

The Adriatic Flyway – Threats and Protection of Migratory Birds

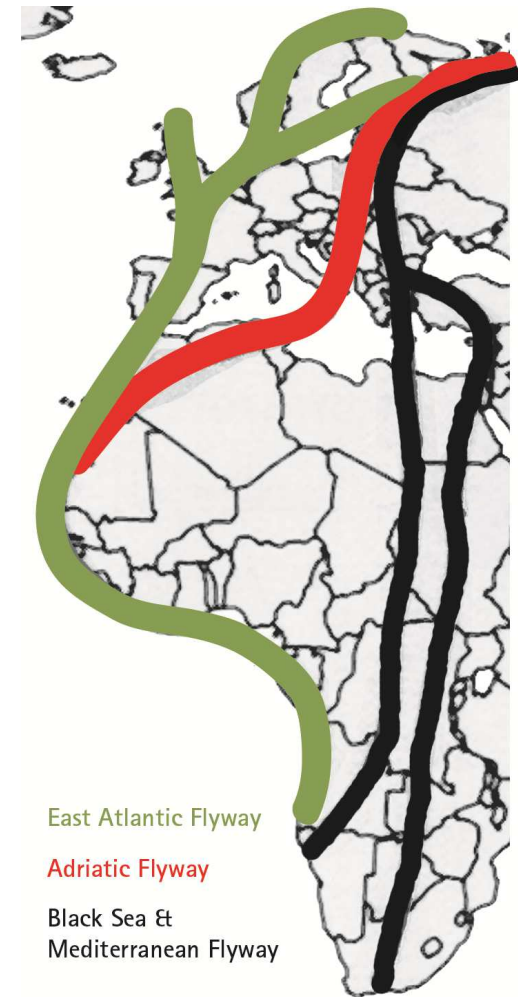


Dr. Stefan W. Ferger

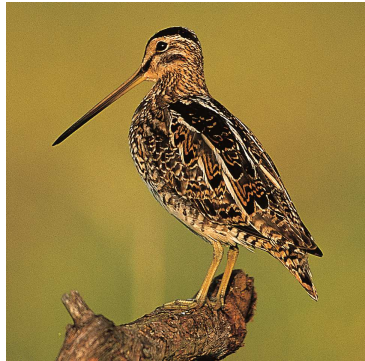
5th Meeting of the Bern Convention Group of Experts
on the Conservation of Birds,
Strasbourg (FR), 12.10.2015

The Adriatic Flyway

- Part of the Black Sea-Mediterranean Flyway
- Along the Dinaric Mountains
- Across the Adriatic Sea > Southern Italy > Sicily > Malta > Northern Africa
- Main migration route for eastern populations of several species (e.g. *Platalea leucorodia*)
- Relatively little research



Species



Threats

- Habitat loss

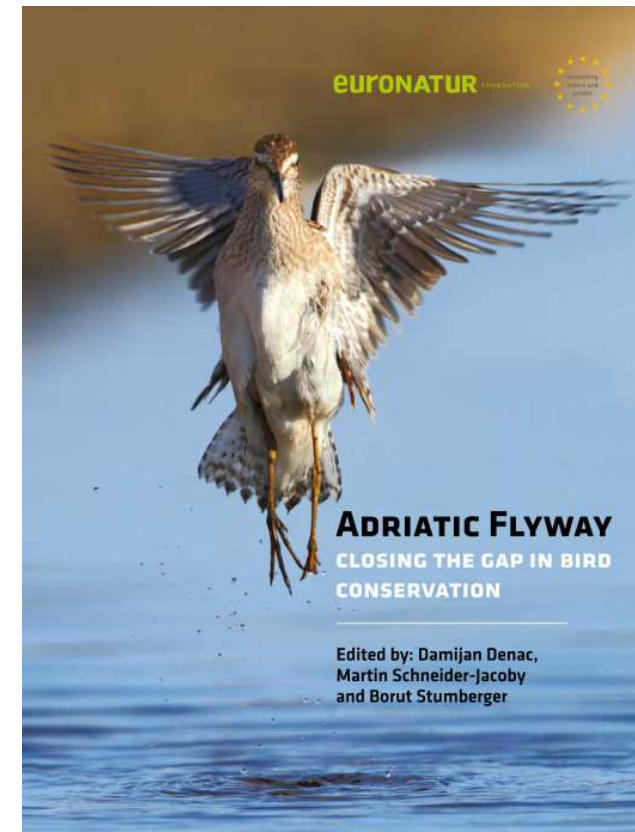


- (Illegal) Killing



The „Adriatic Flyway“-Project

- Start in 2006
- EuroNatur + local partners
- Goals:
 - Establish hunting ban areas
 - Improve hunting laws
 - Decrease illegal killing
 - Inform & strengthen civil society
- Currently 4 project areas



