



LPO AQUITAINE
POCTEFA LINDUS INTERREG EFA 121/09 Program

MIGRATION STUDY PROTOCOLS and ECOVOLUNTEERS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

UREPEL/UREPELE, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, FRANCE
Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th October 2011



Union européenne



Fonds européen de
développement régional

1.1	SUMMARY	3
1.2	ORGANISATION DETAILS	4
1.2.1	LPO AQUITAINE AND LINDUS PROGRAM	4
1.2.2	EUROMIGRANS NETWORK.....	4
1.2.3	OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP	4
1.2.4	PARTICIPANTS.....	4
1.2.5	WORKSHOP DATES	5
1.2.6	WORKSHOP LOCATION	5
1.2.7	TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION.....	5
1.2.8	COSTS.....	5
1.2.9	WORKSHOP ORGANISATION.....	6
1.2.10	APPLICATION TO ATTEND	6
1.2.11	PROGRAM.....	7
1.2.12	LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	8
1.3	WORKING GROUP'S SYNTHESIS	34
1.3.1	A COMMON PROTOCOL:.....	34
	<i>What for?</i>	34
	<i>Which species?</i>	34
	<i>What is essential?</i>	37
	<i>What is important or potentially interesting?</i>	37
	<i>How to disseminate and promote the protocol?</i>	37
1.3.2	DATA MANAGEMENT	37
	<i>What for?</i>	37
	<i>Which sites?</i>	38
	<i>Which data should be shared?</i>	38
	<i>How to share data?</i>	38
	<i>Which indicators?</i>	39
1.3.3	ECOVOLUNTEERS' MANAGEMENT	39
1.4	EUROMIGRANS PROJECT	39

1.1 Summary

This announcement provides information on the workshop of the LPO Aquitaine on Migration Study protocols and Ecovolunterres maangement. The workshop will be held in the basque Country from Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th October 2011. The workshop programme is organised by the french coordinator of the Programme POCTEFA LINDUS INTERREG EFA 121/09

The workshop will advance some key aspects of the migration study such as data collection, management, analysis and divulgation. It will also focus on management of ecovolunteers as an important way to continue surveys during long periods.

The workshop will bring together migration fieldworkers, migration specialists, database builders and ecolunteers managers working on migration studies for monitoring purpose in Europe, including monitoring of species, monitoring of the effect of climate change on migrating birds.

We anticipate 20-30 participants. Participants will include representatives from leading research groups and conservation organisations from EUROMIGRANS and others.

The workshop is also open to other interested participants. Top priority will be given to applicants directly concerned by migration study.

Accommodation and meals costs during the workshop are supported by the LPO Aquitaine. Travel costs are your responsibility but we will pick you at the airport or train station.

However, participants without access or with poor acces to own resources for this purpose, or unable to fully cover their costs, may apply for full or partial reimbursement of travel, in the limits of our budget which is not a colossal one. Any such need for financial support should be indicated clearly by e-mail.

If you are interested to attend, please complete and return the attached application form by email to jeanpaulurcun.lpo@neuf.fr by no later than Saturday 8th October 2011.

The final list of invited participants will be issued by Monday 10th October 2011. Participants should confirm that they are on this final list before making any travel arrangements.

Accommodation will be coordinated by the organisers

1.2 Organisation details

1.2.1 LPO Aquitaine and Lindus program

LPO Aquitaine is a non-profit and non-governmental organisation. Since the beginning of the eighties, we are studying bird migration in Aquitania. Recently, we have taken our charge the survey of bird migration in the Basque Country, especially on three major sites for migration. This sites, Organbidexka, Lindux and Lizarrieta together with two other ones, Le Cap Ferret and La Pointe de Grave in Gironde form a network providing datas on bird migration with the same protocol. Professional and benevolent are involved in those surveys.

POCTEFA LINDUS INTERREG EFA 121/09 program is a three years program supported by European Union, Government of Navarra, Regional Council of Aquitania, General Council of Pyrenes-Atlantiques and DREAL Aquitaine. The leader of the program is the Ayuntamiento de Auritz/Burguete. LPO aquitaine and Gestion Ambiental, Repoblaciones y Viveros de Navarra are the two other partners. The aims of the program are to share experience between both side of the Pyrenees in how to follow migration and how to manage evovolunteers and benevolents on migration survey sites. This sites are Organbidexka, Lindux and Lizarrieta (more details on migration counts on www.migraction.net).

1.2.2 Euromigrans network

Euromigrans is a network of sites studying migration throughout Europe. The **objectives** of EUROMIGRANS are **(1)** to establish a sustainable and resource-efficient

Europe-wide network for monitoring migrating birds, linked to other international networks; **(2)** to share protocols and results on bird migration for a best conservation **(3)** to build a web-based database, populated with interoperable data on Eurafrikan migrating birds population trends

EUROMIGRANS builds on a workshop held at Monte S. Angelo, in the Province of Foggia, Puglia Region, Italy in June 2008.

1.2.3 Objectives of the workshop

The workshop will address scientific considerations and approaches to: Data collection, management, analysis and divulgation, recruitment and management of ecovolunteers.

