



Council of Europe
Conseil de l'Europe

5th Meeting of the Group of Experts on the conservation of birds

Strasbourg, 12-13 October 2015

Willem Van den Bossche –
BirdLife Europe & Central Asia



Red List of Birds

- NEW European Red List (EU + Europe)
Presented in June 2015
- NEW Global Red List (29 October 2015)
- New list of bird species in the EU: see
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/wildbirds/eu_species/



Illegal killing and taking of birds

- First results of review of ikb in the Mediterranean published in August 2015. Review in 26 Med countries + Georgia
- BI intends to carry out a similar review for rest of Europe + Middle East (2016+)
- Overview of ongoing initiatives on cross national scale



Species action plans

- Eurosap project:
 - Tracking system for implementation and prioritisation of SAPs
 - single SAPs for Monteiro Storm Petrel, Yelkouan Shearwater, Cinerious Vulture, Bearded Vulture, White-headed Duck, Velvet Scoter and European Turtle Dove.



Eurosap continued:

- Group Species Action Plan for northern grassland breeding waders (Black-tailed Godwit, Northern Lapwing, Oystercatcher, Common Redshank, Dunlin, Eurasian Curlew, Common Snipe, Ruff.
- CMS – Group Species Action Plan on vultures



EU Directives

Fitness Check

- April - July 2015: public internet consultation – support of 500.000 #NATUREALERT
- Autumn 2015: conference in Brussels, where draft results of the evaluation will be shared and discussed with Member States and key stakeholder groups.
- Early 2016: publication of Commission report on the results of the Fitness Check.



Farmland and biodiversity

- PEGASUS, BI and IEEP (Institute for European Environmental Policy), about farmland and forest management.
<http://pegasus.ieep.eu/>



Marine work

- Marine IBA identification projects in Slovenia and Malta, with recently completed projects in Lithuania and Italy.
- The marine IBAs have provided vital input into the Natura 2000 designation process, with 39 new marine SPAs designated in Spain in 2014 based on the marine IBA network. Last week a further two sites were designated in Portugal.



- Tracking seabirds, such as Northern Gannet along the NE Atlantic coast, which can be used to determine the potential overlap with offshore renewable energy developments. (see www.fameproject.eu).
- Seabird Task Force: bycatch project of BI to work alongside fishermen to reduce seabird bycatch in demersal longlines & gillnets (www.seabirdbycatch.com).