

Newsletter 2010/2



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The latest news about monitoring and atlas work in Europe

This newsletter is sent to all EBCC delegates and made available on the EBCC homepage. Please contribute by sending news items to the Newsletter editor.

The EBCC Board elected in Cáceres met for the first time in Nijmegen, The Netherlands on 11–12 November 2010. All board members were present: Ruud Foppen (Netherlands) as Chairman, David Noble (UK) as Vice Chairman, Hans-Günther Bauer (Germany) as Secretary, Åke Lindström (Sweden) as Delegate Officer, Anny Anselin (Belgium) as BCN Officer, Lluís Brotons (Spain), Henning Heldbjerg (Denmark), Mikhail Kalyakin (Russia), Oskars Keiņš (Latvia) and Verena Keller (Switzerland). The following official external observers were also present: Ian Burfield (BirdLife), Mark Eaton (RSPB), Petr Voříšek and Jana Škorpilová (PECBMS) and Francesc Sardà (SCALES).



The EBCC Board and observers that met in Nijmegen, The Netherlands on 11–12 November 2010. Upper row, from left: Francesc Sardà, Mikhail Kalyakin, David Noble, Åke Lindström, Lluís Brotons, Verena Keller, Hans-Günther Bauer, Oskars Keiņš, Mark Eaton and Petr Voříšek. Lower row: Henning Heldbjerg, Ian Burfield, Ruud Foppen, Jana Škorpilová and Anny Anselin.

The European Bird Census Council (EBCC) is an association of like-minded expert ornithologists cooperating in a range of ways to improve bird monitoring and atlas work and thereby inform and improve the management and conservation of bird populations in Europe. Each European country can be represented by two delegates.

The board organised itself by appointing David Noble as Treasurer, Verena Keller as Conference Officer, to support the next conference organiser, Lluís Brotons as Data Request Officer, for EBCC atlas data, Mikhail Kalyakin as Eastern Europe Linkage Officer, and Mark Eaton, Henning Heldbjerg, and Oskars Keiņš as Development Officers, promoting contacts between established and emerging monitoring and atlas schemes.

The proceedings of the 2007 Conference in Chiavenna, Italy are right now being printed in Avocetta.

The proceedings of the 2010 Conference in Cáceres will be divided between Ardeola and Bird Census News. There will be about 10 papers in Ardeola, with the aim of publishing in spring 2011. Bird Census News will hold another 16 papers and be published at the latest in January 2011.

The next EBCC conference will be held in Cluj, Romania, preliminary in mid August 2013. It will be organised by the Societatea Ornitologica Romana (SOR, BirdLife in Romania). Precise dates and venue will be discussed at the next board meeting.

The next issue of Bird Census News will be a double volume, 23:1–2, with the articles from the Cáceres conference. Please remember that all previous issues of BCN are available as pdfs on the EBCC website. If you have papers or small notes on atlas or monitoring work that you would like to publish in BCN, contact Anny Anselin (anny.anselin@inbo.be).

The Pan-European Common Bird Monitoring Scheme (PECBMS) continues to grow and develop. More countries are expected to supply their data for the next update of European trends and indicators, making 26 countries in total. In addition, the national indices for Belgium, Norway, and Spain will be improved by new data. PECBMS also plans to develop indicators for other habitats. The PECBMS website will soon contain new detailed information regarding the methodology behind the indicator work, plus a section of Frequently Asked Questions, see www.ebcc.info/pecbm.html. Contact: Petr Voříšek (EuroMonitoring@birdlife.cz) or Jana Škorpilová (skorpilova@birdlife.cz).

“TRIM maps” is a new software tool under development that will allow making national distribution maps based on monitoring data, in a similar way as TRIM works for trends in bird numbers. Contact: henk.sierdsema@sovon.nl.

The EBCC is involved in the EU project SCALES which has as main objective to match the collection of biodiversity information to the complex administrative constraints in Europe. Within this project the EBCC aims to integrate different monitoring schemes from different countries to generate Pan European distribution maps. This task is coordinated

by the EBCC-CTFC spatial modelling team in Solsona (Spain). Contact: francesc.sarda@ctfc.cat.

The launch of a project to produce a new European Breeding Bird Atlas was thoroughly discussed in Nijmegen. Spirits are high! A major challenge will be to survey countries in eastern Europe, not least Russia. The use of online reporting systems such as WorldBirds.org is a promising possibility. Contact: ruud.foppen@sovon.nl.

Under the EU Birds Directive, Member States may soon be required to report to the EC on the national status and trends of all wild bird species on a six-year cycle, starting in 2013. This should strengthen state support for bird monitoring schemes across the EU. If it is adopted, there are plans to coordinate the new reporting system with the preparation of *Birds in Europe 3* (2012-2014). Contact: ian.burfield@birdlife.org.



from the bird census world

- A third German bird atlas will be published in early 2011; see: www.dda-web.de.
- The State of the UK's Birds 2010 has just been published. See www.rspb.org.uk or www.bto.org; search for “sukb”.
- A Nocturnal Bird Survey started in Sweden in 2010. Around 100 routes were covered, suggesting that population trends for fifteen night-active species can be monitored. Contact: martin.green@zoekol.lu.se.

On the EBCC homepage www.ebcc.info you can find lots of useful information about EBCC and all its activities.

The next EBCC Board Meeting will take place at the CTFC in Solsona, Catalunya, Spain, on 31 March and 1 April 2011.



EBCC is an Association under Dutch law

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