1.2.4 Participants

The workshop will bring together ornithologists, migration specialists, computer programmers, animators working at the forefront of migrating birds research and monitoring in Europe, including monitoring of species' states and trends, and also effects of climate change on bird migration. We anticipate 20-30 participants. Participants will include representatives from leading research groups and conservation organisations from EUROMIGRANS (LPO Aquitaine, Migres,...) and other (COCN, TREKTELLEN,...)

1.2.5 Workshop dates

The workshop will start on the morning of Wednesday 26th October and end after an excursion to a study site on Friday 28th October 2011. Field excursion is planned for Friday 28th October.

1.2.6 Workshop location

The workshop will be held at the Erreka Gorri Yoth Hostel of Les Aldudes, Pyrenees-Atlantiques. Accommodations are in the town of Les Aldudes/Aldudes and Urepel.

Urepel and Les Aldudes are small typical basque villages in the Vallée des Aldudes well known for its traditions of delicatessen from production of pork Kintoa and also sheep cheese. It is also a major flyway for migration to Iberian Peninsula or Africa.

1.2.7 Travel and accomodation

Urepel and Les Aldudes lie about 50 km east of Bayonne

From Biarritz airport(BIQ) about 1h15 : <http://www.biarritz.aeroport.fr/destination.html>

From Pau Airport (PUF) about 2h15 : <http://www.pau.aeroport.fr/fr/vols-directs>

From San Sebastian airport about 1h30 : <http://www.aena-aeropuertos.es/csee/Satellite/Aeropuerto-San-Sebastian/en/Page/1056529998479//Airport-destinations.html>

Airport transfers and local transport between accommodations and workshop or excursion venue will be provided by the local organisers. Accommodation will be organised by the organisers.

1.2.8 Costs

The workshop is organised as a part of the POCTEFA LINDUS INTERREG EFA 121/09 Program. There is no registration fee for attendance. Transfers between airports and Les Aldudes, and between Les Aldudes and the workshop venues will be provided free of charge.

Participants are encouraged to seek to cover their travel costs from their own resources wherever possible, in order that we may assist those with greatest need. However, participants without access to own resources for this purpose, or unable to fully cover their costs, may apply for full or partial reimbursement of travel.

Any such need for financial support should be indicated clearly and is limited to allocated budget.

1.2.9 Workshop organisation

The workshop programme is organised by Jean-Paul URCUN and Laurent COUZI from the LPO aquitaine.

1.2.10 Application to attend

Please register your interest to attend by completing the attached application form and emailing to: jeanpaulurcun.lpo@neuf.fr by DEADLINE Saturday 8th October 2010. A final list of invited participants, together with instructions for making travel arrangements, will be issued by Monday 10th October 2011. Participants should confirm that they are on this final list before making any travel arrangements.

1.2.11 Program

25th of october

Dinner at the Auberge Lafitte at Urepel

26 th of October			Speaker	Organization
09:00	10:35	Welcome		
10:35	10:50	Opening	Jean-Paul URCUN	LPO Aquitaine
10:50	11:00	Protocol workshop's opening	Jean-Paul URCUN	LPO Aquitaine
11:00	11:20	Migres protocol	Alejandro Onrubia	Migres
11:20	11:40	Batumi's protocol	Brecht VERHELST	Batumi Raptor Count
11:40	12:00	The Pyrenean protocol	Jean-Paul URCUN	LPO Aquitaine
12:10	14:00	Lunch Time at Bittori Etxexuria, Urepel		
14:00	16:00	Working groups		
16:00	16:30	Feedback from working groups		
16:30	16:45	Data management workshop's opening	Keith BILDSTEIN	Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
16:45	17:05	Migration management of datas	Gunter de SMET	LPO Mission Migration
17:05	17:25	Trektellen management of datas	Gérard TROOST	Trektellen
17:20	17:50	Coffee Break		
17:50	18:20	The Raptor Population Index	Keith BILDSTEIN	Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
18:20	18:40	Estimating trends and phenological shifts in birds: few examples from the impact of methodology in migration monitoring	Online FILIPPI-CODACCIONI	MNHN
18:40	19:00	Featuring seasonal abundance estimators using data from standardized monitoring at bird observatories	Mickael JAFFRE	University of Lille
19:00	20:00	Working groups		
20:00	20:30	Feedback from working groups		
20:30	22:00	Dinner at Koseina		

28th of october	
08:00	08:30 Migration trip to Lindux site departure
08:30	09:00 Arriving to Lindux
09:00	12:30 Observation
12:30	13:30 Picnic
13:30	18:00 Observation
18:00	18:30 Back to Urepel
	Dinner at Koseina, Urepel
20:00	22:00

1.2.12 List of participants

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols		
Data management		
Data analysis		
Data reporting		
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

The company Nattura is the responsible of the management of Volunteers on Lindus Project. The main aim of the project is to study migration, for which the help and collaboration of field volunteers is essential.

Aritz Amezketa has been the coordinator of the volunteer in the camp file during both editions of Lindus (2010 and 2011).