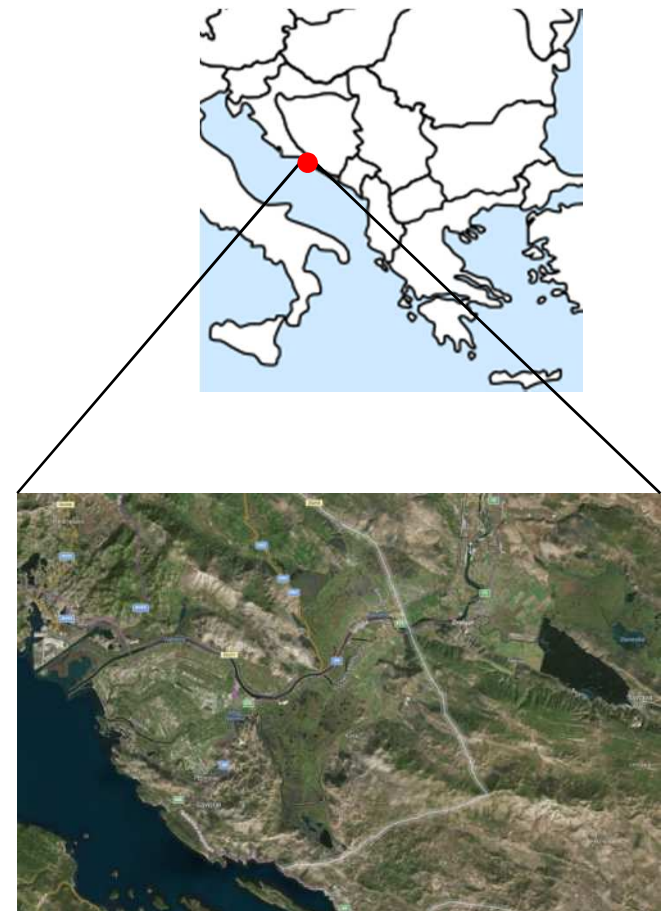
Labudovo Okno

- Danub up to 4 km wide
- > 80.000 *Anser sp.*
- regularly > 60 *Anser erythropus*
- Illegal hunting



Neretva Delta inkl. Hutovo Blato

- 20.000 ha
- Only large reed bed along the Eastern Adriatic Coast
- Illegal hunting & increasing agriculture



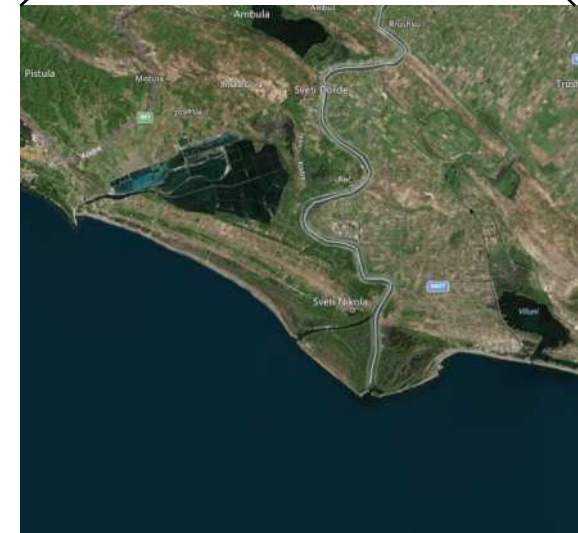
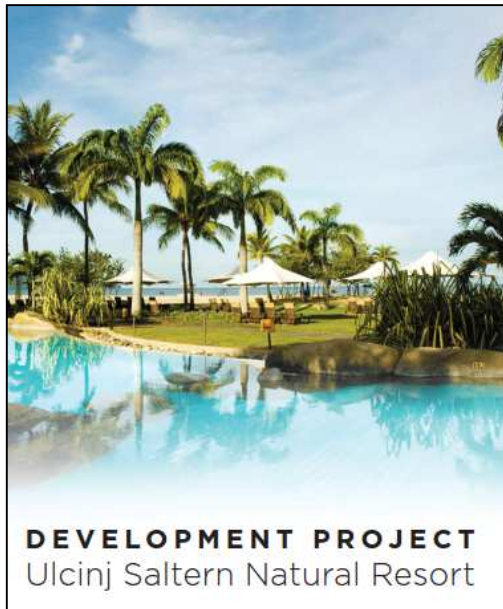
Livanjsko Polje

