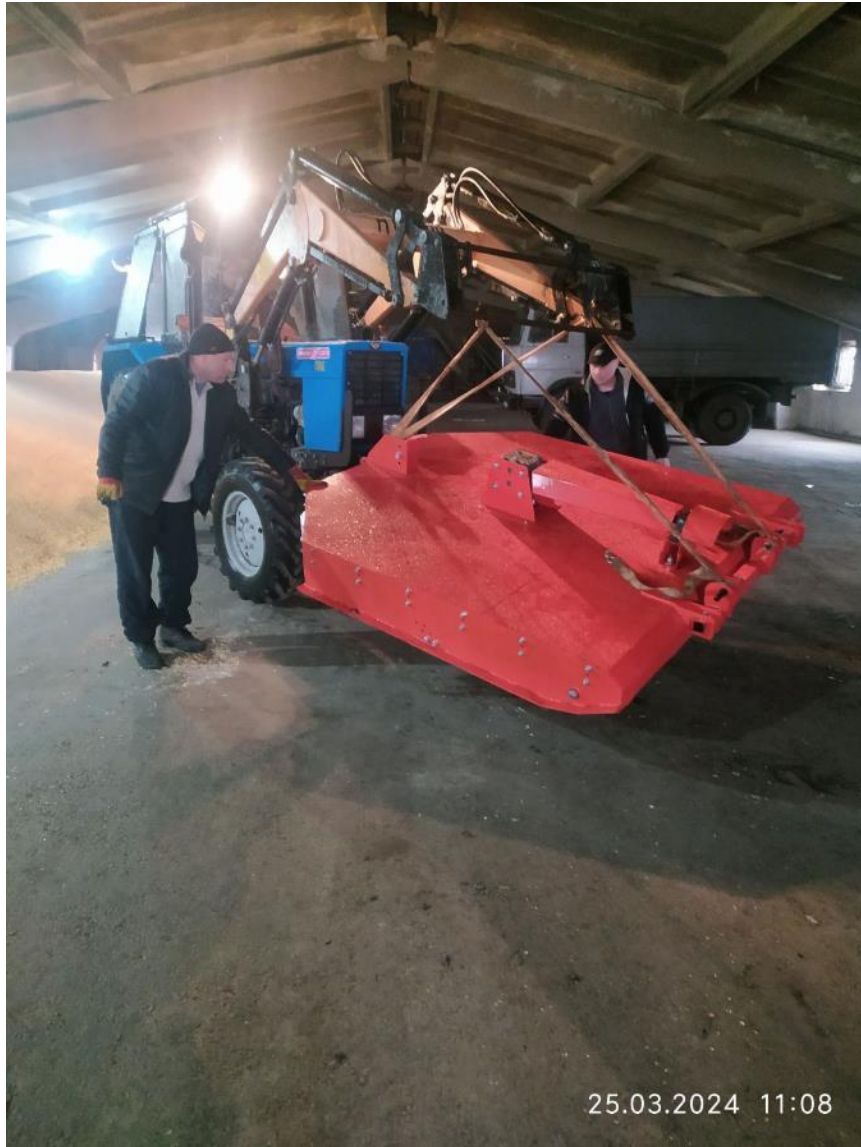


Measures to preserve grassland ecosystems

- Control of animal grazing
- Restoration of degraded areas
- Educational programs for the population



Mechanisms and Tools Provided by the Nature Fund of Ukraine within the Framework of the “Peremoha Park” Project



Stage I

Start of Work: March 19, 2025

Mowing of the grass cover and shredding of excessive dead plant material



Stage I

Mowing of the grass cover and shredding of excessive dead plant material

Adjustment of the unit

March 20, 2025 – Continuation. Replacement of the mowing unit. Repair of the previous one



Stage I

Manual mowing of the grass cover



Condition after the first and second brush mowing as of April 15, 2025



Condition after the first and second shrub mowing as of April 15, 2025



Raking of plant material with mechanical rakes for removal from the site on April 17, 2025



Removal of plant material from mowed areas



Condition of the site as of May 20, 2025





Дякуємо за увагу!

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