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

Our organisation is specified in the study of the migration across de Pyrenees. But we are very interested in learning the methods of working in the same topic of other teams in the world.

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		

What is Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association?

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association is the largest and oldest raptor conservation organization in the world. Founded in 1934 to stop the slaughter of hawks migrating along the Kittatinny Ridge in the Central Appalachian Mountains of eastern Pennsylvania, USA, the Sanctuary remains focused on its principal mission of protecting both common and endangered migratory birds of prey and the habitats upon which they depend. Today Hawk Mountain maintains the longest and most complete record of raptor migration in the world. In mid-20th Century, this invaluable resource was used by conservationists, including Rachel Carson, to document pesticide-era declines in North American populations of raptors including Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus*). In the 1980s and 1990s, Hawk Mountain solidified its role as a global information hub for raptor migration science, as well as global mentor to raptor conservationists, with its successful international internship program and its global migration watchsite directory under the cooperative conservation initiative *Hawks Aloft Worldwide*. In addition Hawk Mountain currently works with conservation partners in North America on the *Raptor Population Index*.

Hawk Mountain's long term aims are to:

Foster raptor conservation and help protect threatened raptors worldwide

Maintain functional populations of common raptors

Use charismatic raptors as flagships for larger conservation efforts

Work with others to effectively monitor North American populations of raptors

Educate onsite and electronic visitors about raptors and the role they and other predators play in both natural and human-dominated ecosystems

Share our knowledge with other raptor conservationists to foster migration watchsites elsewhere in the world so as to protect long-distance migratory raptors throughout their journeys

Work with local communities and land owners to enhance the protection of habitats important to migratory raptors, as well as to reduce the direct persecution of these birds

Work with local, regional and national conservationists to propose and help promulgate laws regarding responsible use of pesticides and other environmental toxicants potentially threatening raptors

Hawk Mountain works with like-minded individuals, public and private associations and organizations, and state and national governments in carrying out its conservation mission. The Sanctuary is a private, non-governmental organization supported by an international membership of approximately 10,000 individuals. To learn more about Hawk Mountain's efforts on behalf of raptors and how you can help, contact Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Acopian center, 410 Summer Valley Rd., Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania 17961 USA. Tel: +1 570 9433411 Ext. 108 Fax +1 570 943 2284 Email: bildstein@hawkmtn.org Internet: www.hawkmountain.org

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		
European offer in ecovolunteers		

Observer without frontiers

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

Thanks to its unique geography, variety of habitats and a wide climate range, France is at the crossroads of bird migration. We have a great responsibility to protect migratory birds and to protect biodiversity. In response to this challenge, several associations have joined forces in "Mission Migration". This network, open to all, aims to broaden and diffuse our knowledge, to share our passion, and last but not least to remind that each and every one of us has a role to play in saving migratory birds and biodiversity for future generations.

www.migraction.net

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols		
Data management		
Data analysis		
Data reporting		
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

With more than 45 000 members, the LPO (Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux) is one of the first associations of nature conservation in France today. LPO acts everyday for the protection of the biodiversity.

The LPO is the French representative of International BirdLife, world alliance which gathers more than 100 organizations of nature conservation (2,3 million members in the world).

Its activity articulates around 3 big missions :

- Protection of the species
- Conservation of spaces
- Education and awareness-raising

<http://www.lpo.fr/>

<http://www.lpo.fr/benevolat/etre-benevole>

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		
European offer in ecovolunteers		

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

Our organisation is specified in the study of the migration across de Pyrenees. But we are very interested in learning the methods of working in the same topic of other teams in the world.

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		
European offer in ecovolunteers		

My work is focused on the relation between climate change and phenology/abundance fluctuations of migratory birds in France.

The aims of this research are fourfold: (i) to quantify abundance fluctuations of migratory birds' populations, (ii) to analyse spatio-temporal evolution of phenology of these populations and to explain observed modifications, (iii) to link our results with the evolution of breeding populations index of the same species at the European scale (is the decline of a specie in migration sites due to a breeding populations decline? Or is any evolution of migratory strategy of concern?) and (iv) to estimate the relative importance of local meteorological factors and climate change impact on detected fluctuations.

Only sites surveyed for more than 10 years are used in our study. Analyses will be performed at several spatial scales (intra and intersites) for different levels : species, generalist/specialist species, short and long-distance migrants, species that are considered as highly sensible to global warming...

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management		
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting		
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

I have been involved as a volunteer of bird migration studies at Pape field station, Latvia (under the Institute of Biology, University of Latvia) since 1988. Since 2007 I am the responsible scientific manager of the station. The research at Pape field station is oriented in both – visual observations of migrating birds and capture by Helgoland trap and mist-nets. Since 1995 visual observations have been done as migration monitoring, however protocol used for observations is self made and have not been calibrated with protocols elsewhere. Bird captures are done in Helgoland trap and in standard mist-net lines, as well as tape-lure nets for Aquatic Warbler (contacts with Aquatic Warbler Conservation Team network et Bretagne Vivante). Special nets are used for capturing Long-eared Owls, the species what has been captured up to ~900 individuals per season. The station also facilitates bat research with ~15000 *Pipistrellus nathusii* captured for the period of 1985–2010.