- Largest karst polje on Earth
- Important stop over site for *Grus grus* & many waders
- Increasing habitat loss due to peat extraction



Bojana Delta inkl. Saline Ulcinj

- “London Heathrow” of Adriatic-Flyway:
min. 15 sp.: > 1 % global pop. on migration
- Illegal hunting, plans for tourism infrastructure



Activities

1) Monitoring: Birds



Habitats

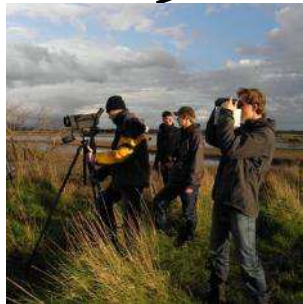


(illegal) killing



Activities

2) Stakeholder-Workshops



12.10.2015, Strasbourg



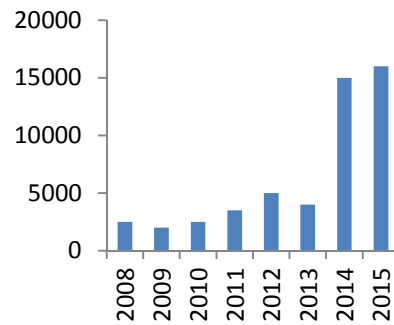
Dr. Stefan W. Ferger



...

Activities

3) Capacity building



Analysis



Communication



Red List



IWC

12.10.2015, Strasbourg



Migration monitoring

Dr. Stefan W. Ferger



Monit. Illegal
Activities

Activities

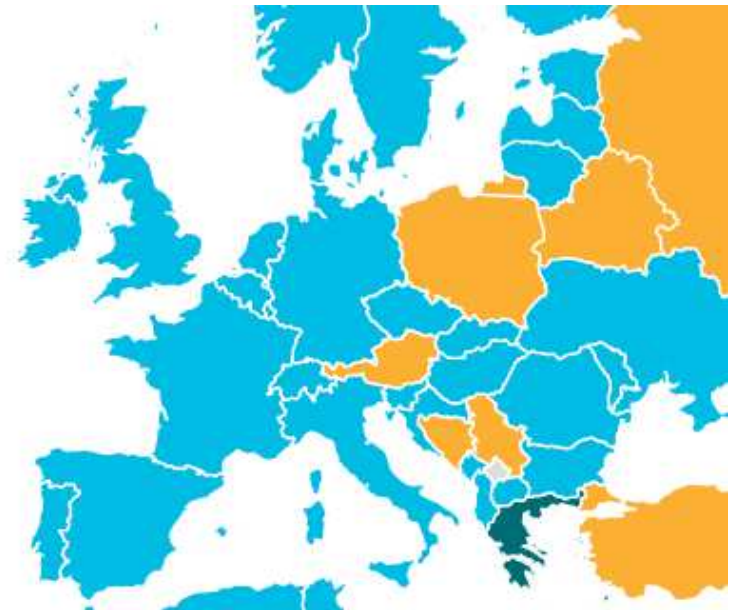
4) Strengthen local networks & civil society



Activities

5) Strengthen the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)

- Membership of Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Cooperation of national focal points to AEWA & local NGOs



- Online platform for partners

- database for Balkan countries
- Publications
- 3rd “Adriatic Flyway”-Conference



Summary

- Adriatic-Flyway: little known, but important!
- Habitat loss and (illegal) killing are major threats
- Strengthening civil society and hunting laws is essential
- EuroNatur backs on long-term relationships with local partners

Thank you for your
attention!

