USE OF WATERBIRDS AS BIO-INDICATOR OF WATERS STATE IN LAKE OF REGHAIA (ALGERIA)

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ABSTRACT

During period of 2008 / 2009, census of aquatic birds performed in Algerian humid zone (Lake of Reghaia), reveals a total specific richness of 51 species for year 2008 and 39 other for the second year (2009). Results show that the prospected humid zone is of a large international importance for welcome and conservation of waterbirds overwintering in western Palaearctic. Algeria enrolled 47 sites on RAMSAR list having an international importance among them the natural reserve of Reghaia Lake classed on 4th of June 2003 and which is becoming affirmed more and more as humid zone model of Mediterranean south (Atlas IV of Algerian humid zones of international importance 2004) Physico-chemical characteristics study of lake’s waters during years (2008/2009) allows us to explain more efficiently some phenomena which are occurring in biology, evolution and fluctuations of waterbirds number. To valuate influence of abiotical factors on distribution of bird’s species, a multivariate analysis has been used. This study shows the highest correlation between fluctuation of waterbirds number with various parameters. (Temperature, salinity, aquatic plants transparency and other disturbances). This study has confirmed the impact of water physic-chemical characters on waterbirds populations.

KEYWORDS: Birds, Aquatic, Environmental Parameters, Humid Zone, Lake of Reghaia, Algeria