The station employs ~20 volunteers per year (including foreign volunteers from Poland, Germany, Belarus, Belgium).

Since 2009 (after Latvia experienced economic crisis) the government does not support the station any more.

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
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Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

As a member of Milvus Groups Raptor-conservation working-group I took part on the majority of projects dealing with raptor conservation and study.

Some of them:

Macin Mountains Raptor migration watchsite-2002-2007, co-organizer and participant

Lesser spotted eagle census in Romania-2005-2006, participant

Study of birds of prey migration at Bosphorus-2008-2009, participant

Conservation of the Golden Eagle and Peregrine Falcon in Romania-2001-2011- participant

Currently I am working in the LIFE Nature project Conservation of Aquila pomarina in Romania

The „Milvus Group" Association is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation, dedicated to bird and nature protection, acting in the fields of conservation, education, research and consultancy in order to make Romania a better place for birds, wildlife and people.

Milvus was established in 1991 and worked initially as a branch of the Romanian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Romania). Initiating and co-ordinating national and international projects and broadening its area of work, it became an independent organisation in 2001, and it has branches and school groups in different localities. Our programs are scientifically based, co-ordinated by specialised personnel (many of our members are biologists, PhD students, students at biology and ecology faculties), with the involvement of volunteers. The majority of our activities are co-ordinated in Working Groups (Raptor Conservation, Water Bird Conservation, White Stork Conservation, Mammals Conservation, Invertebrates, Monitoring & Research, Wildlife Crime, Nature Policy, Birds & Power Lines, Natura2000 & Habitat, Environmental Education, etc).

Some of our programs and projects dedicated to the research and conservation of birds of prey :

Protection of Birds of Prey in Transylvania- <http://milvus.ro/working-groups/raptor-conservation>

Research of the Raptor Migration in Dobrudja- <http://milvus.ro/macin-mountains-raptor-migration-watchsite-2002-2007>

<http://milvus.ro/autumn-raptor-migration-study-in-dobrogea/2004>

<http://milvus.ro/autumn-migration-of-raptors-in-north-dobrogea-2010/1278>

Research of raptor migration in Bosphorus- <http://milvus.ro/raptor-migration-watchsite-at-bosphorus/307>

Conservation of the Lesser Spotted Eagle in Romania- www.pomarina.ro

Conservation of the Red-footed Falcon in the Western Plain of Romania-

<http://milvus.ro/the-protection-of-the-red-footed-falcon-in-the-western-plain>

[Conservation of Falco cherrug in NE-Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia-LIFE09NAT/HU/000384](http://milvus.ro/the-protection-of-the-red-footed-falcon-in-the-western-plain)

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

Raptor research/conservation/monitoring activities (see the links in the box below):

Since 2001 one of the leaders of the “Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) and Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) protection program in Romania”. During our work we censused Golden Eagle and Peregrine Falcon populations and searched for their nests in the Apuseni Mountains, in the South Western part of the Carpathians and a part of the Eastern Carpathians. We have also initiated the monitoring of their populations involving volunteers and have taken actions for their conservation.

Coordinator of the “*Wintering birds of prey monitoring program*” since 2006.

Coordinator of the study „*Migration Routes of Birds of Prey, Storks and Pelicans in Northern Dobrogea (2010) and Southern Dobrogea (2011)*”

Coordinator of the birds of prey census in the Trascău Mountains (2011)

Participated in the Raptor Migration Camp organized by the Association for Bird and Nature Protection "Milvus Group" in Bosphorus, Istanbul, Turkey in autumn 2008.

Participated in all six years (2002 - 2007) of the Raptor Migration Camp organized by the Association for Bird and Nature Protection "Milvus Group" in the Măcin Mountains, Romania. This place is a migration bottleneck where more than 10000 individuals of 29 raptor species are passing annually.

Participated in the census of the lesser spotted eagle (*Aquila pomarina*) in the Carpathian Eco – Region in 2005. The „Milvus Group" Association is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation, dedicated to bird and nature protection, acting in the fields of conservation, education, research and consultancy in order to make Romania a better place for birds, wildlife and people.

Milvus was established in 1991 and worked initially as a branch of the Romanian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Romania). Initiating and co-ordinating national and international projects and broadening its area of work, it became an independent organisation in 2001, and it has branches and school groups in different localities. Our programs are scientifically based, co-ordinated by specialised personnel (many of our members are biologists, PhD students, students at biology and ecology faculties), with the involvement of volunteers. The majority of our activities are co-ordinated in Working Groups (Raptor Conservation, Water Bird Conservation, White Stork Conservation, Mammals Conservation, Invertebrates, Monitoring & Research, Wildlife Crime, Nature Policy, Birds & Power Lines, Natura2000 & Habitat, Environmental Education, etc).

