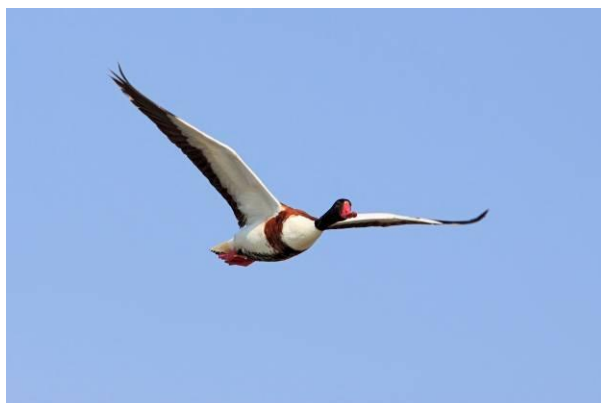


**PROJECT OF GREEN BALKANS NGO and THE BRITISH – BULGARIAN SOCIETY, MAY, 2014**

## **Improving nesting conditions for Shelduck at Pomorie Lake, Bulgaria**



**Place of project implementation:** Pomorie Lake, Black Sea coast of Bulgaria.

*Pomorie Lake is a hyper saline lagoon along Black Sea coast of Bulgaria. The lake is designated as a national protected site (2001), Ramsar site No 1229 (2002), Natura 2000 site: SPA "Pomorie Lake" BG0000152 and SCI "Pomorie" BG0000620. The wetland is of great importance for breeding of several bird species in Bulgaria (Sandwich, Common and Little tern, Avocet, Kentish plover, Black-winged stilt, Shelduck, Mute swan). It is important staging area for migrating waders and important wintering site for Shelducks, Mute swans, Shovelers, Pintails, Coots, etc. The site is also of great importance for several plant species in Bulgaria including Glasswort, Trachomitum venetum (listed in Bulgarian Red Data Book and Biodiversity Act), etc.*

### **Objectives:**

1. To improve nesting conditions for Shelduck at Pomorie Lake.

**Description:** Pomorie Lake is a hyper saline lagoon along Bulgarian Black Sea coast. It represents a rare type of ecosystem for Bulgaria and the Black Sea region. Green Balkans NGO has started its long-term conservation program at the site about 18 years ago. Habitat for nesting of water birds was restored and most remarkable was the success with the settling of the largest Sandwich tern colony at the Balkans numbering about 1500 pairs compared to only 6 pairs in 1996. Restoration works for the hydrology were implemented and a visitor centre was built and equipped being in operation since 2010. A management plan for the protected area was also drawn. One of



the activities listed in the management plan is improving nesting conditions for Shelducks by installing special nest boxes. Up to now 5 such boxes have been produced and installed in the earthen embankments at the Southern and central parts of the lagoon. Other appropriate site is in the northwestern saltpans of the Pomorie Lake where Shelducks are regular all year round. With support by BBS we can produce one or two nest boxes for Shelducks and install these at the northwestern saltpans of the lagoon.

**Activities:**

- Purchase of material: timber, pipe
- Creating a special nest box for Shelduck
- Installation at appropriate site at the saltpans of Pomorie Lake