Some of our programs and projects dedicated to the research and conservation of birds of prey :

Protection of Birds of Prey in Transylvania- <http://milvus.ro/working-groups/raptor-conservation>

Research of the Raptor Migration in Dobrudja- <http://milvus.ro/macin-mountains-raptor-migration-watchsite-2002-2007>

<http://milvus.ro/autumn-raptor-migration-study-in-dobrogea/2004>

<http://milvus.ro/autumn-migration-of-raptors-in-north-dobrogea-2010/1278>

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[Conservation of Falco cherrug in NE-Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia-LIFE09NAT/HU/000384](http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/species/accounts/conservation/Falco%20cherrug%20in%20NE-Bulgaria,%20Hungary,%20Romania%20and%20Slovakia-LIFE09NAT/HU/000384)

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

The main goals of The Migres Foundation are placing more significance on the migratory phenomenon through the Strait of Gibraltar as well as promote and develop activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development.

Currently, our main projects are:

- Migres Program: a volunteering program for a long-term monitoring of migration through the Strait of Gibraltar.
- Development of compensatory measures to minimize the risk that wind turbines pose to birds.

For more information visit <http://www.fundacionmigres.org/>

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

I am UK co-ordinator for Trektellen,. Involved in encouraging volunteers to record their migration observations systematically and in a co-ordinated fashion, and to enter their counts on the Trektellen data-base so that the data can be used for migration and conservation studies.

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

The BTO is an independent charitable research institute combining professional and citizen science aimed at using evidence of change in wildlife populations, particularly birds, to inform the public, opinion-formers and environmental policy- and decision-makers. www.bto.org

BirdTrack is a project that looks at migration movements and distributions of birds throughout Britain and Ireland, through a partnership between the BTO, the RSPB, Birdwatch Ireland and the Scottish Ornithologists' Club. BirdTrack provides facilities for observers to store and manage their own personal records as well as using these to support species conservation at local, regional, national and international scales. www.birdtrack.net

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

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- Development of compensatory measures to minimize the risk that wind turbines pose to birds.

For more information visit <http://www.fundacionmigres.org/>

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols		
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

MEDRAPTORS (Mediterranean Raptor Migration Network) is an association that works to improve the knowledge and the protection of migrating birds of prey through specific projects and observation camps. We worked together with many different associations, Universities and ornithologists. We made researches and activities on migrating raptors in several different places of the Mediterranean Sea, in particular in Italy but also in other countries like Greece and Turkey. The results of our researches are often published in scientific journals.

Our website is: www.raptormigration.org
Our blogsite is: raptormigration.blogspot.com

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		
European offer in ecovolunteers		

Trektellen: Still primarily hobby project, working on the start of a foundation. Platform to store and share migration counts (and ringing results). Trektellen likes to stimulate research with that data. Database contains around 4,5 million records.

<http://www.trektellen.org>

SOVON Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology (in short SOVON). SOVON is organising monitoring of wild bird populations in the Netherlands and carries out research to study population demography in bird populations. Results of censuses and research projects are used for nature management policies, management plans en spatial planning. SOVON is working in close cooperation with governmental bodies, universities and several other institutions. Survey fieldwork is mainly carried out by about 7,000 dedicated amateur birdwachers

Besides SOVON also has a team of ~15 Web/Database/Gis specialists, who works on the NDFF (National Database for Flora and Fauna)
 build complex data entry websites
 mobile signing application (Andoid, HTML5)
 etc.

<http://www.sovon.nl/default.asp?id=376&lang=en>

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management	X	
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting	X	
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		X
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

Since 1979, a monitoring survey of bird migration based on visual counts is held in the French Pyrenees in order to evaluate fluctuation in population. For more details see for example results for Organbidexka Pass

http://www.migraction.net/index.php?m_id=112&year=2010&graph=synthesis&frmSpecies=0&frmSite=22

Four other sites are monitored in South-West of France with the same protocol in our Regional observatory of Bird Migration (ORMO) til more than 20 years.

Our organisation take part in the Mission Migration Network in France and to Euromigrants at European level. We now are involved in an Interreg program with Governement of Navarra.

We also work on raptor migration and climate change see

<http://bicco-net.org/climate-change-publications/advanced-departure-dates-long-distance-migratory-raptors>

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	Migration Study protocols	Ecovolunteers Management
Data collection protocols	X	
Data management		
Data analysis	X	
Data reporting		
Recruitment of ecovolunteers		
Field Management of Ecovolunteers		X
European offer in ecovolunteers		X

The aim of Batumi Raptor Count is the study and conservation of migratory raptors at the east Black Sea bottleneck.

Our activities include:

- Annual monitoring of autumn migration of 7 key species (<http://www.batimiraptorcount.org/resultsprospects.htm>)
- Research into the effect of weather conditions on observed migration (<http://www.batimiraptorcount.org/weathermigration.htm>)
- Surveying hunting pressure across the region
- Regional capacity building via student trainings
- Ecotourism development as an economic driver for conservation

1.3 Working group's synthesis

1.3.1 A common protocol:

What for?

- To make comparison within sites among years and between different sites
- To monitor phenological shifts (e.g. related to climate change)
- To obtain population long-term trends through annual indexes at European level
- To make species-specific studies on population estimates (European total/World total)
- To focus effort on peak passage periods (by date and time of day)

A minimum protocol allows cross-project comparisons and facilitates statistical analysis at a european level.

Which species?

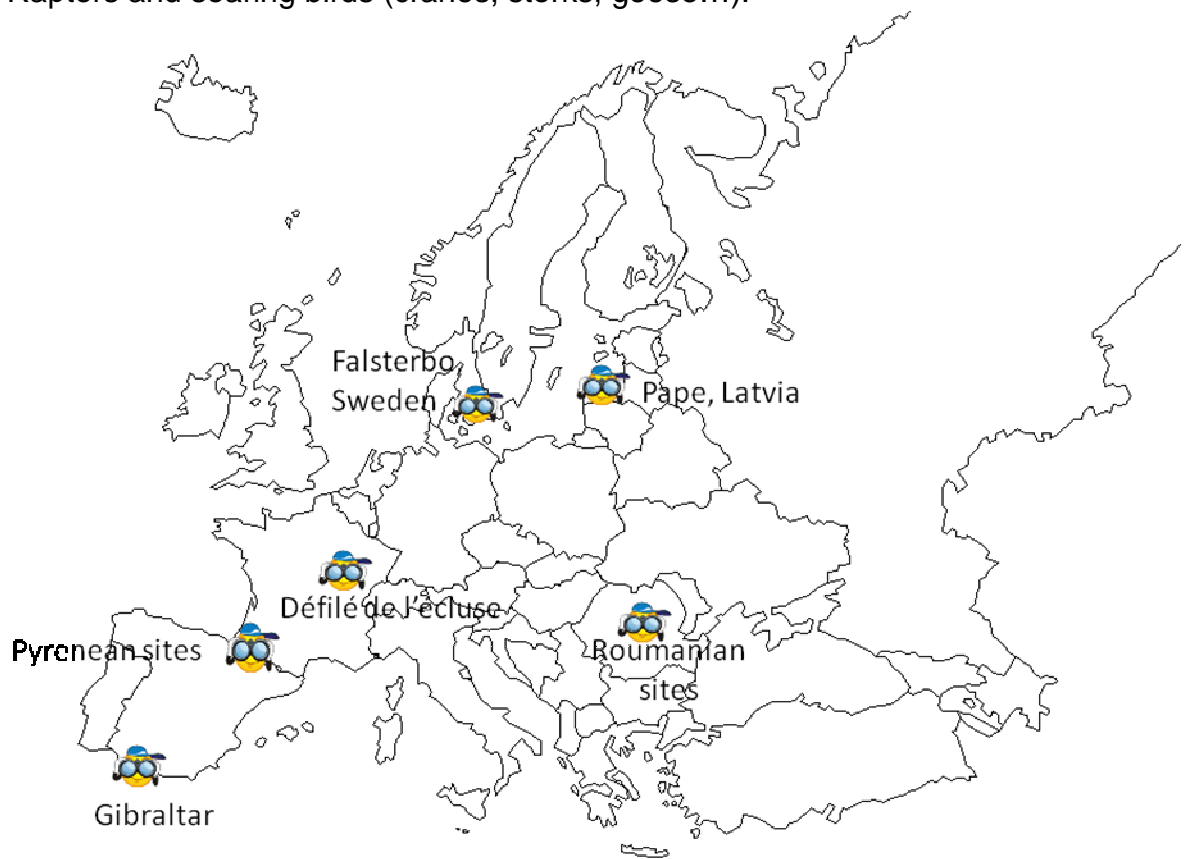
Collect data on as many species as realistically possible

Criteria for sites establishing which species to count:

- Proportion of world population passing the site (and proximity of wintering area to site)
- Precise "nature" of a species passage through a site (e.g. Honey Buzzard versus Steppe Buzzard at Batumi)
- Broad front versus bottleneck species or sites
- Identification complexity
- Numbers of the species concerned (e.g. Greater Spotted Eagle at Batumi)
- Conservation category of species concerned
- Presence of local breeding population

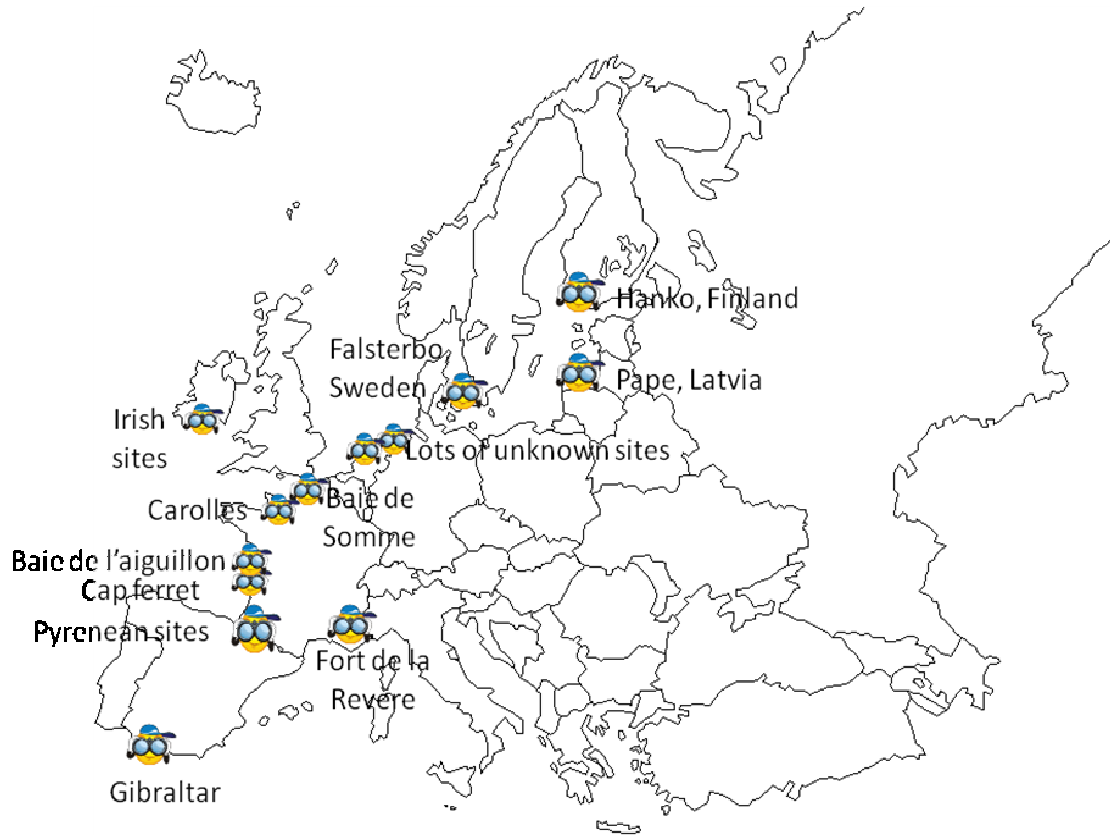
It appears that sites monitor different groups of species. A map was drawn to represent the main watchsites where data have been collected for a long time and where protocols haven't changed. Three maps (to be completed) have been drawn for each group of species, respectively.

Raptors and soaring birds (cranes, storks, geese...):

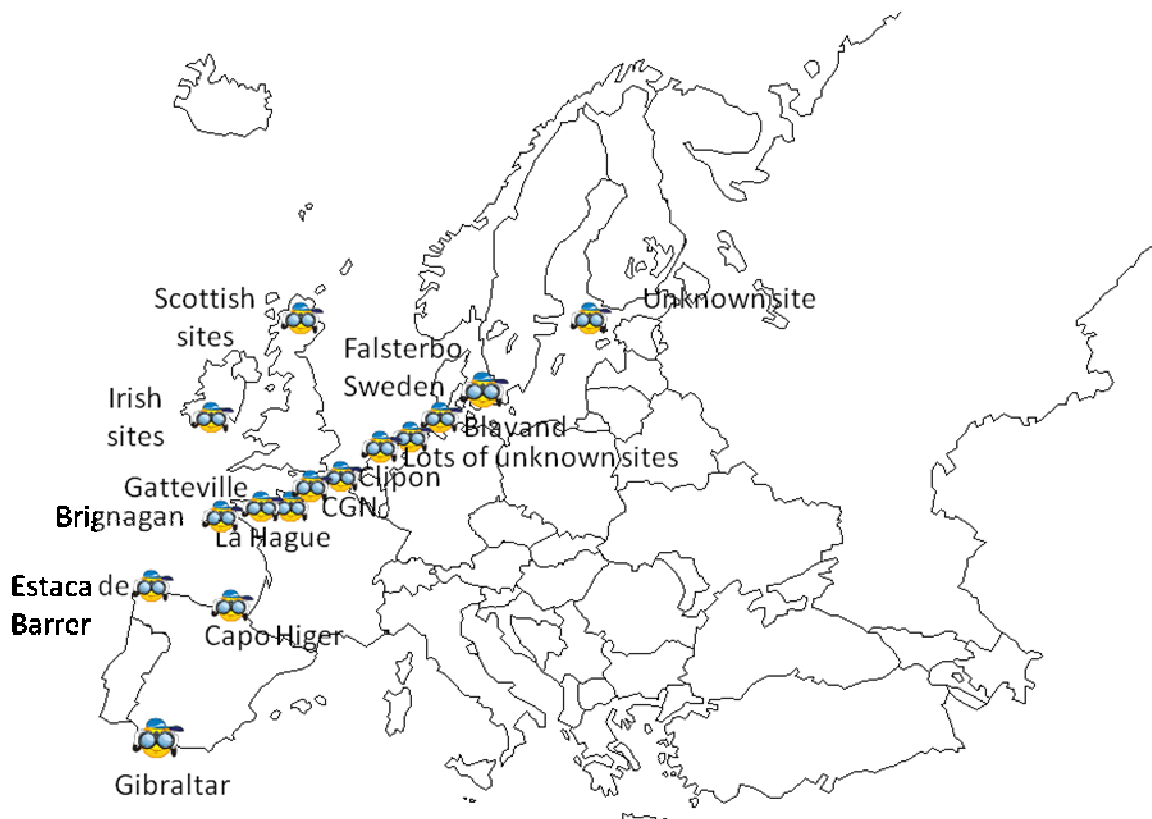


These sites have been proposed but others could be included like Messina Strait.

Passerine



Pelagic birds: sea watchsites:



What is essential?

The protocol must be simple.

Taking examples on the North American system which propose a simple online data collection sheet so that everyone who wants to participate can do it. For data analyzing, among 100 sites, only 50 which meet the statistical standard are selected. But every data are useful for descriptive analyses.

Standardise via the protocol:

- Observation effort : recording numbers and names of observers per unit of time and of observer activity
- Overall period of the project in term of date and range
- Meteorological data ?
- Details of observations (for fixed sites this must remain consistent)
- Species name
- Number and flock size
- Date
- Time
- Location (in instances of clustered site where distances bands are used)
- Presence/absence of allspecies recorded
- Technology and software (e.g. when calculating for removing double counts)

What is important or potentially interesting?

- Age and sex

How to disseminate and promote the protocol?

- A written protocol must be available on website (for comment and/or consultation).
- We have to establish which sites are following a protocol and distinguish key and casual sites (e.g. Irish SeaTrack).
- But we have also to explain the scientific value of the protocol (via website, conference and/or newsletter)

1.3.2 Data management

What for?

Primary goal of establishing population indices for conservation of raptors and other species needs to be the cornerstone of data management

- A data base to:
-
- describe migration
- monitor population trends
- monitor phonological changes
- motivate volunteers
- inform people (what's going on at the moment and results of analyses)
- use as a conservation tool

Which sites?

- Determining sites which have robust and continuous data sets and beginning with this one's as key sites
- Gaps of whole years are less of a problem than within-year gaps which may not be random. Gaps face different implications depending on species (e.g. Honey Buzzard or Steppe Buzzard)
- Continuous survey without any gaps is strongly preferable
- Days without monitoring versus days with zero bird must be distinguished
- Geographic spread of sites must achieve a coverage of major flyways or routes

Which data should be shared?

- Data sharing must include in advance an agreement of the aims (non-commercial use of data only. Unless further agreement is reached) of the project and all data required to address those aims must be shared.
- New or additional proposed uses of the data have to be thought by stakeholders on a case-by-case basis
- For external scientist out of Euromigrans group data could be available after asking. Responsible of each watch sites should be thanked in the resulting papers.
- In some cases, perhaps, need to ask permission from local governments
- The data would gather information about birds' counts but also on variables which can make counts varying (weather, observer numbers, etc.). The hourly basis for all these variables should be the better option like in the "Transpyr" protocol.
- Protocols of data collection for each site should be available on the website.

How to share data?

- Thinking about designing country's coordinator
- Interoperability of databases is favourable but time and resources are needed to facilitate data flow.
- An automatic transfer of data from countries' online and already existing databases should be useful

- Standardizing the way data are entered including basic fields that must be included will be an important work to do before beginning

Which indicators?

For population trends:

- Migratory Population Indexes (MPI) based on the existing Raptor Population Index RPI need to be used for soaring birds, woodpigeons, seabirds but also if possible for passerines.

For phenology monitoring:

- Phenological shift index
- Migration duration (but highly dependent of first and last migrants' dates often not significant)

We have to think big !

1.3.3 *Ecovolunteers' management*

Goal: improving our practice

- We have to be open-minded
- Responsible of sites complain that volunteers are less and less involved and concerned by migration monitoring. The observer profile has changed since a few years:
 - They won't come the following year
 - They often complain
 - They are uninterested
 - They are less concerned by bird conservation
 - They are more consumers

It is more difficult to find ornithologist for the whole season from year to year. The main source of ornithologists comes now from bird watcher formations. We should explore the possibility of "Youth in action" (EU project) to finance ecovolunteers.

1.4 Euromigrans project

In order to start the project and to make us known, it has been decided to create a website which should explain to people:

- the basics on bird migration
- the way migration can be studied and monitor
- the interest of doing such a monitoring

The website should also present the studies already done with watchsites data (publications) in order to show the interest of such a common data base at the European level. Inventory of migration watchsites should also be done and mapped. To launch the program it has been decided to conduct a short-term project which could consist in establishing phenology of birds at each watchsite and to present it in a paper. The idea belonged first to Wouter Vansteelant so that we agree to make the data available to this person.

We have to find a logo and maybe another name than euromigrans as Europe should be more (paleartic) and as "bird" is not mentioned in the title.

Spain has already asked its government for founding the project but every country represented should do the same. As it is a European project, EU should be logical provider of financial support.

A scientific committee have to be formed.



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**Gobierno
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**GESTION AMBIENTAL
VIVEROS Y REPOBLACIONES
DE NAVARRA S.A.**

